

The eternal  
power  
of the Cross



Oswaldo Rebolleda

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# Introduction

The cross preserves that mystery of being a brutal instrument for the execution of criminals. But at the same time and through the sacrifice of Jesus, the cross has become a symbol of hope and life, which is very strange, because there is no other instrument of death that is used to represent life.

One cannot imagine people carrying on their body a pendant or an earring representing a guillotine, an orca or a gun. If so, it would only be regarded as a violent and provocative ornament, but never as a symbol of peace or hope.

The cross is a mystery that must be revealed to the children of God, in a correct way, because a misinterpretation of its depths can produce totally significant and diverse results.

For many people, the cross is a religious symbol; for others, an object of worship; for Christ, it was the cost of his love. For Mary, a sword that pierced her soul. For the disciples, bewilderment and unease. For Pilate, the governor of Judea, it was an obligatory procedure, where an innocent man died. For the Pharisees and Sadducees,

the cross was a tool to eliminate a problem and for Paul, the revealed cross is the portal to a life of fullness.

The cross can be seen as an instrument, as an object, as a symbol, as a mystery, but for us it is a divine reality and, because it is divine, it is dimensional. The cross is not a sermon, it is not a teaching, it is a reality that can be revealed in various depths and those depths lead us to the fullness of Christ.

Sure, for many today this may be a crazy and meaningless message, but for us, for those of us who have been saved by his grace, the message of the cross is nothing less than the power of God. This is what the apostle Paul says in his letter to the Corinthians:

***"For the word of the cross is madness to those who are lost; but to those who are saved, that is, to us, it is the power of God."***

1 Corinthians 1:18

I am clear that several books have been written on the cross and I do not pretend to be novel about it, I only intend to write what I have also preached for different nations. Always trying to do it aligned with the transcendent and sublime call that overwhelms me. Mission for which I try to use all the tools that in his grace God has given me.

Through the power of the cross, we are able to be positioned and function in the life of Christ, so that He too can manifest Himself in our mortal bodies. (**2 Corinthians 4,10 and 11**) That is why the message of the cross is one of the most central and crucial pillars of the Gospel of the Kingdom.

There is so much grace and richness in the message of the cross, that diving into its mysteries fills me with emotion. The cross is the most accurate blow to human pride, it is the finished work that disqualifies us, it is the nakedness of the soul, the cry of the senses and the death of the self.

The cross strains the innermost fibers of our being and hurts; however, it also produces the most intense sigh of peace that a person can express, who becomes aware of not being able to, and still, accept resigned the rest of knowing that nothing in his life depends on him anymore.

There is a cross that Jesus Christ suffered more than two thousand years ago and I will also write about it. However, it was not the wood, but the principle of the cross that allows us today to activate our faith to enter the spiritual dimension that God proposes.

If in our Christian lives the cross were only the wood on which Jesus was nailed, we might well study some physical aspects of it and learn about the old forms of

Roman execution. Also the time Jesus endured and the sufferings he faced. However, the cross for our Christian lives is much more than that.

I would like in this book to mention these things, but above all to invite you to immerse ourselves in the mysteries of the cross, for our spiritual life. I will try to open through revealed teaching some portals that make the work of the cross practice in us.

Therefore, I beg you not only to pay attention in reading this book but to consider as fundamental, your communion with the Holy Spirit, because in the end it can only be He who enlightens us to understand the mysteries of the cross.

Paul's message was undoubtedly the message of the cross and he himself proved to be a crucified person. Paul was not one of the twelve who walked with Jesus and neither does the word say that Paul witnessed the crucifixion. He received the gospel of the risen Christ. However, he was a man of revelation and taught the principles of the cross as no one would have done better.

When someone preaches the message of the cross sincerely, he must adopt the way of the cross. A crucified person must teach the message of the cross in the spirit of the cross. I personally wish to take on the challenge of that, on every page, with this imposition; however, I also warn

that the one who reads must do so in the right spirit if he wants to get results.

I invite you then to pray that the Lord will extend His grace to us to accomplish His purpose in us, and that this book will impel and enrich us to achieve it.

*"Father, thank you in the Name of your beloved Son Jesus Christ, for allowing us to hold in our hands this book on the mysteries of the cross. It is our desire, and we believe we agree with your will, that we can not only understand it but also live it effectively. We cling to the truth that Your divine Holy Spirit will give us understanding in everything. May revelation and spiritual wisdom flow freely on every page of this book, we ask of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen."*



# Chapter One

## The wood

In these more than twenty centuries of life of the Christian church, much has been debated about the cross. Both for the form it had, and for the way in which the Romans performed the ritual of murdering their inmates.

Traditionally it has been believed that the cross used for the crucifixion of Jesus was a vertical stick with a horizontal crossbar that crossed it, however for many that was not the case.

Some Protestant denominations do not have a definite doctrine on the shape of the cross, but I think they also see no reason to depart from that traditional image that we all know.

The Catholic Church, as it could not be otherwise, has not only sustained that form, but has also cultivated the idolatry of the cross, both empty and with a thin and suffering Jesus Christ. Not to mention Orthodox Catholicism, whose most widespread cross is that of eight arms, which is also called the Russian cross in which,

crossing its vertical trunk, there are three horizontal crossbars.

Jehovah's Witnesses, by contrast, teach that Jesus did not die on a cross, but on a vertical wood or trunk, and that the cross is a pagan symbol adopted in the fourth century by an apostate form of Christianity under the influence of Constantine the Great, who contributed his opinion through a personal vision.

By the way, in the Battle of the Milvian Bridge, a military engagement that took place on October 28, 312, there was a turning point in the history of Christianity, as Christian historians of this time and later, influenced by the narration of Eusebius of Caesarea, attributed Constantine's victory to divine intervention.

Supposedly, in that event Constantine saw in the sky a cross with a written legend, which said: "by this sign you will win", which awakened that supposed tendency to Christianity, even going so far as to make it official as a religion throughout the empire.

Of course, we know very well that Constantine did not do any good to the true faith, yet the differences regarding the cross have remained to this day. But that has never become more than the simple opinion of some philosophers or theologians, who will never be able to

change the true and profound spiritual meaning of the revelation of the cross.

Likewise, doubts about the shape of the instrument used in Jesus' death arose very late. All Christians of the first century, including the apostolic fathers, who spoke of the shape of the cross said it had a horizontal crossbar, although they never used it as a symbol of their faith or as an object of veneration.

The first Christians identified with the secret symbol called *ichthys* or *ichthys*, which in Greek is written ΙΧΘΥΣ and which means "fish". With that word ΙΧΘΥΣ formed the acrostic: Jesus Christ, of God the Son, Savior. This symbol consists of two arches that intersect in a way that looks like the profile of a fish.

The idea of this fish-shaped symbol did not arise to identify oneself among society, but among them. These were times of harsh persecution, therefore, they could not make their faith known publicly. They greeted each other by giving a sign with part of this symbol or wrote it to show that they were Christians. The church of that time had no symbols, objects, or liturgies of any kind, to worship things. Only God was believed and worshipped, in Spirit and in truth.

In some cultures of the world they use the cross to perform certain rituals, reminders or religious ceremonies.

Roman Catholics continually sign themselves by doing what they also call the sign of the cross. They do this when they pray, they do it when they pass through a cathedral, they do it when they are before a statuette before which they express their devotion. They do it when they enter the temple, they do it if they cross in front of the altar or during a mass.

So do all those who invoke God at some time of crisis, in the face of bad news, in the face of an assumed risk, or like the athletes who before entering the field of play or after scoring a goal are persigned. It is something of a cabal for luck or a visible demonstration of faith.

It is very common to see a cross on a medal, on earrings, on a keychain, on a stamp, hanging from the rearview mirror of a vehicle, on the door of houses, on a wall of the room, on the bedside table or in the cemetery. The truth is that, in countries like mine, Argentina, Catholicism as an official religion has always cultivated an idolatrous and somewhat hypocritical mentality.

I say this hypocrite with all authority, because I was also a Catholic and I can testify that it is very common for people to say that they are non-practicing Catholic, which is something like saying: "I'm a footballer, but I don't play..."

Those issues become part of a culture, people are simply born and baptized as babies. Then it is customary to participate in some family ceremony: communion, marriage, special masses or something, and he is totally unaware of the truth of the gospel, they only get used to saying that they believe in God, that they pray to him every so often and that everyone is saved, because God always forgives, but nothing more.

In Argentina, 86% of the population says they believe in God and 76.5% of the population declares themselves Catholic, so there would currently be about 35 million Catholics in the country. But this figure is totally misleading at the time of practice, because the overall average attendance at religious services at least once a week was 9%.

Regarding the customs that include the cross, we can cite many since it is used not only in a spiritual aspect. Many usually wear it on clothes, on objects such as rosaries, on ornaments, on jewelry, etc. This can be so for reasons of aesthetics, conscience or even as amulets or fetishes for luck. It is not uncommon to see a person living badly, doing everything that displeases God and yet tattooing a cross on his arm or even on his chest on the side of the heart.

Some carry a stamp in their wallet, but use their money for evil. Others have a cross as a keychain, but the

keys are those of an apartment where they meet secretly with a mistress. That is, all this has nothing to do with the truth of the gospel and people are not guilty, false preaching of the gospel is.

In their religious ceremonies, many take a cross for a walk, in the same way they do with a virgin. In some places they make representations of the crucifixion at least once a year, usually at Easter. And in other more extreme places, such as in Mexico, they do a ceremony nailing a volunteer in a physical and real way every year. Of course, they remove it before they die, but they pierce their hands and feet with real nails.

Some carry heavy crosses on their shoulders and do so for long stretches, suffering to demonstrate their devotion, others set them on fire in horrific ceremonies. In fact, the Satanists themselves, during the satanic New Year, crucify real children and believe me they don't take them away in time.

In short, the cross is used for everything and in many ways. In some cases, trying to pay heartfelt homage to Jesus. In other cases, as we have mentioned, only seeking help, in others as physical ornaments and in others directly for evil. They use the cross for everything but to find in it the true spiritual meaning.

Of course, in any Cathedral or Catholic chapel you can find some cross, unfortunately in many of them or in the vast majority, the crucifix is used in different sizes, that is, the cross with the very image of Jesus Christ. Many of which are truly unpleasant.

They do not do this out of disrespect, on the contrary, they do it trying to reflect the moment of maximum expression of love, pain and sacrifice. The unfortunate thing is that this is perverse and cruel. To remember Jesus at the moment when he became cursed, bearing the sin and pain of all of us, is to fail to understand the gospel of the kingdom.

***"The Lord God says: This people come to me with words and honor me from the lips out, but their heart is far from me. The worship they render to me consists of repeated human norms of memory."***

Isaiah 29:13 PDT.

Usually, all people claim to have faith and it is true, there is a faith that is man's, it is an asthmatic faith, but it is not the spiritual faith of which the Bible speaks. This faith of the soul is sentimental and can be activated by any cultural teaching that is adopted. Therefore, depending on the place of birth or the instruction of the parents, we can all be devotees of any kind of religion or cult.

If we are born in the East, in the bosom of a Buddhist family, we will surely practice Buddhism or if we are born into a Muslim family, that will be it. If we are born into a family from India, anything we could be and if we got Argentina, it is very likely that we are Catholics. The truth is that all that is like speaking a language. We can't imagine speaking Mandarin, German or French, however, if we had been born into a household that spoke that language, that would be normal for us.

So religions are also matters learned and developed in a cultural, family or popular way, but all this obeys the soul and not the gospel of the kingdom, in which a impartation of grace is necessary to receive a true faith.

True faith is spiritual and given by the Lord (**Ephesians 2:8**), that's why we received a measure of it (**Romans 12:3**) and we can develop it (**Matthew 17:20**). Faith is sown in us by the Lord (**Romans 10:17**), not by a culture and for that reason it can manifest itself as a spiritual fruit (**Galatians 5:22**).

When we receive the true gospel by the grace of the Lord, we begin to see and that gives it a different connotation to what we do or believe. God's idea is not that we practice a new religion, but that we have fellowship with Him and can receive new life in the Son. That is, the cross is a portal of revelation to enter the dimension of a

new life. To remain in the natural knowledge of it is not to comprehend the gospel.

But back to the wood. Let's look at what Moses wrote in the book of Deuteronomy:

***"If anyone has committed any crime worthy of death, and you cause him to die, and you will hang him on a wood, you will not let his body spend the night on the wood; without fail you will bury him on the same day, for cursed by God is the hanged; and thou shalt not defile thy land which the Lord your God gives thee by inheritance."***

Deuteronomy 21:22 and 23

The word wood in Hebrew is the word **STD** and in Greek it is the word **Xúlon** which means: Wood, club, stick, trap, wood, wood, fig tree, bunch and also means tree. Different Bible versions, such as the Castillian, the Jerusalem Bible, the Bible of the Americas, the God Speaks Today (DHH) or Word of God for All (PDT), and several other versions, use directly in this passage of Deuteronomy, the word tree.

If so, it would be like a curiosity that Adam after having eaten from a tree, believing that he had done the great thing, would end up dying in a tree in the person of Jesus Christ. Remember that the first Adam introduced sin and the second Adam brought it to the cross.

***"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, made by us a curse (for it is written: Cursed everyone who is hung on a wood)"***

Galatians 3:13

The apostle Paul quotes a statement from the Mosaic law and also references the verse from Deuteronomy that I shared. This verse talks about the punishment of one who had committed some crime worthy of death.

