

**Pastor's Weekly Devotional- April 2, 2015**

**"The Cross"**

Why would the Apostle Paul whose education, we are told by the scholars, is equivalent to three PhD's, declare "God forbid that I should boast except in the Cross of Christ?" (Galatians 6:14)

The Cross was not just Pilate's deed, nor the deed of Judas, Caiaphas or the crowd; rather, it was God's deed. It was God in action. God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself. On the Cross, Jesus took the tragic wrongness of our sinful hearts, defeating the principalities and powers of Satan at the very point of their proudest triumph, shattering the penalty, the presence and the power of sin in order to set us free once and for all and for all eternity.

Because of the Cross, this is what was made available to us today:

In His Condemnation, we have Justification!  
In His God-forsakenness, we have Peace with God!  
In His shame, we have Glory!  
In His Despair, we have Hope!  
In His Death, we have Life!

In Jesus, in His Death, there has appeared upon the battlefield of our defeat, a Love that has taken our place at the cross. And the shame of despair becomes Joy as we accept the wonders of the Cross:

The wonder of the Love of God...GOD LOVES YOU!  
The wonder of the Light of God...GOD HAS REMOVED THE DARKNESS OF SIN!  
The wonder of the Life of God...ETERNAL LIFE!

See you in church on this Easter Sunday either at the first service at 7:30 a.m. followed by a brunch, or the 10:00 a.m. service. **My message will be: "The Greatest News—ONE GOT OUT!"** Barbara and I wish you a blessed Easter!

Blessings,  
Pastor Sewdin