

THEOLOGY
OF THE CROSS

Necessary Things
Genesis 3

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Genesis 3:15-19

And I will put enmity

Between you and the woman,

And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.” To the woman He said, “I will greatly multiply your pain in childbirth, in pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

Then to Adam He said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat from it’;

Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life.

THEOLOGY OF THE CROSS

“Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;
And you will eat the plants of the field; By the sweat of
your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground,
because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to
dust you shall return.”

THEOLOGY OF THE CROSS

- what is sin?
- all sin begins with a belief
 - core beliefs about self, God and others
- Genesis 3:10- Satan introduced doubt about God's goodness and his trustworthiness
- its why John 20:31 is there
 - The cross reshapes our beliefs in the light of the resurrected Jesus

THEOLOGY OF THE CROSS

- what was Adam and Eve's sin?
- we struggle with the necessity of the cross because we see sin through the lens of human relationships
- sin is against God
 - breaks the Law
 - violates the Creator
- corrupts creation
- God hates sin with a fiery hate; God loves sinners with a ridiculous love
 - solution: the cross!

THEOLOGY OF THE CROSS

- what are the effects of the cross?
- restore us to a right relationship with God and others
- to save everything
- to remove sin (Colossians 2:14-15)
- to crush Satan
 - are you living like that; overcoming sin or curling up with Satan and listening to him?
 - he is defeated and that means we are free!
- to show us that God is all in for us

THEOLOGY OF THE CROSS

- why was the cross necessary?
- to defeat Satan and death (and the opposites!)
- we hide; God saves (Gen. 3:10 and John 3:19-21)
- because we ate from a tree and continue to eat from it
 - we eat from trees to get life and gain death
 - Christ died on a tree so we could gain life

THEOLOGY OF THE CROSS

- the necessity of the cross makes the Savior the only necessary thing
- the cross is necessary because of sin and separation; without Christ you are NOT free
- the cross is necessary for life and freedom
- the cross is necessary for worship- the Risen Lamb!