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Dear Friends,



I am determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.... I Corinthians 2:2

May I never boast in anything except the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world....Galatians 6:14

I tell you again now even with tears, many live as enemies of the Cross of Christ....Philippians 3:18

The Cross (capitalized because of its symbolic power) is the center of the universe. It is the ultimate focus of Reality. It is where sin is both judged and forgiven. It is where death is both manifested and killed. It is where God's heart is revealed in all wrath and love. It is the place of total separation from

the old and total uniting with the New. It is where you and I are convicted of sin and where we are made just. It is the place of ultimate agony and the place where all agony ends.

It is so simple a child can grasp it and so awesome in its depths of unfathomable mystery that we will be baptized in its wonder for the ages to come. It is the weakness of God which is stronger than the greatest strength of evil. It is the foolishness of God which is far wiser than the wisdom of men or all the occult wisdom of all principalities and powers. It is the place of total loss, dereliction, and aloneness AND the place where love finds us and will never let us go. It is where God and man are forever brought into a union together so intimate that nothing can separate us in this world or in the world to come.



He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?... Christ Jesus, who died - more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us... For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:32; 34b; 38-39)

All of us understand that it is at the Cross we are forgiven. The blood of Jesus cleanses from all sin. But few ever seem to understand that it is at the Cross, AF-TER we have received forgiveness from sin, that the power of the Cross deals with our sin nature, our old man, our sinful patterns of living which cause death to all joy. If you are tired of sinful lapses in your life, know this: you are totally forgiven by the blood. That is irrefutable, irreversible, and eternal. Now with the same faith you asked to be forgiven by the blood, ask to be set free by the Cross. Ask for the death that brings life. Ask Jesus to take you to the Cross and slay whatever it is in your old life that seems to refuse to let go of you. Then say with Paul, now with better understanding of the meaning of these words...

I am crucified WITH Christ, yet I LIVE!!! Yet not I but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in my body, I live by the faithfulness of the Son of God who LOVED ME and gave Himself for me. (Galatians 2:20)





Movie Reviews



Do You Believe?

This may be the best drama film of its kind ever filmed to date. It is still in theaters after a three month run, but will likely only be available on DVD by the time you read this. See it!

Little Boy

The critics hate this film, so that should be enough to let you know it is worth supporting. But beyond that, it is a father/son story that deals with the heart-tearing demands of World War II while not ignoring the sins of America committed against her Japanese citizens. Then there are the added ingredients of the power of holy imagination, faith, prayer, self acceptance, courage, forgiveness, and the providence of God, all set in a well told enjoyable family-friendly script. A great addition is that while making this film the kid who plays the elder brother came to the Lord.

Book Review Jephthah's Daughters

(Edited by Robert Oscar Lopez and Rivka Edelman)

A vitally important document for pastors, leaders, social workers, and any of us who are deeply concerned for the true welfare and safety of a generation of children being ripped apart for the sake of political expedience. This is not a casual read but an encyclopedic examination of the effect the so called 'sexual revolution' has had and continues to have on the children suffering its selfish insane ravages.



Closing Thoughts ...



Come to the Cross. Stand in the Cross with your ongoing pain and hurt. Let the pain rise up and go into the Cross. And at the same time, look up. Look up and out of your own hurt into the face of Love Himself. Join your pain to His on the cross.

Embrace the life that comes from dying...

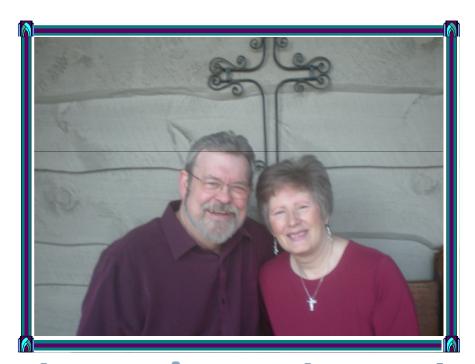
Come trace the steps the Savior walked for you

An empty tomb concludes Golgotha's sorrow

Endure then till tomorrow, your cross of suffering

Embrace the Cross

(excerpt from "Embrace the Cross", by John Elliot)





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