

Sermon Outline ~ March 30, 2025
“The Offense of the Cross” ~ Galatians 5:7-15

Call to Worship: Psalm 22:1-31

Hymns: Covered by the Blood 251; He Has Surely Borne Our Sorrow 247

Purpose Statement: The most basic thing in Christianity is the Cross. One day a savior is coming. Jesus died for our sins. Our salvation depends on what he did for us. He did it on an *Old Rugged Cross*. Paul says a lot in Galatians 5:11. Paul says, “*Brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished.*”

That tells me that something in Paul’s day and in our world today, that the Cross is offensive. People are offended by the crucifixion. To us as Christians, that’s the greatest news. What is it about the cross that is offensive? (Matthew 27:24). Why did Pilate wash his hands of the innocence of Jesus being crucified?

OUTLINE: We need to go back to basics about the Christian faith. It’s about the cross: One day a Savior will come and He will die. One day He will redeem us. We look back to that, the time that Jesus died for our sins. Our _____ (**salvation**) depends entirely on what He did for us. The world does not accept it. The key verse: Galatians 5:11 “*Brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished.*”

What Paul says in vs. 11 it has to do with the law and our efforts, trying to work our way to heaven. If that was my _____ (**preaching**) we would not be persecuted. And the offense of the cross would cease. Paul’s day and in our day the world sees something about the cross, the crucifixion that people don’t like. If we are saved by the grace of God by faith in Jesus Christ we don’t understand the world’s

perspective. Our perspective, a Christian world view, nothing could be greater than the message of the cross.

To the world the cross is offensive. What is it? Why? Why do people try to make up some other plan of salvation that fails? God provided salvation by means of the cross for us.

1. **The _____ (offense) of the cross is seen because it was on the cross that God revealed our sinfulness.** Why did Jesus die? What about the two criminals on either side of Christ on the cross? (Matthew 27:24). What did Pilate do?
_____.
2. **The offense of the cross is seen in the _____ (revelry) that happened on the cross when the soldiers beat Jesus.** Jesus’ wounds were so marred by the catenin tails and abused so unrecognizable. The soldiers laughed and mocked. At Calvary we have the best of Christ and the worst of us.
3. **The offense of the cross is seen in God’s _____ (response) to what took place.** Jesus cried, “*My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?*” Did God turn His back on Jesus or our sins? Why? (2 Corinthians 5:21). He carried all of our sins on Himself. He died in our place. He took on our sins.

The cross is offensive because we don’t admit; we don’t want to succumb to the fact that our sins come short of the glory of God. At the cross we have the revelation of the love of God, which is offensive. Why? _____.

Jesus Paid it All -Brooke Ligertwood/Gateway; But for the Cross – Bryan Fowler