The sentence of the judges could end with the death of the prisoner; however, the children of Israel did not hang people on a wood as a method of public execution. On the other hand, to execute the criminals they used stoning, that is, stoning them.

Foreigners have always wondered why the Jews used this method of applying the death penalty and the large number of stones they threw at the condemned person has always attracted attention. But that was the way to treat the baddest criminals, those who constituted a danger to social coexistence. And they used that method to serve as an example to others.

This passage from Deuteronomy also says: you will not let his body spend the night on the wood; without fail you will bury him the same day, because cursed by God is the hanged. Thus you will not pollute the earth that the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance.

That is, if the prisoner had committed some horrible crime, after having been stoned to death then his body was taken and hung on a wood to serve as an example to others. But the body was not to be left there all night. Because he was cursed by God, that is, his position publicly evidenced the rejection of God.

We know that Christ did not commit any crime (**1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21**). However, God's Word says that He bore our sins in His body on the wood. (**1 Peter 1:24**). He became sin on the cross so that we could be righteous before God. (**2 Corinthians 5:21**).

On the cross Christ bore guilt and punishment for our sins. Therefore, He was made for us a curse (**Galatians 3:13**). This is the sense in which Christ was cursed when he was hung on the wood. It was not because of any crime of his, but because he was carrying our crimes and the curse of God that corresponded to us, prisoners worthy of death.

*"Who himself bore our sins in his body on the wood,  
that we, being dead,  
to sins, let us live to righteousness;  
and by whose wound you were healed."*

1 Peter 2:24

The cross may have had any shape you want, but it is also much more than an instrument of death, it is much more than an object of worship or worship, it is much more than an ornament or a fetish, it is much more than a wood. The cross contains us, in it we die all those who know ourselves guilty.

On that cross was me and there was you, if you have believed the gospel of the kingdom. The Bible says we all sinned and were all doomed, so we went to that cross to suffer and die as we really deserved. But of course, the day that happened someone did it for us and his work was taken into account, so it will not be necessary to repeat it, it was already done, once and for all.

Considering this, can we worship the wood as if it were simply an ornament or a fetish? Or should we really worship the one who took our place, Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, the beloved of the nations, the King of kings and Lord of the lords, whom He opened the way to the Father, reconciling us and making peace, through the blood of His cross? (**Colossians 1:20**).

We should ask ourselves what it means for us to worship God. Does it mean carrying a sacred object, persigning oneself before an image, going to a religious ceremony, or does it really mean living by doing His will to honor it?

***"Lord, Lord, if you were to consider wickedness,  
Who could stand upright?  
But in you we find forgiveness, that we may honor  
you."***

Psalm 130:3 and 4 DHH

It is true that God forgives, but He is just, so He could not forgive but by paying the corresponding price and if the wages of sin is death, we should die, no doubt we were guilty, condemned. God, in His infinite love, sent His Son to die in our place. That is the work of the cross, that must be revealed to us, not the wood, but His love.

***"The one God, our Savior, has power to see that you do not fall, and to present you without blemish and full of joy before his glorious presence. To him be glory, greatness, power and authority, through our Lord Jesus Christ, then, now and forever. Amen..."***

Jude 1:24 DDH



## Chapter Two

# The Burning Sword

*"He therefore cast out the man, and put to the east of the Garden of Eden cherubim, and a burning sword that was stirred on all sides, to guard the way of the tree of life"*  
Genesis 3:19-24

The Lord made man for His own pleasure. It gave him all the necessary ability to accomplish his life mission, which by the way was extraordinary and promising. (**Genesis 1:28**). He put it in a garden that He Himself planted. (**Genesis 2:8**), a garden full of all material abundance and, moreover, granted Him a full and constant communion with Him.

Everything seemed fantastic and promising, however for the design to be kingdom, it was necessary for man to voluntarily manifest the desire to live in obedience. A test was imposed by the Lord to see if this created man would be responsible for continuing in faithfulness or not.

***"And the LORD God commanded man, saying, From every tree in the garden you can eat; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat; for the day you eat of him, you shall surely die."***

Genesis 2:15 and 16

The test included a tree and the famous forbidden fruit. We all know what happened: the man, convinced by his wife — seduced by the serpent, through whom Satan spoke — rebelled, and thus fell from his first state.

After that disobedience, the Lord could not admit that Adam remained in the garden, and according to this he was cast out, though not until words of hope sounded in his ears in the curse of the serpent and the promise of an avenging seed.

***"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; it will wound you in the head, and you will wound it in the heel."***

Genesis 3:15

***"For as in Adam all die,  
also in Christ all will live again"***

1 Corinthians 15:22 NIV

Cherubs and the sword were then set to guard the way to the tree of life. Man thus lost all demand for

abundance and eternal life. Only the hope of obtaining redemption through sovereign grace remained in man.

What a moment for the heart of God, who after having created man with all the potential for success, was compelled to draw His sword against His beloved creature and to put at the entrance of the garden the cherubim as administrators of His judgment.

We all know that the sword produces death, it can be a sword of God, it may be that the cherubim are very close, however the sword is an instrument of death and its mere movement implies a clear message: "To enter into the blessing, to return to communion with God, and to regain eternal life, it was necessary to die."

I have fantasized about this story in some of my messages, inviting the imagination, regarding the possibility that Adam tried to return to the garden. I put it this way: if someone has lived in extreme abundance, in a place with a controlled climate, with rivers of pure water, in a fertile land, full of fruits and vegetables, with gold, precious stones and covered with the glory of God, it is logical that he thinks every day about that and how to get back there.

Now imagine the man already fallen, in a hostile field, in a hard and dry land. A land that Adam sowed but instead of producing the expected fruit, the earth produced

thorns and thistles. Imagine the man without glory, clothed in skins, with sweat, with pain and with death in his family, I ask is this not enough to think every day about the desire to return to the fullness that he once enjoyed?

Imagine an Adam crouching among the grasses, looking at the cherubim and the burning sword. Thinking about how to do to evade death, how to do to return to its original state. In his heart, Adam knew that there was a better life, yet he also discovered that it was humanly impossible to return to it.

*"I know, O Lord, that your judgments are just,  
And that according to your faithfulness you afflicted  
me."*

Psalm 119:75

From then on and throughout the history of humanity, death was a barrier or a portal to access or not to communion with the Most High. Undoubtedly, the wages of sin is death. **(Romans 6:23)**.

When someone wanted to honor God, or in some way communicate with Him, he had to make an altar and for that death manifested itself in a sacrifice. As in the case of Abel, whose offering was more pleasing before God than that of Cain, precisely because he had bloodshed and the revelation of blood could not be lost.

The Bible does not say that Cain presented rotten vegetables, it could have been the best vegetable on earth, however, Abel's offering was with blood and while the wages of sin is death. (**Romans 6:23**), life is in the blood (**Leviticus 17:11**) and without it there is no possible remission (**Hebrews 9:22**).

In the story of Noah the judgment also manifested itself with death. The universal flood was the result of sin. *"And the Lord saw that the wickedness of men was great on earth, and that every design of the thoughts of their hearts was continually only evil. And the Lord repented of having made man on earth, and it hurt in his heart. And the LORD said: I raeré from the face of the earth to the men I have created, from man to beast, and to the reptile and birds of the sky; for I regret having done them. But Noah found grace in the sight of the Lord."* (Genesis 6:5-8).

In order to enter a new time on earth, to achieve a new human government, to sustain communion with God, death was necessary. It was always death for life.

In abraham's story everything begins with a promise of blessing, life, and multiplication. However, in order for all this to occur, a Mount Moriah was necessary. On that mountain the Lord asked for Isaac's sacrifice, although we all know that in the end a ram died. But death was always necessary and the Lord since then already taught about

replacement. That is, he asked for a sacrifice, asked for death, and provided a ram, a symbol of what Jesus Christ would do.

When Abraham's descendants were held captive in Egypt, they cried out to the Lord for freedom and once again, death became present. Not only in the plague of the firstborn, but also in the death of the lamb. That is, to enter into freedom, healing, prosperity, coverage and Divine presence, death was necessary. It is always death for life and blessing.

When the Lord gave them the design of the tabernacle, the center of all ministering was the sacrifices. The same thing happened in David's tabernacle or Solomon's temple. No one could approach the Lord without blood in between.

There was no way to enter any part of the tabernacle without traces of blood. Sometimes priests emptied bowls of blood at the foot of the altar. The place was so similar to a slaughterhouse that visiting it would surely not be at all attractive for natural taste. But it was necessary that throughout history we understand the sacrifice of Christ and the new covenant.

***"So, that is why he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that by intervening death for the remission of the transgressions that were under the first covenant, the***

*called may receive the promise of eternal inheritance. Because where there is a will, it is necessary that the death of the testator intervenes. Because the will with death is confirmed; for it is not valid in the meantime that the testator lives. From where even the first covenant was not instituted without blood. For Moses having announced all the commandments of the law to all the people, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water, scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled the same book and also on all the people, saying: This is the blood of the covenant that God has commanded you. And in addition to this, he also sprinkled with blood the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost everything is purified, according to the law, with blood; and without bloodshed there is no remission"*

Hebrews 9:15-22

The only way to have communion with God was blood, man needed a spiritual understanding and a living faith. The sacrifice of animals was the way to worship; the outpouring of blood was the established rite, and the spread of that blood on the floor, on the curtains, and on the garments of the priests was the constant memorial.

But despite so much bloodshed in the tabernacle or in the temple, these were blood offerings that were limited in their effectiveness, so it had to be offered again and again. **(Hebrews 10:1)**. However, Christ's sacrifice was

offered once and for all. (**Hebrews 7:27**). Once that sacrifice was made there was no longer a need for the blood of bulls and goats.

The blood of Christ is the basis of the New Covenant. The night before his crucifixion, Jesus offered the cup of wine to his disciples saying:

***"This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
which is poured out for you."***

Luke 22:20

Pouring the wine into the cup symbolized the blood of Christ that would be shed by all who would believe in Him. Jesus eliminated the Old Covenant requirement of continuous animal sacrifice. That blood was not enough to cover the sins of the people, except in a temporary way; however, after Christ's sacrifice there is no need for any more sacrifice.

***"In that will we are sanctified by  
the offering of the body of Jesus Christ  
made once for all.***

***And certainly every priest is day after day ministering  
and offering many times the same sacrifices, which can  
never take away sins; but Christ, having once and for  
all offered a single sacrifice for sins, has sat at the right  
hand of God, henceforth waiting until his enemies are***

*put on his footstool; for with a single offering he made  
the sanctified perfect forever."*

Hebrews 10:10-14

Not only does the blood of Christ redeem believers from sin and eternal punishment, but His blood will purify our conscience of dead works to serve the living God. (**Hebrews 9:14**). This means that not only are we now free to offer sacrifices, which are "useless" to obtain salvation, but we are free to depend on the useless and unproductive works of the flesh to please God. Because the blood of Christ has redeemed us, we are now new creatures in Christ. (**2 Corinthians 5:17**), and by His blood we are delivered from sin to serve the living God, to glorify Him, and to enjoy Him for an eternity.

Why, in this chapter, did I associate the cross with the sword? Well, because since the Lord put a burning sword guarding the garden, the message was very clear. The only way for a sinful man to enter back into blessing, communion with the Father and obtain eternal life, is through death and, as we saw, there were many deaths; however, there was one that was perfect and definitive, which allows us to enter that fullness of life.

*Salvation comes from the Lord!*

Jonah 2:9 NIV

According to the law of the Jews, it was customary to consecrate to the Lord the firstborn male, the first son of the family. Thus, Joseph and Mary, who were pious Jews, when Jesus was just an eight-day-old baby, took him to the temple in Jerusalem to fulfill the stipulations of the law of Moses.

A godly Jew named Simeon was the instrument by which God proclaimed to Jesus' parents His will for Him.

***"And Simeon blessed them, and said to his mother Mary: Behold, it is set for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that it will be contradicted and a sword will pierce your very soul, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."***

Luke 2:34 and 45

What a difficult message for a mother! "Your child will create a lot of opposition... And a sword will pierce your soul..." The note of suffering is evident. Perhaps the young Mary still did not understand everything Simeon was saying to her at the time. Like many mothers, Mary was perhaps not thinking about her child's future destiny, but about the child's present needs, both spiritual and physical.

However the day came. And we all know that no one attacked Mary with a sword, but that sword was nothing

less than the cross. Just as in Eden that flaming sword was the announced cross.

Simeon said that Jesus was born for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel. Without a doubt, it was and still is. Not only for Israel, but for every human being. Christ is the only way to the Father (**John 14:6**) And that's why He shed His blood, that's why He died on the cross.

He did what Adam couldn't do, perhaps because he didn't dare. If, as I proposed to imagine, Adam was once crouched among the grasses looking at the possibility of returning to the garden where the tree of life was, he did not dare; and if he had done so, nothing would have been remedied, for being a sinner he could die, but not redeem as Jesus Christ did.

Simeon also said that through Jesus the thoughts of many hearts would be revealed. This also continues to be true. Because by accepting the cross, you not only receive forgiveness, but also a new heart, a new and full life in Christ.

The cross allows us to do what Adam could not: it opened our way to the Father, opened the way to eternal life, opened the way to abundance, and opened the way to blessing. All through him who died in it, because he was perfect, because he never sinned, because he died for us,

because he opened heaven to us, Jesus Christ, the King of glory!

