



## HCF Core Values

### The Cross – Part 2

**The Cross** - We value the *cross of Jesus Christ*. Christ's atoning sacrifice is the most important event in the history of creation. The cross was the fulfillment of Christ's work as our High Priest and the full payment for the redemption of mankind from his sins. By Grace alone, in the cross we have the complete work of justification and imputation, which is available to us by faith alone in Christ alone. The cross is central to the attitude of Christian living and the supreme example of God's love to mankind. If there ever was an act of divine wonder to worship and glory in, it is the cross of Jesus Christ!

**The cross was the fulfillment of Christ's work as our High Priest and the full payment for the redemption of mankind from his sins.** – Because of the fall of man and his becoming the object of God's disfavor and wrath because of sin, it is necessary for us to have a mediator between God and man. Here lies the awesome power of Christ's cross toward mankind, saving him from God's wrath by accomplishing for mankind what he could have never done on his own.

**1 Timothy 2:5-6** - 5 For **there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus**, 6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony borne at the proper time. NASB

Christ became this mediator for us and fulfilled the ministry of the Priesthood to us. In this priestly work, *Jesus did everything right and He satisfied the requirements of the Holy Father perfectly*. In this, we can have great assurance in the salvation that Jesus has worked for us. It is indeed complete and comprehensive. More than this, He did it in His humanity so that He is able to sympathize with us because He has been tempted in all points like us.

**Hebrews 2:17-18** - 17 Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, **that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people**. 18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted. NASB

**Hebrews 4:15-16** - 15 For **we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are**, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need. NASB

This intercession is not only "one time" at salvation but is an ongoing ever-present intercession which satisfies God and provides a way of eternal reconciliation to God.

**Hebrews 7:23-25** - 23 And the former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers, because they were prevented by death from continuing, 24 **but He, on the other hand, because He abides forever, holds His priesthood permanently**. 25 Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. NASB

Therefore we can have confidence in approaching God because God has become a man and walked where we walk and experienced our suffering so as to relate to and sympathize with our weakness. ***With Jesus we will find a compassionate and loving priest, the true heavenly Priest of God Most High***, who cares for us and who is in constant everlasting intercession for us.

**1 John 2:1-2** - 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. **And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous**; 2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world. NASB

We value the cross in this point because it has manifested to us the willingness and mercy of God to help in our helpless estate and provide for us everything we need to have perfect fellowship restored to Him. ***God did all of this so that we will glorify Him and thank Him for his amazing grace and kindness toward us***. It is for God's glory! The right response for us to glory in the cross! What good thing will God withhold from His dear children if He would not even spare His own Son to love us?

**Romans 8:31-35** - 31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 **He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?** 33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; 34 who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, **who also intercedes for us**. NASB

We value the cross because in it ***we see the amazing mercy of God in Christ's High Priestly work with perfect clarity***. Dare we boast in anything but the cross on which the Prince of Glory died! Jesus is our great salvation worthy of our best esteem!

**Galatians 6:14** - 14 But **may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ**, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. NASB  
**Ephesians 2:8-9** -8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and **that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast**. NASB

Where then is boasting? It is in the cross!

We value the cross because in it ***we see the amazing cleansing work of God in Christ's High Priestly work with perfect clarity***. We see at the cross that we have been sanctified, washed and cleansed from the guilt and shame of our sins. So the scripture declares..

**1 Corinthians 6:11** - 11 And such were some of you; but **you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God. NASB

This cleansing is what we call **"sanctification."** It has two parts which we refer to as...

- positional sanctification
- practical sanctification.....

Position sanctification is that sanctification which has been purchased by Christ and is our eternal standing before God in Him. Practical sanctification is that ongoing process of being made holy in our practice which God the Holy Spirit carries out through our cooperation.

**Hebrews 10:14** -14 For **by one offering He has perfected for all time** those who are sanctified. NASB

***"By one offering*** (that is, Jesus death on the cross) ***he has perfected forever those who are sanctified*** (that is those who are being continually sanctified practically by the ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit)." We value the cross because by it Christ has perfectly sanctified us before God by His work of salvation.

**1 Corinthians 1:30-31** - 30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, **who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption.** 31 that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord." NASB

We value the cross because in the cross we have our sins completely forgiven so that we stand before God holy and blameless and beyond any reproach.

**Colossians 1:21-22** - 21 And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, 22 yet **He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach.** NASB

This is because Jesus death on the cross was full payment for sin in that he was not dying for His own sin but for the sin in its fullness. The blameless Lamb of God in the fullness of His Righteousness, dying for the penalty of sin in its fullness of its evil.

**Romans 5:17-19** - 17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. 18 So then **as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.** 19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. NASB

This we call **"redemption."** Jesus died to pay the price of sin on our behalf. He died as a ransom payment. To buy us back from the debt we owed to the law of God. We were held captive by the law of God because of our sin and Jesus death was payment in full for the righteous requirement of the law.

**Ephesians 1:7 - 7** **In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,** according to the riches of His grace, NASB

**Colossians 2:13-14** -13 And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 **having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.** NASB

**Romans 3:24** - 24 being **justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption** which is in Christ Jesus; NASB