

I. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN HISTORY

- A. Without argument, the death of Jesus Christ on a Roman cross over 2000 years ago is the most important event in human history. Why? Because it is central to the biblical narrative, human history, and even eternity.
- B. The Cross of Jesus Christ is the most important event in history because since the beginning of the redemption story everything pointed toward it, **and everything that is yet to be fulfilled will be because of it.**
 - 1. **QUOTE-** “The Cross is not just for personal salvation it’s the burning center of God’s redemptive plan that ignites transformation in not just man but all of creation.”
 - 2. **QUOTE-** “The message of the cross is that God’s kingdom has been launched on earth as it is in heaven. The power that was let loose on the world that day will renew the whole creation.” -NT Wright
- C. The cross of Christ released the greatest demonstration of God’s restoring power that not only saved the sinner, but reversed the curse setting in motion the renewal of all things.

II. PAUL’S ONE THING

- A. King David had his one thing in the Old Testament and Paul had his one thing in the New.
 - 1. **One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.** -Psalm 27:4
 - 2. **“For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”**— 1 Corinthians 2:2
- B. Paul made a deliberate choice, **“I determined”** to center his message not on human wisdom, rhetoric, or religious showmanship, but on the power and message of the Cross.
- C. Why? Corinth was a city obsessed with eloquent speech, philosophy, and status. Paul rejected those methods and preached “Christ and Him

crucified” because He knew that what Christ did on the cross unleashed all the power of God to not only redeem man, but a fallen world as well.

1. “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”-1 Corinthians 1:18

D. Paul believed that the cross is the central event of all history — the place where sin was conquered, Satan was defeated, and redemption was secured. **Everything else in God’s plan flows from it.**

III. THE CROSS HOLDS BOTH HISTORICAL AND ESCHATOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

A. Everything God began at the Cross reaches its full completion through His end-time purposes and when Jesus returns.

1. The cross becomes the hinge through which the old age is judged and the new age is inaugurated.

B. Jesus’ historical death on the cross secured an eschatological future of final justice, redemption, restoration, and the glory of God filling the earth.

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IV. THE CROSS SECURED THE UNVEILING OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

A. All of God’s attributes and character that were gloriously displayed on the cross will also be gloriously put on display during the end of the age events and will culminate at the return of Jesus.

B. His mercy, justice, wisdom, love, judgment, wrath, faithfulness, grace, and goodness was not only fully displayed simultaneously when Jesus died on the cross, but will also be simultaneously fully manifested before all to see during His end time judgements and return.

C. **Communion also has historical and eschatological significance.** Paul reminds us that when we partake of communion we are not only remembering what Christ has done in the future, **but also what He will complete in the future.**

1. ***"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."- 1 Corinthians 11:26***

V. JESUS' RETURN WILL COMPLETE WHAT HE SECURED ON THE CROSS INCLUDING:

A. ALL OF GOD'S COVENANTS

1. In the ancient world, a covenant was not merely spoken — it was sealed by blood. When Jesus shed His blood on the Cross, He wasn't just dying, He was ratifying, sealing, securing, and confirming every covenant, prophecy, and promise that will be fully manifested at the return of Jesus.

a) "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."- Luke 22:20

2. Every covenant God has made including The Adamic Covenant(will restored man's dominion on the earth) Noahic, (restored earth) Abrahamic (all nations will be blessed), Mosaic, (Israel walking out her calling as a chosen Kingdom of Priests), Davidic, (Jesus reigning on the throne of David forever), and New Covenant (eternal relationship with God)

B. ALL OF GOD'S PROMISES TO HIS PEOPLE

1. Scripture teaches that while believers already possess salvation and the Holy Spirit as a "down payment" (Eph 1:13-14), the full realization of God's promises awaits Jesus' return
2. They include our glorification at Christ's return (Rom. 8:17), our full inheritance of the Kingdom (Eph. 1:14), Resurrected bodies (1 Cor. 15:35-50), eternal rewards, dominion over the earth, and face to face relationship with the Father. (Rev. 21:3-4)

a) 20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.-2 Corinthians 1:20

C. SALVATION OF THE NATIONS

1. The cross secured God's promise to Abraham and Jesus' return will fully complete it.

a) *In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.*"-Genesis 12:3

b) *"Christ has redeemed us... that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus."*-Galatians 3:13–14

D. The end of the age events will bring the fullness of that promise to past. God will use the end of the age events as a means to redeem all the nations from the curse of sin and restore humanity's role of being in fellowship with God and stewarding creation again.

1. *9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"* -Revelation 7:9-10

E. FULL AUTHORITY TO JUDGE RIGHTOUSLY

- 1. *30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."*-Acts 17:30-31**
- 2. *"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war."*-Rev 19:11**

F. FINAL AND COMPLETE JUSTICE

- 1. Jesus' death on the cross gave Him the authority to take the scroll from the Father's hand and execute final justice on the earth including vindicating His saints and instituting His Kingdom.**
- a) *6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into***

all the earth. 7 Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. -Rev 5:6-7

G. FINAL VICTORY OVER SATAN

1. On the cross Jesus stripped Satan from his legal authority and right to be the God of this age, and will publicly enforce that victory at His return.
2. The Cross secured the victory The Return of Christ will display that victory on a global stage. .

a) Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it [the Cross]."-Coloss 2:14

b) "The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are.And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."-Rev. 20:10

H. JESUS WILL DIVIDE THE SPOIL WITH THE STRONG

1. In ancient warfare, when a king triumphed in battle, he would divide the spoils (booty, treasure, and captives) among his loyal warriors. It was a sign of victory, authority, and shared reward. Jesus' intercession will divide the enemies spoil with His Bride.

a) Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great,And He shall divide the spoil with the strong,Because He poured out His soul unto death,-Is. 53:12

I. THE LAST ENEMY WILL BE DESTROYED

1. Jesus' resurrection broke the power of death and freed us from its dominion. At the Cross, Jesus defeated death's power; At His return, He will destroy death's presence.

a) "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."- 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

- b) ***"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."-Rev. 21:4***

J. THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS

1. The phrase *"the restoration of all things"* is God's promise to **renew, reconcile, and restore everything that has been broken by sin** including man's relationship with God, man's relationship with one another, the liberation of creation, the unifying of heaven and earth, and the total rule of God by His government being established on the earth. .
 - a) ***20 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, 21 whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.-Acts 3:20-21***
 - b) ***21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.-Rom 8:21-22***
 - c) ***9 Having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth in Him. -Eph. 1:9-10***

VI. THE UNVEILING OF THE BEAUTY OF GOD

- A. One of the primary themes of God's redemptive story is to unveil the fullness of God's beauty.
- B. At the cross Jesus veiled His beauty in humility and at His return He will unveil the totality of it in glory.

1. ***He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.³ He is despised and rejected by men-Is. 53:2-3***
 2. ***But on that day, the branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious;-Is. 4:2***
- C. At His first coming Jesus was despised and rejected by Men, but at His second coming He will be admired, loved, and adored, by those who believe.
1. ***10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe,-2 Thess. 1:10***