

## 20221218 THE CROSS OF CHRIST IS THE WAY OF GOD

### Part 1 – Brokenness

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup> And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God.

<sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

<sup>3</sup> I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling.

<sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power,

<sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

Paul said, "**By the grace of God I am what I am.**"

What made the difference in Paul's life? The grace of God

Paul's resolution: I will know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified

What made it possible for Paul to make this resolution?

### 1. Jesus reveals what it means to live in the grace of God.

John 1:14

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Luke 2:52

<sup>52</sup> Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor (grace) with God and men.

### 2. God cannot receive a fake.

Revelation 3:1

<sup>1</sup> ...These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; **you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.**

John 8:30-36

<sup>30</sup> Even as he spoke, many put their faith in him.

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

<sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and **the truth will set you free.**"

<sup>33</sup> They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

<sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

<sup>35</sup> Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.

<sup>36</sup> So **if the Son sets you free**, you will be free indeed.

John 8:41, 44

<sup>41</sup> You are doing the things your own father does...

<sup>44</sup> You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

**3. Being a fake life is the process of becoming the real life.**

Romans 7:24-35

<sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?

<sup>25</sup> ...So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

**4. The cross of Christ is the way of God for us in this world.**

Luke 9:23

<sup>23</sup> If anyone would come after me, he must **deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.**

**APPLICATION**

***Follow Christ and receive rest***

**Matthew 11:28-30**

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

<sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."