

THE VICTORY OF THE CROSS: THE POWER

- When we think about the cross, our minds often go immediately to the pain and suffering of Jesus. That is understandable as the cross was brutal and bloody. But if we stop there, we miss the full message. The cross wasn't just a place of pain – it was also a _____!
- The cross is the central symbol of Christianity, not because it was a torture device, but because it was a _____.
- We aren't just _____, we are _____ every day!
- The power of the cross manifests in two (2) ways:

I. CANCELS OUR SINS

- _____
- The Apostle Paul opens verse 13 by using the Greek word Nekrous ((the dead) to describe our spiritual plight and predicament before Christ.
- Nekrous in the Greek text here is being used as a perfect passive participle:
 - **Perfect tense** – a completed action in the past that has ongoing results in the present
 - **Meaning** – We were _____ in the past because of sin. And we remained in that dead condition until God intervened.
 - **Passive Voice** – the subject does not act, but is acted upon

- **Meaning** – We didn't _____ to become spiritually dead but were acted upon by the power of sin.
- **Participle** – Functions like an adjective or verbal noun – describing the condition or state of the subject.
- **Meaning** – “*Being dead*” or “*Having been made dead*,” describes the state we were in prior to being made alive in Christ.
- **The takeaway** – We had been made spiritually dead by _____ and that dead condition _____ our lives, until God _____.
- Notice the text says, “*in your trespasses*.”
 - Paraptomasin – false steps or willful deviations from God’s law
 - The point of the text is to show that our condition isn’t just unfortunate, but it’s _____ of God’s way – _____.
- “*Uncircumcision of the flesh*”
 - In the OT, circumcision was a sign of being in _____. Paul is saying due to our sin, there was no _____ between Divinity and humanity. We were _____ – far away from God.
- The text is clear here in revealing to us that through the cross Jesus _____ with our sins (v.14)
 - Handwriting of Ordinances – cheirographon – a legal document of guilt

- Jesus took our guilty charges and _____.
_____. Our sin debt was satisfied and considered
"_____".
- Jesus didn't cover our sin on the cross, _____
_____ it!

II. CONQUERS SATAN

- _____
- Principalities and authorities – spiritual beings and demonic forces who are opposed to God's rule
- _____
- _____
- The text says that Jesus spoiled them – *apekdyo* – to strip off; remove armor, to disarm or render powerless
- At the cross, Jesus _____ and _____
_____. Satan and his kingdom thought they were defeating Jesus, but He was actually defeating them.
- *"Put them to open shame, triumphing over them in it."*
 - Jesus through the cross and resurrection defeated satan and stripped him of his power before all of heaven and earth! Jesus shamed satan and his kingdom on the cross.
 - The resurrection means _____.
We don't fight _____, we fight _____
_____.