

The Meaning of the Cross

Gene Warr

I. Introduction.

- A. The cross was an ancient instrument of death.
- B. Only in preaching the cross of Jesus is there power.

II. Different responses to the cross.

- A. To Caesar the cross was a form of punishment.
- B. To the centurions the cross might have been the doorway to heaven.
- C. To the women and the disciples the cross was shattered expectations.
- D. To God the cross was heartbreak.
- E. To unbelievers the cross is foolishness.

III. To believers the cross...

- A. Is the penalty of sin.
- B. Is sensitivity to sin.
- C. Is redemption. (1 Peter 1:18-19)
- D. Is sacrifice and death to self.
- E. Is the love of God. (John 3:16)
- F. Is the revealed grace of God.
- G. Is hope.

Application questions:

1. What is the cross of Jesus to God?

2. How should a believer's life be different in light of what the cross has accomplished for him?

3. In what ways does the cross of Jesus bring us hope?
