

**“I believed,
therefore
I spoke”**

Psalm 116:10



Highlights ⁽¹⁾

1. The Servant: A witness to the power of the Resurrection
2. The Power is a gift.
The Cross is the choice.



Highlights ⁽²⁾

3. Ministry between what is said and what is believed
4. An agent of Faith or of Doubts?



I. The Servant: A witness to the power of the Resurrection



St. Thomas and his belief

- “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

John 20:27



Ezekiel and his ministry

- “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you.” *Ezekiel 2:1*



Choosing a new disciple

- “...one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.”

Acts 1:22



**II. The Power is a
gift.**

**The Cross is the
choice.**



The choice of suffering and the resulting glory

- “...and if children, then heirs—
heirs of God and joint heirs
with Christ, if indeed we suffer
with Him, that we may also be
glorified together”

Romans 8:17



The first choice of the Cross: our Baptism

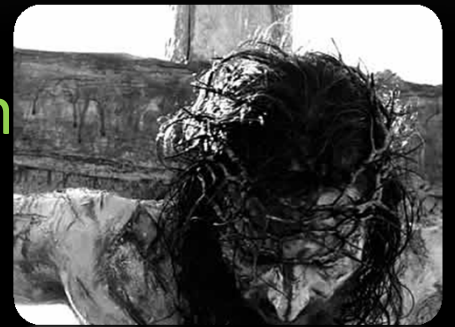
- “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” *Romans 6:4*



The Saving Knowledge

- “And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified”

1 Corinthians 2:1-2



The Message: The Way to Glory ⁽¹⁾

- “...but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God” *1 Corinthians 1:23-24*



The Message: The Way to Glory ⁽²⁾

- “And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires”

Galatians 5:24



The Message: The Way to Glory ⁽³⁾

- “But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world”

Galatians 6:14



The Message: The Way to Glory ⁽⁴⁾

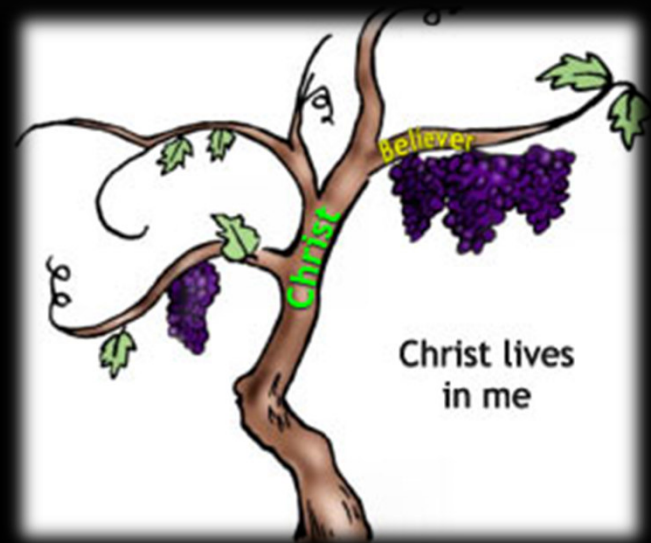
- “...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death”

Philippians 3:10



The Servants' choice

- “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me”
Galatians 2:20



**III. Ministry
between what is
said and what is
believed**



By a Living Faith...

- We understand, offer, please God, move with godly fear, obey, wait, and desire a better country (*Hebrews 11*)



By a Living Faith we persuade others

- “Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men”

2 Corinthians 5:11



Our choice and our responsibility

- We chose the cross and desire the virtuous life in the Lord Christ.
- We are responsible for the struggle at all times



IV. An agent of Faith or of Doubts?



When the cross is laid down ⁽¹⁾

1. The servant falls in self-pity and grace starts to depart
2. Life deteriorates first on the spiritual level then on all fronts



When the cross is laid down ⁽²⁾

3. Grumbling against the other members of the Body grows
4. Focusing on the letter as the spirit of the command is now hidden (the Pharisees' syndrome)



When the cross is laid down ⁽³⁾

5. Words might not be devoid of eloquence, but they are cold, dead, and contradicting the actual choices



SHOW ME, DON'T TELL ME

When the cross is laid down ⁽⁴⁾

- 5. Knowledge is retained intellectually
and Resurrection is just a story
- 6. Offenses become inevitable
- 7. Service is either abandoned or only
kept as wood for the fire of the Ego



Our Citizenship and how we walk ⁽¹⁾

“Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.

Our Citizenship and how we walk ⁽²⁾

“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself” *Philippians 3:17-21*