*"For Christ also suffered only once for sins, the just for the unjust, to bring us to God, being to the truth dead in the flesh,  
but quickened in spirit"*

1 Peter 3:18



## Chapter Three

# The Blood of His Cross

*"For it pleased the Father that he should dwell in him,  
all fullness, and through it reconcile with it all things,  
so those that are on earth as  
those who are in heaven, making peace  
through the blood of his cross"*

Colossians 1:19 and 20

In the previous chapter, we saw just a few of the many shadows and types of the old covenant. Among them, we saw that every sacrifice on the altar was to fulfill the death penalty demanded by God's Law. The sacrificial system taught people that the Lord is holy, that transgressions must be punished, and that the atonement for sin is carried out only through death.

Since animal sacrifices could only cover sin, the Father sent His Son, perfectly God, perfectly man, sinless and determined to die in place of all of us. In fact, he was called by John the Baptist, as: *"The Lamb of God Who Takes Away the Sin of the World"* (John 1:29).

Without the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary, there would be no bloodshed and without it no one could have fellowship with the heavenly Father. The precious blood of Jesus offers everything we need to approach his Throne of grace with confidence.

Crucifixion, the way the Romans practiced it, was invented by the Persians between 300 and 400 B.C. But the Lord had said many years before that anyone who was hung from a wood was cursed. (**Deuteronomy 21:23**).

Crucifixion is arguably one of the most painful forms of execution invented by man. The cross caused a slow and painful death, however it was not the crucifixion itself extremely bloody. What generated in Jesus a death with so much bloodshed was not only the nails in his hands and feet, but all the punishment he received before and during his crucifixion.

Those who have calculated and carefully studied each of the steps of pain taken by Jesus, speak of almost twenty hours of suffering, considering his personal torment in Gethsemane and about eighteen hours from nine o'clock on Thursday night that arrived to capture him, until three o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, the time in which he died.

***"And he turned away from them at a distance as if from a stone's throw; and on his knees he prayed, saying:***

***Father, if you will, pass this cup from me; but not my will be done, but yours. And an angel from heaven appeared to him to strengthen him. And being in agony, he prayed more intensely; and it was his sweat like great drops of blood falling to the earth."***

Luke 22:41-44

Here we see in the account of Dr. Luke and I say doctor, because he is the only evangelist who reports this fact and is precisely a doctor, that is, someone who can understand the meaning of what really happened.

Sweating blood, or hematidrosis, is a very rare phenomenon. It occurs in exceptional conditions: to provoke it a physical weakening is needed, and it is attributed to very high states of stress, this causes a very high pressure and congestion of the blood vessels of the face, if you look for it, you will find that hematidrosis is produced among other factors, by an atrocious terror.

Doctors say that high blood pressure and congestion cause small hemorrhages in the capillaries of the basal membrane of the skin and some of these blood vessels are adjacent to the sweat glands. Blood mixes with sweat and thus sprouts through the skin, as Luke recounted.

***"He certainly bore our infirmities, and suffered our pains; and we considered him to be whipped,***

*for god's wounded and dejected. But he was wounded  
by our rebellions, crushed by our sins;  
the punishment of our peace was upon him,  
and by his wound we were healed."*

Isaiah 53:4 and 5

It became clear that we deserved death and pain, but in the Father's plan we can see his love springing from the very source of redemption, through the giving of his Son. This is why we must value and seek to understand the mysteries and value of the blood of His cross.

Blood is the first atoning element that God reveals to man. From the fall of Adam to the revelation of the glorious future of the Church, we see a thread masterfully weaving together the entire design, and this thread is nothing less than blood.

Blood is something that belongs to God and cannot be taken lightly by us. There is something deep in it, which is why I mentioned this matter earlier as a mystery of the Kingdom.

I remember that when I began to congregate I listened to my brothers who continuously said: "There is power in the Blood of Christ..." And of course I also said it and believed it. However, I had no idea what the motive for that power was or how it worked.

Blood is the element where life is found, and it is the origin of this life that clearly determines the value that God assigns to it.

***"For the life of flesh in the blood is, and I am  
I have given it to you to make atonement on the altar  
for your souls; and the same blood  
He will make atonement for the person."***

Leviticus 17:11

Each of the moments and sufferings of Christ in which his blood was shed are doors to hidden mysteries that open, so mention his work from Gethsemane, since it was there that he was able to bend his soul to the will of God.

That is for us the first step towards the dimensions of the Kingdom. We will always have struggles between God's perfect will and our will. It is good that we can come to terms with our differences. Jesus said: ***"Father, thy will be done and not mine..."*** (Luke 22:42).

The power that submits our will to God's is revealed there. If we now live in Christ and He was able to deny His own will and choose obedience, we too can do so in Him. **(Philippians 4:13).**

The blood that emerged from the slaps and sticks that disfigured the face of Jesus, also speak to us of the

triumph over pride and vainglory, and rescues us from the yoke of contempt and rejection. He gives us the power to endure the humiliation of others, their mockery, and forms us to be like Him in the loss of all reputation.

The blood that came out of his face when pieces of his beard were torn off tell us about the priesthood. Through this blood we understand how anointing and pain work in ministry. Psalm 133:2 tells us of the oil of the anointing, which fell down Aaron's beard. The power of anointing does not work without personal renunciation.

The face is what represents us, what everyone sees, what allows us to express ourselves. Jesus, between the blows they gave him and the tatters to his beard, was totally disfigured and was as Isaiah said, without beauty, without attractiveness. Serving God should not be to please everyone, it should not be to show us, it may not be attractive to many, but we must serve by accepting with resignation every necessary renunciation.

Today I see with sadness many ministers who show themselves as true stars of the show and it should not be so. They show themselves as superior, as special and love to create dependence on people. They offer anointing and hand out miracles, but in reality they only seek that to exalt their ego and, in the worst case, to enrich themselves.

The blood that came out of the lashes that tore his back was shed to heal the diseases of our physical body. In the same way that Jesus bore our sins, He suffered to carry in His body all our diseases and ailments. (**Isaiah 53:5**).

The work of healing is always integral and never ceases to be effective as some think. There is an unfortunate general bewilderment when a Christian is sick and then dies. There are people who approach the church only seeking physical healing and that's okay, there's no problem with that. The point is not to think that God must do everything we want as if He were the magician of Aladdin's lamp.

We must understand that if a Christian dies he will receive a new and healthy body. The healing of the Lord will always be. His work on the cross is something that will not be repeated, it was once and for all. Therefore a healing is not claimed as something that the Lord must do, but as something that He already did more than two thousand years ago on the cross.

God has no obligation to do things the way we want, nor should He give us an explanation for His actions. God is sovereign and always does the right thing, is always right, and always acts in love.

***"Behold, I will bring you health and healing; I will heal you***

***and I will reveal to them an abundance of peace and truth."***

Jeremiah 33:6

The blood that produced the crown of thorns that put Jesus on his head gave him all the victory against the empire of the devil. At first it was like a grotesque mockery both that crown of thorns, as to have disguised him as a king or to put a sign on his head that identifies him as such; however, he is certainly the King of kings and the Lord of lords and that gave us the position of kings and the power to rule with Christ.

This blood conquered our mental strengths so that we may come to operate with the mind of Christ. This mind was bestowed upon us in Him; however, many never manage to flow in it, we must appropriate the revelational right, spiritual wisdom and legal faith of the Kingdom.

Jesus subjected his mind to the Spirit to see and walk for what he was and not for what people said about him. In the same way, we must live by what the Father says about us and not by what our environment can say.

***"Tearing down arguments and all haughtiness that rises up against the knowledge of God, and taking every thought captive to obedience to Christ"***

2 Corinthians 10:5

The blood that came out of the wounds caused by the nails, both on his hands and on his feet, speaks to us of total victory over sin. About our works and our daily walk. This blood opens paths of righteousness and restores the paths of our destiny.

The blood that came out of his side when he was pierced by the spear was what gave life to his ideal help. Just as Eve came out of Adam's side, from Christ's side came his church, his beloved, his ideal help.

From Adam the Lord drew bone, but from Jesus Christ he drew blood and water (**John 19:34**). Eve was flesh and failed but the church is Spirit and will triumph gloriously. Eve was taken from Adam's side to walk beside him and under his protection, the Church was brought out of Christ's side under the same principle.

Through his blood and his redemptive work on the cross the Lord reveals to us the priceless riches of his kingdom. It is a pity that many brethren and even ministers of the gospel only accumulate theological information, studies, and theories, but forget about life itself. From the revelation that arises in the love of the Lord.

Love is not a feeling nor is it something that man can create, because it is of divine origin. Love is a person, it is Jesus who has come in the flesh. He wants to live through us, and fill the earth with love, that's why he said:

*"In this he will know the world that you are my  
disciples;  
in that you love one another  
as I have loved you."  
John 13:35*

Love is the fullness of God's children. Where love operates there is peace, there is joy, there is complete satisfaction. There is nothing that man can do or have that contains all that love provides in the spirit and soul of people.

What we have to understand here is that the work of the cross is absolute. What Jesus did He did once and for all. But we are responsible for appropriating every part conquered by Jesus in the work of the cross.

The blood of Jesus shed on that cross is truly powerful, but not as an evangelical expression but for its essence, for what it means and contains. The blood of Christ is the tangible and material manifestation of the perfect life of the Lord, it is a heavenly blood but at the same time physical, the heavens and the earth are united in it, that is why he had the power to reconcile all things. **(Colossians 1:16-20)**. God and man became one through the blood of Jesus.

***"If we walk in light, as he is in light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."***

1 John 1:7 and 8

Jesus is not the lamb who forgives the sins of the world, but the one who takes away sin definitively. John makes it clear to us that we all sin and we all need His precious blood. This is one of the many mysteries of the cross, the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin and the cross is the one that deals with the sinner, so it is vital that his power be revealed to our spirit.

***"And having had a drink, and having given thanks, he gave it to him, saying: Drink all of it; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed by many for the forgiveness of sins."***

Matthew 26:27



## Chapter Four

# The Sinner and the Cross

*As it is written:*

*There is no righteous, not even one;*

*There is no one who understands,*

*There is no one who seeks God.*

*They all deviated, one became useless;*

*There is no one who does good, there is not even one.*

Romans 3:10 and 11

It is very striking to see the animals born, since many of them stop immediately, react as if they know and quickly look for their mother to feed. Human beings, when we are born, we are totally helpless, we cannot see well, we cannot stand or look for food, we are totally dependent on the attention of an adult.

Seeing a newborn baby is a tenderness, it is delicate, fragile and innocent; however, it is only a matter of time before that baby becomes large enough to give birth to disobedience and rebellion, to a greater or lesser degree.

What I say may seem somewhat exaggerated, but I am exposing a nature not an opinion.

Just as adults often ignore their true nature, they also ignore the nature of the children they have fathered. Therefore, they do not know very well how to educate them. This is because there is no sure rule to form a good person.

Of course there are better or worse ways to educate, but nothing guarantees results. That is why we have well-educated people who came out criminals, corrupt or perverse, while we have abandoned, despised or poorly educated, who could have come out better. However, as human beings we cannot avoid our sin nature.

We must consider the power of genetics: since we are begotten we are rebels against God and against his Law, and this is so even though we may not know his Word. And if we see attitudes of rebellion in our children, it is also as a result of our sinful nature.

We can often react, speak, or think against God's will, even without being fully aware of it. In Romans 7 and 8 Paul describes this clearly and calls it the works of the flesh.

Paul says that we are slaves to the law of sin that operates in the members of our bodies. But because this

may not pass through our consciousness we feel no guilt. However, we are sinning and we will inevitably do so.

*"Yes, you had never heard it, nor had you ever met it; your ear certainly did not open before; because I knew that being disloyal you had to disobey, therefore I called you rebellious from the womb"*

Isaiah 48:8

On the other hand, people who practice a religion are aware of sin by information, but not by spiritual conviction. Without God's work there is no grace and without grace only the boredom of works remains. The religious impose a lot of burdens on themselves, trying to atone for their faults, but they do not get results and if they feel a little better, they only fall into pride and that is worse.

Jesus never attacked sinners condemning them for their works, on the contrary, they called him "friend of sinners"; however, he confronted the religious publicly on several occasions. He called them hypocrites, vipers, generation of vipers, blind, guide of the blind, bleached tombs, etc.

To a repentant sinner Jesus said: "Your sins are forgiven, go away and sin no more..." (**John 8:11**) to the religious, however, he told them that their sin was that they believed themselves righteous by their works and rituals.

Sinful nature will make us sin inescapably. It seems unfair to end up eternally condemned for what we cannot avoid, yet God gives us the way out through Jesus Christ. That is why the Lord hates that we think that through our works we can remedy our condition.

The gospel is not a change of thoughts and behaviors, the gospel is a change of nature. There is nothing worse than a sinner trying to be holy. It's like a man trying to be a woman. He can dress like a woman, comb his hair as a woman, put on makeup and even have some operation, however, he will still be a man.

A sinner may try to behave well, perform rituals, sacrifices or even self-flagellate as they do in some religions, however, they can never change their nature. God proposes to us a new life and, through that new life, that we may bear fruit and produce works of righteousness, never the other way around.

