

The cross of Jesus Christ is central to the Christian faith. The cross reveals to us the character of God: His love for lost sinners and His perfect justice meet at the cross.

The cross is the place where all the wounds of sin are healed. If you suffer from emotional problems--guilt, anxiety, depression, anger, or whatever--there is healing in the cross of Christ. [Isa. 53:4, 5, 6, 8b, 11b](#)

Satan hates the cross because it sealed his doom and he is relentless in his attacks to undermine and thwart the cross. If he can convince people that they are not sinners who deserve God's wrath, then they don't need a crucified Savior. [1 Peter 5:8](#)

❖ Through Christ's death on the cross, those who turn to Him are delivered from both the penalty and the power of sin.

All of our problems stem from sin--from our own sin or from the sin of others against us (and our sinful reaction to it) or from the fallen world in which we live, thus the solutions to our problems center in the cross of Christ. [1 Peter 2:24-25](#)

❖ Through Christ's death on the cross, those who turn to Him are delivered from the penalty of sin.

"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us; [Deuteronomy 21:22-23](#), [Isaiah 53:12](#), [Galatians 3:13](#):

The holiness and justice of God demand that a penalty be paid for sin; Christ took that penalty on Himself on the cross. [Romans 6:23](#)

Since the human race sinned, a member of the race had to pay the just penalty God demands. But only one who was sinless Himself could pay such a penalty [1 Corinthians 6:20](#)

God does not just shrug off our sin. We all know that that is not justice. There are many of Christians, who think that God's justice is like that. They shrug off sin as if it's no big deal to God. [Proverbs 11:21](#), [Acts 17:30](#)

Jesus Christ bore your sin on the cross, but you must take Him up on the offer. If you turn to Him, you will be delivered from the penalty of sin. [2 Peter 3:9](#)

❖ Christ's death not only delivers us from the penalty of sin, but also from its power:

Before we turned to Jesus Christ as our sin bearer, we were characterized by straying from the Good Shepherd, going our own way. We were lost even though we may not have known it. [1 Peter 3:18](#) [Romans 5:8](#)

Sheep are not smart enough to know that they're lost or to find their own way back to the shepherd if they wanted to. The only way they come back to him is if he takes the initiative in going out looking for them. [Luke 15:4](#)

❖ THE POWER OF SIN REQUIRED DEATH AND NEW LIFE FOR DELIVERANCE.

The power of sin is so great that we can't be delivered from it by promising to turn over a new leaf or by sheer will power. There had to be a death of our old man toward sin and a resurrection to new life in Jesus Christ: [Romans 6-8](#), [Galatians 2:20](#), [Colossians 3:1-4](#)

❖ **THE POWER OF SIN REQUIRES THE ONGOING CARE OF OUR GREAT SHEPHERD AND OVERSEER.**

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, watches over the souls of His sheep. But if we seek to follow Him, we can know that He will feed, lead, and guard us as our Shepherd and Overseer.

[1 Peter. 5:1-2](#); [Acts 20:28](#)

❖ **To be delivered from the penalty and power of sin, we must turn to Christ.**

While we spend a lifetime growing in our submission to Christ, if we are not seeking to live under His Lordship, our claim to faith is suspect. [Isaiah. 55:7](#) [2 Corinthians 5:17-21](#)