

# Established- Starting each day at the Cross.

## Sermon Notes

November 3, 2024

**Luke 9:23** “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

- Is that charge suggesting we start at a place of suffering each day where we hang our head in shame of what Christ endured to pay for our sins?
- What does it mean to deny oneself and take up the Cross?
- Jesus says this is the daily life of a true disciple.

*Today's passage gives us more understanding to Jesus' charge.*

Read **Colossians 2:6-15**

**Our first day at the Cross is just the beginning of a new life.** (6)

- Our lives are to root in this—deeply sourced by Jesus' work on the Cross. (7)
- Our lives are to be built up—a daily growth. (7)
- Our faith in what He is doing is growing by the day. (7)
- Leading to gratefulness as we take note of what He is doing in and around us.
  - Intentionality creates awareness.
  - Giving thanks inspires the next day!

**Two strategies used by Satan to divert us from living under the power of the Cross.**

1. Creating an unhealthy view of human supremacy and capacity—**humanism**.
2. Changing the identity and role of Jesus Christ—early **Gnosticism**.

**Humanism challenged** (8):

- Philosophy is not the end, for it can be hollow and deceptive.
  - Hollow in that it stands only until the next ingenious thought.
  - Hollow in that it is not often tested in life but merely discussed for intellectual enrichment. Thought built upon thought vs. thought challenged by testing.
  - Deceptive in that philosophy submits to the most persuasive.
  - Deceptive in that it assumes man has no limits to knowledge.

- Human tradition begins with good intent but loses its purity with each passing generation.
  - What was intended to keep something near the heart becomes a legalistic expectation that strips heart of passion.
  - It becomes superior to that which it was originally meant to serve.
- Elemental forces (spiritual forces) are able to easily influence human centric thought and actions.

**Gnosticism challenged** (9):

- Jesus is fully God.
- Jesus is fully man.
- By His fullness we enter that fullness. (10a)
- He is over **every** power and authority in both heaven and on earth. He is the most superior of authority. (10b)

**Jesus accomplished on the Cross what our flesh could not do on its own—defeating death to attaining life!** (11-13)

- Circumcision of the heart verses circumcision by human hands. An act of identity and submission. (11)
- Your inept and broken leadership of the flesh was “stripped off” and replaced by the rule of Christ in your heart. (11)
- The old self is buried just as He was and raised anew like He was by the **power of God**. (12)
- We were once were dead now we are alive! (13)

**The Power of the Cross of Christ changes everything in how we approach each day.**

1. The Cross of Christ makes peace with God on our behalf. (1:20)
2. The Cross of Christ cancels our debt taking away our condemnation. (14)
  - There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ. **Romans 8:1**
3. The Cross of Christ exposes and disarms the enemy both physical and spiritual—He is victorious over them!
  - Rome was a proxy of Satan and so were the religious leaders of that day.
  - They are mere pawns in the grand scheme of how God is collecting His own.
  - Christ is the only authority and power to which we fully cast our hope for the Cross changed everything!

## Prayer

**Song-** *At the Cross* (Chorus)

## Communion

**Song-** *How Marvelous*

## Benediction:

**Luke 9:23** *“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”*

**Matthew 11:28-30** *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*

*That’s a great place to start our day—at the Cross where we meet Jesus each morning to follow Him.*