When a brother tells me about a situation he has experienced and tells me: "Pastor, I always fail God..." I tell him: "Quiet my brother, you do not fail God, you were born failed..." And I too, we are all born with a problem of nature, not behavior.

There are some who confuse these texts that deal with the subject: Psalm 51:5 *"In wickedness I have been formed, and in sin my mother conceived me"* to say that

King David was born a sinner, while in the gospel of Luke 1:15 speaking of John the Baptist it says: "***And he shall be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from the womb of his mother.***" supposedly and according to this passage, John was born "holy." But these two texts speak of two completely different things. **Psalm 51:5** speaks of the nature of man, while **Luke 1:15** it speaks of spiritual gifts.

John the Baptist understood that he was not "holy" but, rather, needed a personal Savior. That is why he said: "***I baptize you in water to the truth for repentance; but he who comes after me, more powerful than I; the shoes of which I am not worthy to wear; he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire.***" (Matthew 3:11)

Both King David and John the Baptist were born with a sinful nature and both needed a Savior. Likewise every human being, however pious he may be. Now let's look at what the law of Moses says:

***"Be holy, for I Jehovah am your God."*** Leviticus 20:7

This is an order: "Be holy"; every man must understand that because we are descendants of Adam who fell into sin, we cannot by ourselves satisfy this demand. The demands of the law only reflect the harsh reality that man cannot and when we recognize that we receive grace.

The old covenant demanded holiness, but it did not bestow any virtue, so it produced death. The new covenant demands holiness, but it gives us his Holy Spirit and new spiritual life in Christ, so it demands from us what it also gives us, which is why it is a covenant of grace.

When I expound on a sinful nature I am not meaning that a child "inherits the sins committed by his parents," as many mistakenly teach. We need to differentiate between individual sins and the nature of sin or the state of being.

There are people who are confused by this and think: So is the Catholic Church right to baptize newborns for original sin? Absolutely not, because baptism does not blot out sins, nor does it take away the sinful nature.

Our faith is standing on the glorious truth that when Jesus Christ dies in Him and when We are resurrected, after three days, we rise in Him for new life, then baptism will come.

Jesus, by paternal and maternal relationship, was a descendant of the tribe of Judah, for Mary and Joseph were Jews. But they did not provide any chromosomes for his birth. The humanity of Christ was begotten only by the Holy Spirit within the womb of Mary, so he could be born without a sinful nature and besides, being able to sin, he never did.

The fact that I was not born without a nature does not mean that I could not sin. Let us remember that Adam was created without sin and yet sinned. That is why Jesus was tempted in everything. (**Hebrews 4:15**), only that he determined to live in perfect obedience (**John 18:37**). On the other hand, I must clarify that a person without a sinful nature can sin, but a person who is born with a sinful nature cannot stop doing so.

Human beings, if they are not from childhood instructed in the way of the Lord, will reject the divine precepts as soon as they know them. Sin ceases to seem bad because there are no measurement parameters and justice ceases to be desirable because there is no reason for it. Those who refuse to submit to God's rule are completely incapable of governing themselves although, of course, they will not recognize it.

For example, a young man may say that he is free to take drugs all he wants or to practice sexual perversions, yet we know that in reality he is only a slave to his supposed freedom. True freedom is not to do everything we want, but to be able to do the right things.

Due to the pernicious teachings that are transmitted in a social and cultural way, the spirit of insubordination is implanted in the hearts of children and young people, which is why evil is growing exponentially. Sin practiced

and taught as freedom is only resulting in a social state where anarchy reigns sovereignly.

***"For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and darkness shall the nations; but upon the lord shall dawn, and upon you shall his glory be seen."***

Isaiah 60:2

In the face of this sinful nature, there is no opportunity. God never raised a hope for the change of men, but the death of them. The gospel is not that "God changes" as many write out there. The gospel is actually an exchange of life.

That is, men as sinners have no possibility of change, since we do not have a problem of behavior, but of heart. God has not set out to change us in Christ, but that we could die in Him.

***"For we are buried together with him to death by baptism, that as Christ rose from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in new life."***

Romans 6:4

Then we will look at this in more detail, but I would like to expose now, the irremediable condition of man and the wonderful plan of the Lord through Jesus Christ.

Many recognize that they have sinned and think that they just have to ask God for forgiveness and that's it. That He sovereignly says: "Well, I forgive you..." And that's it... But it is not so, forgiveness has had a very high cost for the Lord and we must be aware of it.

Forgiveness and justification are one and the same thing in Christ, but Christ presents two different things: offering and sacrifice. (**Hebrews 5:1; Hebrews 8:3**). The offering is his life of perfect obedience to the law, which is presented for justification; while the sacrifice is His blood shed on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins.

We learn this from the symbolic rituals of the Old Covenant, because first the priest had to take an animal that met the fundamental requirements for sacrifice, that was perfect and without any defect. (**Exodus 12:5; Leviticus 4:3**), symbolizing this the life of perfect obedience and without any defect that Jesus would manifest.

Jesus Christ came to this world as a man to do the will of the Father, that is, to obey the law of God. And He was begotten by the Holy Spirit. (**Matthew 1:18-20**), therefore he was endowed, from his begotten, with love, faith, and all supernatural gifts. (**Galatians 5:22-23**).

How he was born with the capacity to love (**John 13:1**) and he had the law written in his mind and heart.

(Hebrews 10:5, 7; Psalm 40:8), he was able to obey the law perfectly and perpetually.

On the other hand, the animal had to die. (Leviticus 4:4; Exodus 12:6), thus symbolizing the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross of Calvary.

*"The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ, for all who believe in it. For there is no difference, for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by his grace, through redemption, which is in Christ Jesus"*  
Romans 3:22-24

On the cross Jesus Christ not only experienced death, but previously received the wrath of God for sin. That's why he said *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"* (Mark 15:34). And then, his words were: *"Consummate is"* (John 19:30) completing the means necessary to be able to enter the Heavenly Sanctuary, that is the shed blood, the eternal sacrifice.

When Christ died on the cross, not a single sin was forgiven, much less "blotted out" because that day Christ did not present His blood in the Heavenly Sanctuary for anyone. Christ was to first be resurrected, ascend to heaven to be anointed, and he was to begin his Heavenly Priestly

Ministry in which he was to present his own blood for the forgiveness of sins.

When Christ was crucified, it was his human nature that died. His deity did not diminish or die; this would have been impossible. The deity did not become human, nor was the human made divine by the union of these two natures in Him. This is another of the wonderful mysteries of the Kingdom.

The death of Jesus on the cross of Calvary, is definitely one of the most significant and powerful events on earth, it is actually only a part of Christian history. By the power of the Spirit who was with Jesus from birth, He suffered in the flesh denying and not yielding to the inclination of sin He had in His nature as a human being. In this way sin in his flesh was condemned and put to death, crucifying passions and desires. So, even though he was tempted, he never sinned. (**Hebrews 2:18; Hebrews 4:16**)

Jesus Christ rose again because it was impossible for Him to be held back by death. This because of his divine nature and his legal position, since he had never sinned and the wages of sin is death. (**Romans 6:23**). That is, the only way that death can be collected is with sin, without sin it has no legal right.

The Son of God has fulfilled His promise and has entered the heavens to assume the rule of the heavenly host. He fulfilled one aspect of His priesthood by dying on the cross for all of us and now advocates before the Father each day for our needs.

***"Who will accuse God's elect? God is the one who justifies. Who is it that condemns? Christ Jesus it is the one who died, yes, even more, the one who rose again, the one who is also at the right hand of God, the one who also intercedes for us."***

Romans 8:33 and 34



## Chapter Five

# The Wounds of the Cross

*"The faithful servant grew as a tender root in dry land.*

*There was no beauty or majesty in him; its  
appearance was neither attractive nor desirable.*

*Everyone despised and rejected him.*

*He was a man who suffered the pain and experienced a  
lot of suffering. We all avoided looking at him;  
we despised it and did not take it into account.*

*Despite all this, he bore our illnesses and endured our  
pains.*

*We thought God had hurt and humiliated him. But he  
was wounded by our rebellions, he was struck by our  
evils;*

*he suffered in our place, and thanks to his wounds we  
received peace and were healed."*

Isaiah 53:2-5 V.L.S

Since Jesus was born in Bethlehem, he was attacked, criticized, persecuted, insulted, betrayed, abandoned and

from his arrest by the Romans, until the crucifixion, he was harshly tortured, flogged and humiliated to death.

When Herod learned that a new king had been born, he had all the children of Bethlehem killed. Can you imagine the injustice that as soon as a baby is being born, they send to kill all the children of the city in order to kill him?

Jesus was hidden in Egypt for a time and upon returning lived with all the limitations of a lower middle class family. At the beginning of His ministry He was criticized by his own entourage, reviled by the religious, betrayed by His disciples and publicly condemned by the cry of the multitudes that He Himself blessed so much. No doubt he was a man of pain, experienced in brokenness.

Then the cross, as the moment of ultimate punishment and pain, saw him heroically endure torture. Remember that when he was nailed to the cross, he had already placed the crown of thorns and on the crown that was hurting his head they hit with the cane thus increasing the insertion of the thorns on his scalp making more blood sprout and logically inflammation and pain.

These wounds produced by the thorns are the fulfillment of the first sentence announced on Adam because of the sin committed.

***"And to the man he said: For you obeyed the voice of your wife, and ate from the tree that I commanded you saying: You shall not eat of it; the earth shall be cursed for your sake; with pain you will eat of it every day of your life. Hawthorns and thistles will produce you, and you will eat plants from the field."***

Genesis 3:17 and 18

The fruit produced by the earth, because of sin were the thorns, therefore, to remove the curse of the earth the Lord received wounds on his head. Let us remember that upon Him were our sins.

The slaps and blows received had destroyed his face, disfigured him, causing instant inflammation forming bruises and marks that were covered with blood from the wounds caused by the crown on his scalp.

Those wounds on his face were to redeem man from the shame of sin. The deepest crisis experienced by every human being who has made mistakes is the battle against shame and personal unforgiveness. When we talk about personal forgiveness we say that it is one of the most difficult battles to win. The struggle of shame, the struggle of accusations and attacks of oppression. Not being able to raise one's face to oneself, much less to God Himself, makes it difficult to move forward, yet Jesus put his own face on sin.

***"The omnipotent Lord has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious, nor have I turned back. I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who tore off my beard; in the face of teasing and spitting I did not hide my face."***

Isaiah 50:5 and 6

The whipping provided by his executioners before being nailed to the wood caused tremendous pain in his back. The lashes he received were more than thirty, because according to Jewish law they could be about forty. **(Deuteronomy 25:2)**. But let us remember that it was not the Jews who scourged the Lord, but the Roman soldiers, therefore there could be many more, it is not known exactly.

Those wounds were to carry upon Him all our ailments and all our infirmities. And I make it clear that not all sickness is caused by sin and that many of them are not demons or demonic attacks; however, every disease has an origin in darkness, precisely because of the curse of sin.

***"He certainly bore our infirmities, and he suffered our pains; and we considered him to be scourged, for wounded of God and dejected."***

Isaiah 53:4

Her body was already badly injured at the time of her crucifixion, her back had open and bleeding wounds, her flesh was torn to the bone, in fact the Scriptures say that it became impossible for her to carry the wood, so they forced a man named Simon of Cyrene to carry it instead. **(Mark 15:21).**

Then he suffered the break that the nails caused in his hands. Each blow given on the nails, pierced his bones, muscles and ligaments producing a pain so terrible and stabbing that anyone lost consciousness as a reflection of self-preservation, an effect that doctors call shock, however it is not mentioned in any of the Gospels that this has happened, so we believe that he was aware of everything and until the last moment.

*"I have been poured out like waters,  
And all my bones fell apart;  
My heart was like wax,  
Melting in the middle of my bowels"*  
Psalm 22:14

The wounds on his hands are related to the works of men. *"The Lord saw that there was too much evil for man on earth and that man was always thinking of doing evil."* Genesis 6:5 DHH). Unfortunately human beings without God, we are totally corrupted and thoughts are continuously evil. Someone could tell me that this is not so so, that there is a certain good side in men, yet Adam

did not eat from the tree of the knowledge of evil, but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That is, what is good or bad that man considers without God cannot be absolutely good.

***"All of us are unclean, all our righteousness like menstruation rags; we wither, all of us, like leaves and so the wind will take us far." Isaiah 64:6 (Kadosh DA)***

In the beginning God placed authority in man's hands, both over all creation and spiritual, but sin led him to the evil deeds that corrupted everything. This authority received man lost it by believing Satan. Jesus' bloodied hands put that authority back into ours.

***"As a pot dried up my vigor,  
And my tongue stuck to my palate,  
And you have put me in the dust of death.  
Because dogs have surrounded me;  
I have been surrounded by a gang of evil ones;  
They pierced my hands and feet.  
Count I can count all my bones;  
Meanwhile, they look at me and watch me.  
They distributed my dresses among themselves,  
And on my clothes they cast lots"***

Psalm 22:15-18

Just imagine hanging from nine in the morning until three in the afternoon. Jesus must have endured

unimaginable pain. The cramps, the broken bones, the torn flesh, the blood running over his whole being, the look of all, the mockery, the thirst, the hunger, the anguish and above all, some wicked people playing their clothes.

