THE REVELATION OF THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:17-24

Introduction:
A. Jesus Christ is the virgin born Son of God. He was born without the Adamic sin nature. He was called the Second Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45-47).
   1. Like the first Adam, He began life on earth as pure and perfect and in fellowship with God the Father.
   2. Both Adams were tempted; the first Adam committed sin in disobeying God, died spiritually and was driven from the personal presence of God. Jesus, the Second Adam, was tempted in all points as we are, yet in it all He obeyed the Father.
B. The cross is the cross on which Jesus was crucified for the sin of the whole world.
C. Revelation means to reveal or to make known.
D. Let us study the death of Jesus Christ on the cross and see what is Revealed.

I. THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST REVEALS HOW AWFUL AND DEADLY SIN REALLY IS.
   A. Sin is disobedience. It means that God has been disobeyed.
   B. Sin separates man from our holy God.
   C. Sin pays wages and “the wages of sin is death.” Sin is deadly; it kills both spiritually and physically.
   D. God drove the first sinners from the Garden and from His personal presence. They had died spiritually, now they would die physically.
   E. Romans 5:8 teaches this truth. Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.
   F. A view of awful death of Jesus Christ on the cross surely reveals how awful and deadly sin really is.

II. THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST REVEALS GOD’S ATTITUDE TOWARD SIN AND SINNERS.
   A. The cross of Jesus Christ reveals God’s righteousness and justice and also His love and mercy.
B. Sin offended God’s holiness. God is angered by sin. God feels betrayed by man’s disobedience. His holy character has been violated by those whom He loves.

C. God’s justice cries out to be vindicated. The sin debt must be paid. God’s holiness must be satisfied.

D. God’s love for sinners cries out for mercy; they must be spared the death penalty.

E. God’s own character creates a problem. His righteousness cries out for justice; His love calls for mercy.

III. THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST REVEALS GOD’S SOLUTION TO THE SIN PROBLEM.

A. The wages of sin is death; the soul that sinneth, it must die.
   1. Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.
   2. It will be your blood or the blood of a suitable substitute.
   3. If your blood, you go to hell.
   4. If the blood of Jesus Christ, you go to heaven.

B. Revelation 13:8 reveals that God planned for the solution of the sin problem from the foundation of the world. Jesus stood as “the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” Paul also spoke of the “blood of the everlasting covenant.”

C. The sinless, obedient Jesus Christ died as the suitable sacrifice for the sin of the world on the cruel cross of Calvary.

D. He who knew no sin was made to be sin for us.

E. Jesus died as a sinner, cut off from God.

F. Jesus became our substitute.

G. The death of Jesus Christ on the cross satisfied the justice of our holy God.

H. He became our propitiation – He appeased our God who was angry at sin.

I. He bore our sin on the cross and God saw the travail of His soul and was satisfied.

J. Now our loving God can extend mercy to guilty men on the basis of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

IV. THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST ALSO REVEALS THE STUBBORN FOOLISHNESS OF MAN.

A. The sin debt has been paid; the way to eternal fellowship with our holy God has been opened wide.
B. Why then are there countless millions who are still separated from God and on their way to hell?
C. The answer is found in the stubborn, foolish minds of those who are still lost.
D. Paul referred to this in 1 Cor. 1:18 – For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.
E. This problem is illustrated by a song made popular by Frank Sinatra – “I did it my way.”
F. Also in the attitude of an 80 year old man to whom I of salvation back in the fifties. “
G. He said, “I am 80 years old and have never asked any body for anything and I ain’t gona start now.”

CONCLUSIONS:
A. The cross of Jesus Christ reveals the only way for sinful man to spend a happy eternity in the presence of our holy God.
B. Truly, The way of the Cross leads Home.”
C. Have you ever confessed your sin to God, ask His forgiveness and trusted the saving of your soul to Jesus Christ?
D. If not, why not do so right now.