When Adam and Eve sinned, the serpent received his sentence. (**Genesis 3:15**). God told her that she would put enmity between her seed and the seed of the woman and then told her *"You will hurt him in the heel"*, no doubt this is the nail that wounded Jesus' feet. However, he also told him: *"But he will hurt you in the head"*, meaning that Jesus would suffer the wound on his feet to crush the head of the serpent, to give us victory over the kingdom of darkness.

When a man was condemned to be crucified, it was the rule not to leave the bodies on the crosses during the night. In the crucifixion of Jesus, it becomes more pressing, since, the next day was Saturday and precisely the Sabbath of Easter. To hasten the death of the accused who were still alive, their legs were broken with a mace, so that they would not have how to hold their body and died of asphyxiation.

In the case of Jesus it was not necessary, because he was already dead. However, a soldier to make sure, pierced his side with the spear, from which water and blood flowed. Thus was fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah:

***"They will look at me, whom they pierced"***

**Zechariah 12:10**

Blood that came out when his heart burst. The crucified suffered great agony to breathe, because of the weight of the body and the position. This ends up causing a tear in the heart organ which bursts. Hence, when the Roman soldier crosses the side of Jesus, blood and water come out.

This symbolizes the moods that break us in the depths of our emotions and how God the Son proposes that we live confident and hopeful, knowing that through Him we find solution and comfort.

So if even as a Christian, your heart has been His will, it is the right time for You to ask For Forgiveness and surrender to His feet as a sign of humiliation and gratitude by making new vows and reciprocating such a beautiful sacrifice.

We are justified in believing that Christ's atoning sacrifice on the cross provides the perfect remedy for man in his total appearance, spirit, soul, and body. Christ bought the perfection of mankind through His death.

***"He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live a life of righteousness. Christ was wounded so that you might be healed. Before***

***you walked like lost sheep, but now you have returned  
to Christ, who cares for you like a shepherd and  
watches over you."***

1 Peter 2:24 and 25 HRH.



## Chapter Six

# The cross and the resurrection

*"From then on, Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem, and that the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the law would make him suffer greatly. He told them that he was going to be killed, but that on the third day he would be resurrected."*

Matthew 16:21 HR.

After suffering and dying on the cross of Calvary, the body of Jesus Christ was buried in a new tomb, not far from the place where he had been crucified. Instead, his inner self descended into the depths of the earth.

The burial of Jesus Christ showed that he had truly died. The Father arranged for his Son to suffer the state of death, that is, the separation of his inner being and his body.

His body suffered no corruption in the tomb, while his inner being descended into the depths of hell itself, where he showed his dominion over the devil and over death itself. He freed the souls of the righteous who were held back to bring them to eternal glory. In this way, the redemption that was to reach men of all ages was applied to those who had preceded Christ. Moreover, I am convinced, and this is only a personal point of view, that Jesus Christ broke all prison of slavery and extended grace over every captive soul that received him. Of course this could substantiate it, but it is not my topic on this occasion.

The death of Jesus Christ, his descent into the depths, his victory in the face of darkness and his glorious resurrection opened the door of life to the future world and made it totally available to men.

The benefits of salvation derive not only from the crucifixion, but also from the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without love there would be no possibility, without a cross there would be no death, without death there would be no resurrection, without resurrection there would be no new life, without new life there would be no possibility for us to manifest His Kingdom. But the love of the Father and Jesus Christ made it possible.

***"For we are buried together with him to death by baptism, that as Christ rose from the dead by the glory of the Father,***

*so let us also walk in new life.*

*For if we were planted together with him in the likeness of his death, so we will be so in that of his resurrection; Knowing this, that our old man was crucified together with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that we might no longer serve sin. For he who has died has been justified from sin. And if we die with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him; knowing that Christ, having risen from the dead, no longer dies; death no longer lords it over him."*

Romans 6:4-9

Kingdom life is Christ living His life in and through us. The life of Christ is reproduced in all of us who are children of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it is not about the old life modified and much less educated, but about a new life with true spiritual communion, both with the Father and with his Church.

The apostle Paul wrote: *"... Christ is our life."* (Colossians 3:4). Jesus said to his disciples: *"I am the vine, you the branches; he who abides in me and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."* (John 15:5).

A few years ago it began to be said in the church that Jesus Christ was not religion, that he was a relationship and that was good, at least to break some structures, but we must consider that Jesus Christ is not a relationship

either, but a communion. That is, a true union in which we are not together, but being one with Him.

Jesus gave the example of the vine, therefore we should ask ourselves where does the vine end, where the branches begin? If we touch the branch of a tree, can we say that we do not touch the tree? If someone touched my hand, could they say it didn't touch me?

When Saul was persecuting Christians to imprison or kill them, Jesus came to the crossroads on the way to Damascus saying: ***"Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? He told her: Who are you, Lord? And he said to him: I am Jesus, whom you persecute; hard thing is to give you coeces against the sting..."*** (Acts 9:4 and 5) This is a clear allusion to Christ's true communion with his church. Here Jesus made it very clear that He and the Church are one and the same.

***"But he who unites himself to the Lord,  
a spirit is with him"***  
1 Corinthians 6:17

It is an intimate and profound communion of life with Christ that realizes the regeneration of the Holy Spirit. We are new creatures in Christ. This new life in Christ has been called by many terms such as the life exchanged, the higher life, the crucified life, the deep life, the enduring life, the Spirit-filled or Spirit-controlled life,

the victorious life, the identification with Christ, etc. What all these terms are saying is that we have a new dimension of life. It is the spiritual life, it is the result of God's unlimited grace.

We now belong to the Lord and He lives through us on earth, while we live through Him in eternity. He in us has access to the earth, we in Him have access to heaven. He in us can talk to people, we in Him can talk to the Father. We represent Him on earth, He represents us in heaven. He is in us, we are in Him. This is wonderful!

Jesus Christ has provided us with a life of spiritual power and a deep communion that seeks to size us for the consummation of his purpose and this is not found in some religious or emotional experience, but walking through the faith of the new covenant.

This identification with Christ was so clear in the mind of the apostle Paul that he was able to write: "***I have been crucified with Christ***". We must certainly believe that we are so united to the Lord that we can accept all that has been accomplished. That is, when Jesus Christ died, so did we. We were crucified with Christ and when He was resurrected, we rose again for new life. We are identified with his death and with his resurrection.

Water baptism is a magnificent picture or symbol of what happened when Christ died for our sins and rose from

the dead. It is also a unique picture of our union with Christ through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Christ's death was a true death. By the baptism of the Holy Spirit, we have been baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death, and also raised up in his resurrection. That is why Christ broke the power of sin in us.

Our union with Christ includes the crucifixion with Him, the burial with Him, the resurrection, the ascension, and the glorification of Christ. Our identification with Christ is so complete that God regards us as indeed experiencing crucifixion, burial, resurrection, ascension, and glorification, because He will give us an eternal, glorified body. This is the way God sees us. So I ask, shouldn't we see ourselves that way?

***"So you, my brethren, have died to the Law through the body of Christ, that you may be of another, of the one who rose from the dead, that we may bear fruit for God."***

Romans 7:4

How many times do we have to die? Only once. It's not really something we do. It's something God did once and for all. We cannot add value to this by doing nothing but believing. Any act of religiosity that seeks to add

justice to the work of the Cross is only carnal and vain humanism.

When we died with Christ it was once and for all. We are not told to crucify ourselves again and again to set ourselves free. What we must do is believe in that work every day. Keep it current and permanent at all times. Whenever we detect carnal or sinful thoughts, words, deeds, we must denounce ourselves and grasp the righteousness that is in Christ, so that his grace may also reach us.

***"So you too consider yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus, our Lord"***

Romans 6:11

The Authority of sin has been broken because when Christ died we also died. God tells us that we must accept His judgment on our sinful nature. When Christ rose from the dead, we rose from the dead. Because we now live in Christ we are free to walk in the newness of that life under the control of the Holy Spirit. We no longer have to obey sin. We are free to submit to the Lord's government.

***"With Christ I am crucified together, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me; and what I now live in the flesh, I live in the faith of the Son of God, who loved me. and he gave himself for me."***

Galatians 2:20

On the third day of His death, Jesus rose to new life. His soul and body, fully transfigured with the glory of His divinity, came back together, the stone was moved by the angels, and the Lord appeared glorious and sublime.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was a momentary return to mortality. His resurrected body was the same one that was crucified, and he determined to bear the traces of his passion in his most significant wounds, even with the virtues of a glorious body.

He appeared to his disciples and to those who had believed for about forty days and did so with undoubted proofs, to teach them about the mysteries of the Kingdom. Then, we know what happened: Jesus Christ ascended into the sight of all.

***"... Seeing him, he was lifted up, and received a cloud that hid him from his eyes. And while they were with their eyes fixed on heaven, while he was leaving, behold, two men in white garments stood beside them, who also said to them: Galilean men, why are you looking at the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come as you have seen him go to heaven."***

Acts 1:9-11

But what Jesus Christ did is also eternally meaningful to our new life. His resurrection body is similar to the one we will have and His ascension to the Father is our way and our eternal guarantee.

Understanding the ascension of Jesus Christ is key for several reasons. First, because It signaled the end of His earthly ministry. Just as that historic day had begun in the inadequate stable of Bethlehem, its period of human limitation came to an end with the definitive ascension.

Secondly, because it marked the return to his heavenly glory. Jesus' glory had been veiled during his time on earth, with a brief exception in the transfiguration. (**Matthew 17:1-9**). It was necessary and just for him to return to his glorious position. He had asked the Father to do so.

*"Now then, Father, you glorify me beside you,  
with that glory I had with you  
before the world was"*

John 17:5

His ascension was his well-deserved exaltation before the Father. (**Ephesians 1:20-23**). He was received with honors, being given, for his dedication and obedience, a name that is above all a name. (**Philippians 2:9**).

He also indicated the beginning of his new ministry as High Priest. (**Hebrews 4:14-16**) and established him as the definitive mediator of a new and better Covenant (**Hebrews 9:15**). In addition, there is another interesting detail that helps us to understand that the work of Christ was completed with his exaltation, let us read carefully Hebrews 1:3.

*"Who, being the radiance of his glory, and the very image of his substance, and who sustains all things with the word of his power, having effected the purification of our sins through himself, sat at the right hand of the Majesty.  
in the heights"  
Hebrews 1:3*

This passage tells us that once the Lord Jesus Christ effected the purification of our sins through Himself, He sat at the right hand of the Majesty on high. And it is precisely this detail, the fact that he sat down, that confirms to us that his work had been fully completed.

By contrast, in the tabernacle that God commanded Moses to build there was no seat, which indicated that the work of the priests was never finished, and this was because the sacrifices they offered could not definitively take away sin either; however, Christ did it once and for all. He was the priest and He was the perfect sacrifice.

Finally, at His ascension, Jesus Christ set the pattern for His return. When Jesus comes to establish His Kingdom, He will return the same way He left, bodily and visibly in the clouds, that's what the angels clearly said. **(Acts 1:11)**.

***"Behold, he comes with the clouds, and every eye shall see him, and those who pierced him; and all the lineages of the earth will mourn for him."***

Revelation 1:7

Today, the Lord Jesus is in Heaven. The scriptures often describe Him at the right hand of the Father, in a position of honor and authority. **(Psalm 110:1; Ephesians 1:20; Hebrews 8:1)**. Christ is the head of the church **(Colossians 1:18)**, the giver of spiritual gifts **(Ephesians 4:7 and 8)**, and the one who fills everything in everything **(Ephesians 4:9 and 10)**. This ascension of Christ was the event that made the transition from his earthly ministry to his heavenly ministry.

***"Faithful word is this: If we are dead with him,  
we will also live with him;***

***If we suffer, we will also reign with him;***

***If we will deny him, he will also deny us."***

2 Timothy 2:11 and 12



## Chapter Seven

# **Towards the cross or from the cross**

*"And I will pray to the Father, and He will give you  
another Comforter,  
that he may be with you forever:  
the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive,  
because it does not see him, nor does it know him; but  
you know him, for he dwells with you, and he will be in  
you."*

John 14:16 and 17

The death of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary brought about the death of the sinner, but the resurrection gave life to a new being, born to be holy and dwelling of God in the Spirit.

In the old covenant we see several men anointed by God with a specific calling. Some as prophets, some as kings, and some as priests, but none of them were God's indwelling in the Spirit. That is, the Spirit came upon them

and operated under their anointing, but the Holy Spirit was not within them; in fact, there were some like Moses who had the anointing on a rod or Elijah on a mantle or Samson in his hair.

These men we admire so much functioned under anointing and with great signs, but they needed altars, tabernacles, or temples, for God to manifest. Continuous sacrifices could not make the sanctified perfect; However, in this wonderful covenant we live, the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin and the Holy Spirit comes to seal us and makes us a dwelling place for Him.

Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He told His disciples that He would send one who would teach and guide all those who believe in Him. (**Acts 1:5**). Jesus' promise was fulfilled less than two weeks after his ascension, when the Holy Spirit came with power over believers at Pentecost. (**Acts 2**). Now, when we believe in the Lord immediately the Holy Spirit becomes a permanent part of our lives. (**1 Corinthians 12:13**)

Scripture clearly indicates that we are a holy temple to the Lord, that is, the Holy Spirit moves within our being at the time of conversion. Ephesians 1:13 is more specific about the exact moment we receive the Holy Spirit: *"In him you too, when you heard the message of truth, the gospel that brought you salvation and you believed it, were marked with the seal that is the promised Holy*

*Spirit."* Romans 8:9 simply explains that *"If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of Christ."*

*"But when the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you into all truth; for he shall not speak on his own, but shall speak all that he hears, and shall let you know the things to come."*

John 16:7-13

The Holy Spirit exercises many functions in our lives. Not only does He distribute spiritual gifts according to His will. (**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**), but also comforts us (**John 14:16**), teaches us (**John 14:26**), and abides in us as a seal of promise in our hearts until the day Jesus returns (**Ephesians 1:13**). The Holy Spirit assumes the role of guide and counselor, guiding us along the path we should walk and revealing to us God's truth. (**1 Corinthians 2:10 and 11**).

One of the most important ways to recognize the guidance of the Holy Spirit is to be familiar with God's Word. The Bible is the primary source of wisdom about how we should live (**2 Timothy 3:16**) and the Spirit will use it to speak to us (**John 16:12-14**), to reveal to us God's will for our lives and will also bring specific Scriptures to our minds at times when we need them most (**John 14:26**).

But there is a key and daily function of the Holy Spirit in our lives and that is to bring us conviction of sin, righteousness, and judgment. (**John 16:8**). That was not only necessary for our conversion, but it is necessary every

day, to detect the old man, to take him to the cross, every time he seeks to manifest himself.

There are brothers who accept themselves as they are and others seek to change for love of the Lord, but in reality God's design is faith. When we recognize evil thoughts, feelings, words, or sinful actions in our lives, the Holy Spirit brings us conviction, but not for condemnation, but so that we can repent and crucify our being with the denial of such desires.

The cross for us today is not two woods in the garden of our house, to nail us every morning. It should only be faith in the work of Christ and taking the power of the cross to die to ourselves. The Holy Spirit leads us from the life of Adam to the life of Christ.

***"I say, then: Walk in the Spirit,  
and you do not satisfy the desires of the flesh.  
For the desire of the flesh is against the Spirit, and that  
of the Spirit is against the flesh; and they oppose each  
other, that ye may not do what ye would like."***

Galatians 5:16 and 17

The Kingdom undoubtedly has a wonderful design and full of grace. In order for the Holy Spirit to dwell in us Jesus Christ had to go to the cross and for us to remain in the life of Christ we have to take up our cross each day to deny ourselves.

Of course, He got the worst part, He did it physically, we do it by faith. He gave up all the good he had, to receive all the bad that belonged to us. We must renounce all evil, to receive all the good that comes from Him.

***"In this we know that we remain in him,  
and he in us, in that he has given us of his Spirit.  
And we have seen and testified that the Father has sent  
the Son the Savior of the world.  
Anyone who confesses that Jesus is the Son of God,  
God abides in him, and he in God."***

1 John 4:13-15

The gospel of the Kingdom has a permanent going to the cross, but only to enter into the dimensions of Christ's life and live in the power of the resurrection. We must not practice by faith to go permanently to the cross without living the power of the resurrection, because it is in this dimension that we can manifest government and authority. There are denominations that continually preach the message of the cross and it is very good, the problem is if later they do not preach Kingdom, because dying is not only aimed at being saved, but to live in the fullness of a new life.

The brothers who live by taking up the cross, who live in denial every day and do not govern anything, are brothers without joy. They cannot explain it, but they

know that they do not have the fullness that the Bible proposes, they only end up accepting that this fullness will come with their definitive death and that is sad, because they are missing the best of the gospel.

To refuse every day, to put off the old man, to take up our cross and follow him. (**Matthew 16:24-25**) it is necessary, but it should only be the portal to enter the life of power that the Kingdom proposes.

*"What is born of the flesh, flesh is,  
and that which is born of the Spirit, spirit is"*

John 3:6

### Towards the cross

Every day we must bring to the cross our old nature  
**(Adam)**

- That overthrows the government of the soul
- That kills our pride
- That Kills Our Carnal Desires
- That strips us of the old man
- That sorts out our priorities
- That sorts our values

*"More seek first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness, and all these things shall be  
added unto you."*

Matthew 6:33

## From the Cross

Every day we must manifest the new spiritual life, living in the power of the resurrection. **(Christ)**

- That gives rise to god's government
- That positions us in authority
- That allows us to obtain spiritual wisdom
- That allows us to obtain the will of God
- That allows us to obtain God's doing
- That allows us to operate in the power of the Kingdom
- This dimensions us to the fullness of God

After the cross we no longer belong to each other, Christ in us is the hope of glory.

*"With Christ I am crucified together, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me; and what I now live in the flesh, I live in the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."*

Galatians 2:20

Legality manifests the right of belonging. It is illegal for us to try to manage something that does not belong to us. The legality of the Kingdom works in Christ. If we live in Him, we have all that He has and we are all that He is.

With Christ we must have the ability to renounce our independence and that can only be produced by the cross. We now seek to be ruled by the Lord and that is only possible by resurrection life. With the life of Jesus we learn

how he denied his will by always accepting the perfect will of the Father.

***"I can't do anything for myself; as I hear,  
so I judge; and my judgment is just,  
because I do not seek my will, but the will  
of the one who sent me, that of the Father"***

John 5:30

Even in Gethsemane Jesus said: ***"Father, Thy will be done and not mine..."*** Giving clear evidence of denial. He did not say: *"Father I have your same will, so go forward with the cross..."* He acknowledged not wishing for the suffering that was coming. It is logical, however, he renounced his confused senses and gave himself confidently into the arms of the Father, who knew very well that it was the best.

***"Although he was the Son of God, through suffering he learned what it means to always obey God."***

Hebrews 5:8 LVS.

As God's beloved children, we must take up our cross every day and whenever necessary, yet we must learn to live in the power of the resurrection.

Dying every day will prevent us from trying to disciple or educate the old nature (Adam), as it is destined to fail. We must see to it that Christ is forming in us

**(Galatians 4:19)**, for that is the new man, created according to God, in the righteousness and holiness of truth. **(Ephesians 4:24)**.

The church will not be able to manifest fulfillment by educating sinners, the church will manifest itself effectively by maturing the reborn saints. Religion works with hardworking sinners. The Kingdom does so only with the surrender of the reborn saints.

***"Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be destroyed, that we might no longer be slaves of sin"***

Romans 6:6

***"And ye have put on the new man, who is renewed into true knowledge, according to the image of him who created him"***

Colossians 3:10

Our life consists in manifesting Christ at all times and places; we are neighbors, employees, employers, students, relatives, husbands, wives, singles, normal but anointed people, people who penetrate the system in every stratum of society, always manifesting Christ.

We must live in Christ manifesting Him in all areas of our lives. Paul tells us clearly: "*For me to live is Christ...*" (Philippians 1:21).

We all develop different tasks in life, I don't know what task you perform, what your profession is, your job, your life, your family, your world, I don't know, we all do something different, we all have our little world. We all have different concerns, wakefulness, longings, etc. But one thing I know: both the good and the bad that can happen to us must become secondary things. None of those things should be the center of your life, Christ alone is.

By this I don't mean that you shouldn't care about your job, career or family, I'm saying that the first place should be Christ and all other things are opportunities to manifest it to Him.

We are in the world so that Christ may be magnified in us. We are not for anything else. Success is secondary. Getting married or not getting married is secondary. Being completely happy or not being happy on earth is secondary; all these things can transcend only if they are part of the eternal purpose in Christ. Whether our projects are fulfilled or not, is not the most important thing, the transcendent thing is that we can consummate His purpose.

***"Whatever you do, work willingly, as for the Lord and not as for anyone in this world, aware that the Lord will***

*reward you with inheritance. You serve Christ the  
Lord."*

Colossians 3:23 and 24 NIV



## Chapter Eight

# The Kingdom and the Cross

*"You did not choose me, but I chose you and commissioned you to go and bear fruit, a fruit that will endure. Thus the Father will give you all that you ask of Him in my name."*

John 15:16 NIV

Death and resurrection remain a constant principle in our lives to operate the loss of the soul and the emergence of the Spirit.

In the book of Numbers, we find a tremendous story that began with a complaint, produced by envy, and ended with the sin of murmuring. This was always and is like a constant within God's people. It is curious that all complaints always come from those who are supposed to know or understand the Bible, but unfortunately it is so.

As the Hebrew people left captivity in Egypt, Aaron and his sons were chosen by the Lord to the priesthood; and this did not please several Levites and elders. It is quite common to despise the people God chooses for a given mission and I say this knowingly.

In this case, and demonstrating once again His mercy, God proposes a way to demonstrate who His elect for the priesthood really were.

***"And the rod of the man whom I choose shall blossom, and I shall put an end to me the complaints of the children of Israel with which they murmur against you."***

Numbers 17:5

The Lord gives a series of instructions to Moses, he had to put twelve rods, one for each tribe, but in the case of the Levites, it had to be the rod of Aaron. The Lord wanted to make clear who He had chosen for the priesthood.

The rods had to be left in a very specific place, in the tabernacle, and in front of the Ark of the Covenant, to be in the presence of God. There were in total twelve rods, the same place and the same time, but we know what happened, only one was the one that bloomed.

***"And it came to pass that the next day Moses came to the tabernacle of testimony; and behold, the rod of Aaron of the house of Levi had reverberated, and cast flowers, and cast newfound, and produced almonds."***

Numbers 17:8

Why did only one flourish? Evidently God performed the miracle to demonstrate What His will was in the most precious way He could think of. The rod was dead, just like a dead log. It was biologically impossible for such a thing not only to green, but to flourish, to breathe new and then bear fruit. But so it was with Aaron's rod.

Everything in this story has its why and its determined order. Nothing escapes God, and if at that time He wanted to make it clear that the chosen one for the priesthood was Aaron and his sons, He also made a few things clear to us.

When Moses looked at Aaron's rod, there was an order with much meaning, first it greened; then it flourished; later he had taken renewals, and in the last and wonderful place had borne fruit, the delicious fruit of the sweet and ripe almond tree.

The fact of greening speaks to us of resurrection. Nothing can come out of something dry and dead, but there was something like an impossible, life was born again.

Second, it flourished; the incomparable beauty of the almond blossom tells us about a number of characteristics that have to come as a result of a renewed life, it is simply inevitable.

Thirdly, he renewed; this tells us about fertility, and then it bore fruit. In this case some version suggests that the almonds were sweet and ripe, I stay with that. The fruit is simply what shows what we are, and that rod taken and resurrected by God Himself, gave a delicious fruit proper to a very special rod touched by the hand of God with His Spirit.

***"Then the children of Israel spoke to Moses, saying, Behold, we are dead, we are lost, all of us are lost. Whoever approaches, whoever comes to the tabernacle of Jehovah, will die. Will we all end up perishing?"***

Numbers 17:12

At the end of the passage and with the results in sight, the murmurers, seeing what the Lord had done, cried out in fear and here too we have a great teaching, because the answer to the fearful question they asked is: ***Yes... We must all die...*** The day would come hundreds of years later, when Christ led us to the cross, so that we would not be murmuring, nor believing that we are in a position to serve God without being reborn.

In the life of the Kingdom, one can only bear fruit after the resurrection, after having received the life of Christ, only He can produce greening, new flowers, renewals and produce fruits.

***"I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in me, as I do in him, will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."***

John 15:5 NIV

To be a Christian is to follow Jesus, to walk his ways, to think like him, to love like him. Without a deep communion with Christ in prayer, in meditation on the Word, it is impossible to follow Him, nor to think like Him, nor to love like Him, much less to forgive like Him, letting all offense pass. That is why the message of abiding in Him is indispensable. Because it is His life through us that the world needs.

***"And after you have suffered a little time, the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, he himself will perfect you, affirm you, strengthen you, and establish you. To Him be the dominion for ever and ever. Amen"***

1 Peter 5:10 and 11

To bear fruit for God in the Kingdom means to manifest Christ. That is why some do not understand the

Christian life. They think that if they believe in God everything has to go well for them; however, it is possible that living the opposite we enjoy our greatest victory.

The apostles understood this situation and for this reason encouraged the Christians of the first century, because knowing that they suffered persecution, they were encouraged to express Christ as their greatest glory.

***"Justified, then, by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; by whom we also have entry by faith into this grace in which we are firm, and we boast in the hope of the glory of God. And not only this, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces patience; and patience, trial; and the test, hope; and hope is not ashamed; for the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."***

Romans 5:1-5

There is a very emblematic and prophetic case, because it is a situation lived in the time of the patriarchs, however, it contains a clear teaching for us and it is the life of Jacob. This man, son of Isaac, son of Abraham, was a great example of divine process. Jacob means: "trickster, cheater, supplanter" and the Lord processed him for a little more than twenty years, to turn him into Israel, which means: "prince of my people."

Jacob was not bad, he was very hardworking and hardworking; the problem he had was that he did everything with his own strength. He believed in God and also in his blessing, in fact he did the wrong thing to get it. However, he sought everything with his own strength and wanted God to help him, but he did not know how to depend on Him.

I don't know if Jacob's story makes him feel a little identified, but I think Jacob has a little bit of all of us. It is very common for us to do things with our own strength and with the best of intentions. However, when it is so, we do not let God's power manifest itself and therefore we do not let it glorify through our lives. Paul said something very transcendent about it:

***"And he told me: Basste my grace; for my power is perfected in weakness. Therefore, I will willingly boast rather in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."***

2 Corinthians 12:9

Surely God has had to deal with some of us with some rigor, leading us down difficult and painful paths in order to reduce us to this condition. In reality, every true servant of God must ever feel that weakening from which he can never recover; and never be the same again. It is what the Bible considers the death of the self. That is,

when we understand that we can no longer, that we are weak and humble ourselves, recognizing him, then only Christ remains.

When we pass processes the law of death can operate generating crises in our natural life, but when this happens we discover that God is making us experience the power of the resurrection.

*"Truly, truly, I say to you, if the grain of wheat does not fall into the earth and dies, is left alone; but if he dies, he bears much fruit. He who loves his life will lose it; and the one who hates his life in this world, for eternal life he will keep it."*

John 12:24 and 25

All flesh and blood people are weak, but not all of us are aware of our weakness; because some have no fear of God, they suffer devastating processes. A weak person who sees danger flees or asks for help, because he is aware of his limitation, but the strong person has great thoughts about himself and moves forward believing that he will be able to. These people have to be processed by the Lord, so that they recognize that it is not with their strength but with the Spirit and power of God. (**Zechariah 4:6**).

I have known cases of brothers who are admirably strong, but in the end never allow God to glorify Himself

in them. They do everything with their own strength, even working in the name of Jesus, but they do not manifest Christ.

It was by the grace of God that Jesus was able to overcome and be a pure and unblemished Lamb, so He could taste death for all of us. (**Hebrews 2:9 and 10**) and never hid his human weakness (**Hebrews 5:7**). It was also through Paul's weakness that God's grace has been shown to many, because he knew that it was inadequate for his task even with all his theological study and intellectual capacity, so he said he had everything for garbage to win Christ. (**Philippians 3:8**) and he recognized grace at all times: *"By the grace of God I am what I am..."* 1 Corinthians 15:10.

***"But far from me to boast, but on the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world"***  
Galatians 6:14

If we are aware of our weakness, we will also be humble and receive grace. Thus we will become strong in God, because His power is perfected in our weakness. But we will also flee from everything and all the ways that can attract us to the world and its desires, and we will follow justice, faith, love and peace, with which we invoke the Lord with a clean heart. (**2 Timothy 2:22**).

The Lord wants to teach us to depend on Him to walk victoriously in life. We must understand that our fleshly desires, our sinful thoughts, seek to take us outside of God's will and purpose. He processes us, teaches us, and exhorts us not to be carried away by the passions of the soul by stripping us of the old nature.

***"If in truth you have heard him, and have been taught by him, according to the truth that is in Jesus. As for the past way of life, put off the old man, who is flawed according to deceitful desires, and renew yourselves in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new man, created according to God in the justice and sanctity of truth"***

Ephesians 4:21-24

He commands us to take off the earthly, like someone who can take off a clothes or a dress. He simply commands us to strip ourselves of the sinful and carnal being. We must voluntarily renounce the old way of life, in which we were rebellious, contumacious, disrespectful, worldly, rude, fornicating, lazy, angry, fighters, etc. That means we reject that old nature of ourselves and don't really want to go back.

It is possible that before we knew God, we did all things in our own way and with our own strength, but now we are in Christ, we must crucify that old independent nature and live in the new spiritual nature. Willingly

subject to God's perfect will. He has given us of His Spirit, so He requires us to put off the old man and do things his way, depending on His power.

Inasmuch **Ephesians 4:17-32** see:

We are not to walk like the Gentiles without God:

- They only try to realize their plans
- They walk in the vanity of their mind
- Have a darkened understanding
- They walk outside of life out of ignorance
- Walk with hardness of heart
- Lost all sensitivity
- They become useless to the eternal purpose
- They don't glorify God and can't please Him

We must put on the new man

- We have received his Holy Spirit who enables us
- Now we walk in light and know the truth
- If we learn, if we hear, we should only obey
- We must renew ourselves in the spirit of our mind.
- We must discard the lie and speak the truth
- We can get angry but we should not sin by prolonging anger and giving rise to the devil.
- We must work honestly
- We must speak correctly
- We should not grieve the Holy Spirit
- We must avoid all bitterness, anger, anger, shouting and cursing, and malice

- We must forgive everyone who offends us
- We must know ourselves weak in ourselves and strong in Him

This design of the Lord is wonderful and leads us unfaithfully to total grace. If anyone thinks that he can live the Christian life with his own strength, with his own merits, in his own righteousness, he is totally wrong and is a sad religious.

The truth is that religious rarely understand the cross. The sacrifice of Christ was revealed to them and they also consider taking up the cross as a personal sacrifice, but they do not understand the revelation of it. They do not understand the grace that comes from a finished work and a life subject to the will and power of the Holy Spirit.

Religious feel good believing that their works are key and that they can make them righteous before God. They believe they have merit in justification. They believe that shedding the old man is the result of their abilities and it is not so. To strip ourselves of the old man is to believe in the cross and depend on the Holy Spirit and His resurrection power in us. It is grace and that is too easy for them, so the message of the cross, in the dimension of grace, incredibly does not please them.

***"As far as I am concerned, brethren, if I still insisted that believers be circumcised, the Jews would not persecute me, for in that case the message of the cross of Christ would not offend them. As for those who are disturbing you, hopefully they will be castrated at once!"***  
Galatians 5:11 and 12 DHH.

Religion believes in the making of man, so the Jews insisted on following some practices of the law. On the contrary, the cross kills man and his abilities by putting us into the new being that is in Christ. Only of Him and for Him be the Glory!

***"For there are many out there, of whom I have told you many times, and even now I say it in tears, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ; the end of which will be perdition, whose god is the womb, and whose glory it is their shame; who only think about the earthly."***  
Philippians 3:18 and 19

The revealed cross is the portal to kingdom life:

- Until the cross, Christ was outside the disciples.
- After the cross, Christ was able to enter us.
- Once Christ entered through the message of the Kingdom,  
it begins to lead us to our own cross.  
By taking our cross we enter into the resurrection life.

- The resurrection life leads us to the fullness of Christ.
- The fullness of Christ manifests to the world the Kingdom of God.

***"God gave them new life, for He raised them up together with Christ. Therefore, dedicate your whole life to doing what God likes. Think of the things of the Kingdom, where Christ rules at the right hand of God. Don't think about the things of this world. For you have already died for the world, and now, through Christ, God has given them true life. When Christ comes, you too will be with him and they shall share in his glorious presence."***

Colossians 3:1 to 4 VLS.



## Chapter Nine

# The church and the cross

*"This is the message we have heard from him, and we announce to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and we do not practice the truth; but if we walk in light, as he is in light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin."*

1 John 1:5-7

The power of the cross does not work only to have the Lord, we saw that it serves to dimension us to the resurrection life, to put us into the eternal purpose, to bear fruit, to take us out of the system of the world and to be members of the body of Christ. This involves coordinating and fellowshiping with other members of the Body, which is challenging.

On the one hand, we can see our brothers and sisters only as members of God's family, and that's okay, yet we are also members of the body of Christ, which involves much more than affection and a good relationship. It implies above all a true spiritual communion.

The members cannot be dislocated, but must be united and I must confess that the enemy has done a good job of dividing us. The union between the members aims at good coordination and this, at the same time, is what allows a full manifestation of Christ.

We desire to serve the Lord and must recognize that we cannot do anything apart from Him. But neither can we do anything separate from the members of His body and we must consider that only separating from one member separates us from the whole body.

***"... And I no longer live, but Christ lives in me..."***  
Galatians 2:20

The secret of coordination is to remain on the cross. Coordination must state the fact: ***"not anymore... me."*** As long as you or I are present there will be no coordination, but if we surrender to the life of Christ we will have fellowship with one another.

The many divisions and disagreements in the church today are the result of the great ego of those who believe

they have a church. That's why many say "my church" or "We don't get together with that church," but in reality no man on this earth has a church except Christ, He was the only one who died to have it. There are many pastors who believe they have a church and believe that it is theirs, so they manage it with authoritarianism. They do not understand that they are committing spiritual adultery, because the church is Christ's, not theirs.

That is, some may have meeting rooms, people serving, prominent names or international events, but that is not necessarily a church. Men can create institutions, they can act as owners or bosses, but in reality, no one can have a living organism and the church is not a religious institution, but a living organism.

There are some apostles who claim to have several churches under their command and from all they demand obedience, subjection, honor and resources. They impose their institutional name, their messages, their work systems, their manuals, their music and castrate the potential of every pastor who operates under their mantle. They claim to exercise paternity, but in the end they operate as if they were evangelical popes to whom the ring must be kissed and pay homage.

A spiritual father is at the service of his children and does not impose his methods or abilities, but gives everything to enhance the abilities of his children. A

spiritual father works for his children and not the other way around. These so-called apostolic fathers divide the body of Christ, because they teach not to join with others, not to participate in events other than theirs, not to listen to other messages or use other methods, or not even to listen to music from other ministries. This is all nonsense. Obviously, the cross is needed.

There are some who are leaders of a sector or leaders of cells and yet they already exalt and speculate. They try to impart their ideas and end up muttering, causing conflict, competing or simply capturing the attention of many, to open their own congregation.

There are also brothers who tour churches and do not submit to any in particular. According to them, all leaders are wrong, have no love, do not recognize them, do not give them a place, do not visit them or do not teach as they would like. There are some who do not submit to anyone, watch videos on YouTube and believe that they can get through the media the church they want. They have an ego that desperately needs to be crucified.

Sure, it's very easy to say they're okay with the Lord, but they don't congregate anywhere. They blame third parties for that, but in reality, with their attitudes, they are only revealing that they have a deep problem of pride.

You have to take up the cross to be in subjection. One must take up the cross to deal with others selflessly. One must take up the cross to serve without being recognized. You have to take up the cross to hear a mistake in a leader and not criticize everything. We must take up the cross so as not to seek on earth the perfect church. All those who criticize, divide, and sue are people with a governing ego and are unwilling to humble themselves and submit to the Lord.

Jesus did not have the perfect disciples, they were almost a disaster, his environment was never favorable, the criticism rained down on him, many plotted to kill him, his family criticized him and did not recognize him, however, we never see him complaining, criticizing, murmuring or suing with them, on the contrary, he loved them, he simply loved them and it takes you to die to the ego to express that love.

The church must function under the same mind and the same opinion, which makes the cross absolutely necessary, because it is only the death of human reasons that opens the way to the mind of Christ.

***"Complete my joy, have all the same thought,  
with the same love, united in the soul, having this one  
thought"***

Philippians 2:2

When Christ died on the cross of Calvary He said some key words to understand the redemption He was producing in the spiritual world. And I think it would do us good to remember those words to apply those redemptive principles in the church today.

*"And Jesus said, Father, forgive them,  
because they don't know what they're doing."*

Luke 23:34

The Lord wants a Church that is one of forgiveness to all, without grudges and without criticism. His words were *"Forgive them because they don't know what they're doing..."* Jesus looked from the cross at a scene that must have been distressing to Him. Roman soldiers were betting on their clothing. (**John 19:23 and 24**); one of the criminals on the cross next to Him was insulting Him (**Matthew 27:44**); religious leaders mocked Him (**Matthew 27:41-43**); and the crowd blasphemed him (**Matthew 27:39**). Surrounded by this unworthy picture, Jesus exclaimed for them to the Father, with an expression of unparalleled mercy and love.

Of course, Jesus' prayer was answered in many people's lives. Many believed when they were crucifying him, the disciples were visited by the risen Christ and just over a month later three thousand people in Jerusalem were saved in one day. (**Acts 2:41**). Thus began the church, as a result of forgiveness. It would be

extraordinary if we did not forget that and that we could be children of God without grudges against leaders, brothers, relatives, or people who may have harmed us. No matter how badly they have acted, in the end that is the idea of divine forgiveness: *"They don't know what they're doing..."*

On the cross Jesus provided forgiveness for all those who would like to believe in Him. (**Matthew 20:28**). He also paid the penalty for the sins we committed in our ignorance, and even for the sins we committed deliberately. Will we, without having paid anything and receiving everything by undeserved grace, be willing to forgive?

*"Then Jesus said to him, I really tell you that today  
you will be with me in paradise"*

Luke 23:43

Not only did Jesus ask forgiveness for all who were attacking his life, but, despite the pain, He extended grace upon a thief who was being crucified beside him. It is difficult to comprehend such a grace. This thief was our Lord's last companion on earth and was his first companion at the gates of paradise.

The problem of the church today is that having been born of that Christ of grace, it has been filled with graceless leaders, who forgot when they were sinners and

now that they have a ministry, that they wear a suit and tie, they believe they have the authority to reject people, judge people or qualify people, according to the measure of sin. of course analyzing everything under his pious biblical interpretations.

May we remember this fact and the words of the master. May we stop qualifying or judging sinners, because the Lord was called "*Friend of sinners*" and some leaders today seem to have lost that extraordinary title.

*"When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved, who was present, he said to his mother:*

*Woman, behold your son.*

*Then he said to the disciple: Behold your mother.*

*And from that hour the disciple received her in his house."*

John 19:26 and 27

These words of Jesus on the cross are for the church today, very significant, because the Lord needs a Church that goes beyond family ties. What do I mean by this? Well, today there are many Christians who are extremely concerned and anxious with their own families. And it certainly stands to reason that this should be the case. However, if we rest in the Lord we will be more effective doing what we should and dying to the emotions

of the soul, because in that way we will bring greater benefits to everyone.

Jesus did not think like a son when he said that phrase to his disciple and to Mary. If we were to analyze Jesus as a son, perhaps he must have come down from that cross, seeing his mother suffer heartbreakingly. However, it was convenient, even for her, for Him to stay on that cross.

Christians will be much more effective with our families if instead of seeking to resolve every conflict and try to save our children, we focused only on the Lord and His righteousness, because that would make Him able to work more effectively. It seems difficult to solve problems without worrying so much, but the Kingdom works by faith, not by worries.

If we focus on the Lord and crucify our asthmatic feelings, we would make the degree of operational anointing much greater and thus break true yokes of oppression. Jesus did not explain too much to his blood brothers, nor did he get off the cross so that his mother would not suffer, but in the end he ended up saving them all and that is the transcendent thing.

***"Near the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, saying: Eli, Eli, sabactani lama? This is: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"***

Matthew 27:45 and 46

This phrase of Jesus teaches the Church to face the secrets of the desert, of pain, of processes and of loneliness. Today it seems that no one is willing to suffer and if something goes wrong they are already changing congregations or looking for reasons in hell.

Jesus Christ teaches us that even in the darkest night, in the moment of greatest pain, in the greatest bewilderment of our lives, we must learn to trust. He suffered the cross, but today He is seated on the Throne at the right hand of the Father and for an eternity. He teaches us to overcome, not to give up and to be sure that everything happens and that no matter how alone we may feel, no matter how great our pain, we must trust, because victory will simply come.

***"After this, knowing that everything was already finished, he said, so that the Scripture might be fulfilled: I'm thirsty."***

John 19:28

With these words Jesus teaches us to be a Church thirsty for justice. The thirst for justice should be awakened in the church immediately today, just by the way the media exposes the world. Today we may be eating in our homes as we watch little children starving to death with flies on their faces. Of course, since we don't like that image, we prefer to change the channel and watch a

football match, with star players who charge half a billion euros per year to hit the ball.

Today all injustices are mixed on a small screen. We see hunger, death, war, evil, violence. A Kingdom church cannot ignore this spiritual thermometer. In the face of a world plagued by injustice, we must cry out for justice.

Jesus asked for water on that cross, his cry *"I'm thirsty"*, also reflects Jesus' concern for the dispossession of the poor, of the excluded, of the hungry who, in turn, are thirsty. They have no clean drinking water and drink from polluted canals until they die. They are thirsty. They die by joining the cry of Jesus and the church must react.

There are too many people shouting their thirst for righteousness and the church is the only one that has access to the Almighty Judge, we must approach his heavenly courts and claim for the water of life for this world.

***"When Jesus had taken the vinegar, he said: It is finished. And having bowed his head, gave the spirit"***  
John 19:30

Jesus said: *"Consummated is..."* With these words, he teaches us to be a Church with purpose. We must have an eternal purpose mindset and walk in God's designs, so

that we can one day say, like our teacher, "*Consummated is...*"

The word purpose was recovered in the church in the eighties. Before that, no one talked about purpose here on earth, everything pointed to eternal life and nothing else. However, the word purpose sowed in Christians a mentality of mission, a mentality of assigned task on this earth and that was very good.

The problem with the word purpose is that personal purpose was preached and we must understand that we do not have a personal or individual purpose, that according to the Bible are plans. The purpose is one and it is in Christ. There is no purpose outside of Him, His purpose is corporate and Kingdom.

Today there are too many Christians wanting to realize their personal plans, but they are oblivious to Christ's eternal purpose. In the end, many of them will build houses, form families, develop successful businesses, achieve results, but they may never walk in God's eternal purpose.

Jesus Christ was not accomplishing a personal work, He was dying on that cross for all of us. If it was for Him, the cross should not have been part of His plans, yet He determined purpose and out of love consummated it. May

we learn at this time to focus on His eternal purpose and not on our earthly plans.

This does not leave out our reward. Walking in eternal purpose is never lost. Jesus died for all of us and did not focus on his personal success, yet the Father gave him a name above every name and placed him in ultimate authority over all creation. If we focus on His purpose, He will take care of our reward.

***"Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said:  
Father, in your hands I commend my spirit.  
And having said that, it expired."***

Luke 23:46

These last words teach us to be a Church totally given to the government of God. To live Kingdom is not simply to rule, it is to be governed to function with authority.

When as a church we do things under God's rule, when we deny ourselves, and when we take the example of the master Jesus, we have no other destiny than to reign with authority and power.

We must learn that only after the cross did the risen Christ manifest himself and in the same way that the Church takes up his cross will he be able to manifest the

body of Christ in all fullness, because only after death comes the power of the resurrection.

To die can hurt, because it is to lose, it is to suffer, it is to dismiss, but after the cross came all the benefits upon Jesus and the church must learn the mysteries of the cross. As a church, the cross simply suits us.

After the cross the veil of the temple was torn (**Matthew 27:51**), if as a church we accept the cross, revelation will be opened as never before in history.

After the cross they resurrected a lot of dead people who came out of their graves (**Matthew 217:52**). If as a Church we accept our cross, we will provoke a revival of resurrection as we have never seen before, there will be a impartation of life over great multitudes.

After the cross came power, because Jesus took rule over every principality, power, and lordship. (**Ephesians 1:21**). If as a church we accept our cross, we will see such great power manifested that the darkness of many cities will simply recede.

After the Cross all riches were bestowed upon Christ (**Revelation 5:12**). If as a Church we understand this and accept our cross, riches will be unleashed as never before, because many of those riches today are held until we kill

all purposeless ambition and vanity. (**Proverbs 13:22**). Only the cross can kill that.

After the cross, Jesus sat on the throne in the heavenly places. (**Mark 16:19**). If we understand this as a church and agree to take up our cross, denying and tearing down strengths, arguments, and haughtiness, the Kingdom will come with a power we have never seen or experienced before. (**Ephesians 1:3**). After the cross comes the Kingdom, there is no throne without a cross.

*"For the word of the cross is madness to those who are lost; but to those who are saved, that is, to us, it is the power of God"*

1 Corinthians 1:18



## Recognitions

"I would like to thank my heavenly Father for this book,  
for He loved me in such a way that He sent  
to his Son Jesus Christ my redeemer.

I would like to thank Christ for becoming man,  
for dying in my place and for leaving me his footprints  
well marked so that I cannot get lost.

I would like to thank the glorious Holy Spirit, my faithful  
friend, who in his infinite grace and patience,  
he was revealing all this to me..."

"I would like as in every book to thank my life partner,  
my beloved wife Claudia for her love and patience in the  
face of my long hours of work, I know that it is difficult  
to live with someone so focused on their purpose and it  
would be impossible without their understanding"



As in each of my books, I have taken many verses from the bible in different versions. As well as I have taken some concepts, comments or paragraphs from other books or reference manuals. I do it freely and I do not detail each one of the quotes, because I have the total conviction that everything, absolutely everything, in the Kingdom, belongs to the Lord.

Literature books obey human talent and ability, but Christian books are only the result of divine grace. Since nothing, we could understand without the sovereign intervention of him.

For this reason, I do not claim the authorship or the right to anything. All my books can be downloaded for free on my personal page [www.osvaldorebolleda.com](http://www.osvaldorebolleda.com) and can be used freely. The books are not copyrighted, so you can use any part that can serve you.

May the Lord unleash all his blessing on each reader and on each brother who, through his work, has also contributed, with a concept, with an idea or simply with a phrase. God reward each one and we can all arrive at the consummation of the great eternal purpose in Christ.

**Pastor and teacher**

*Oswaldo Rebolleda*

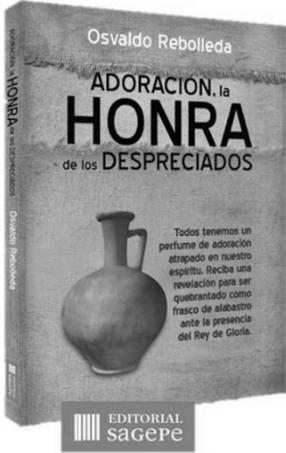


Pastor and teacher Oswaldo Rebolleda today has thousands of titles in teaching messages for the improvement of saints and various study books with varied topics and vital for a victorious Christian life. Teacher Oswaldo Rebolleda is the creator of the School of Spiritual Government (EGE) And minister in an itinerant way in Argentina And to the ends of the earth.

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# Other books by Osvaldo Rebolleda

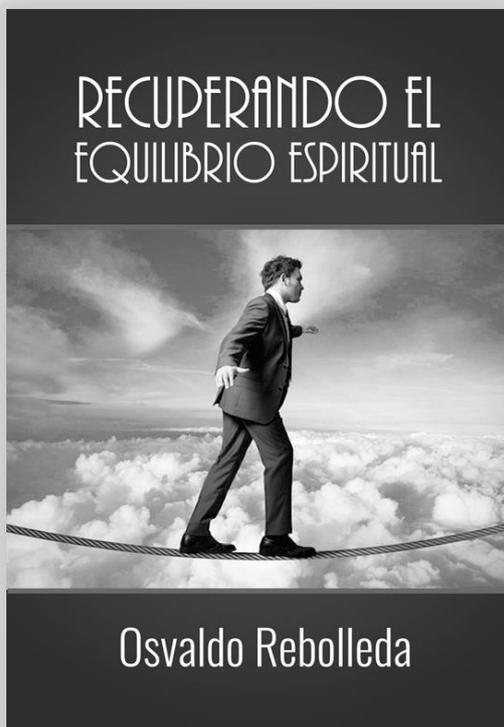


***"We all have a perfume of worship trapped in our spirit. Receive a revelation to be broken like a jar of alabaster in the presence of the King of Glory..."***

***"A book that will take you into the depths of God's Word, a real challenge to enter the dimensions of the Spirit"***

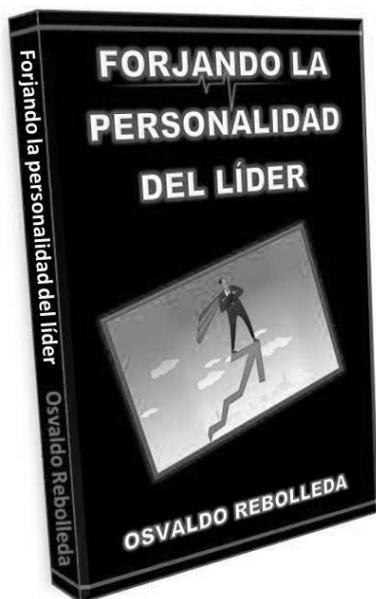


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you should have in your library...

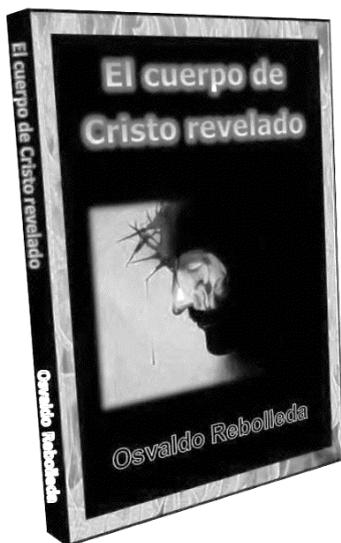


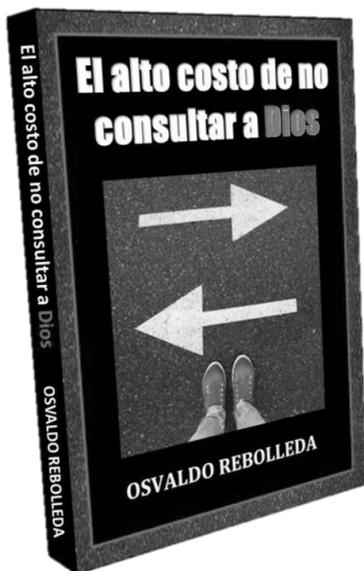
*"Every change must be brought about by God.  
through men and not through men  
in the name of God..."*

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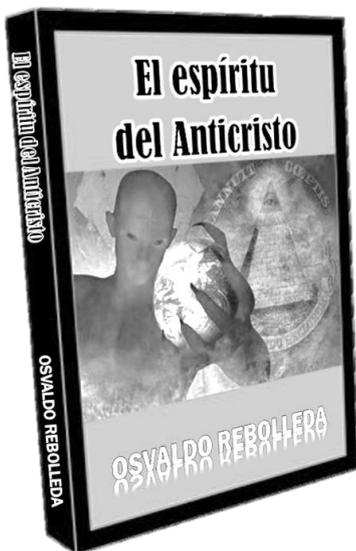


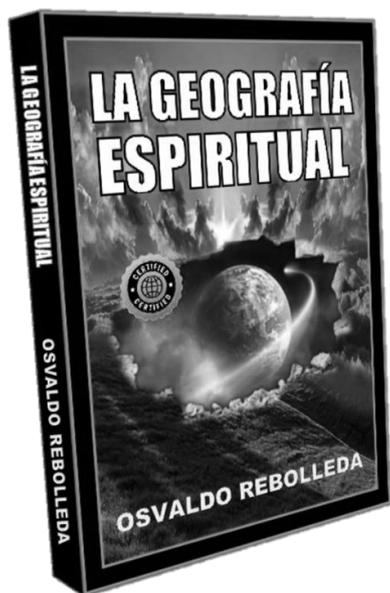
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