

**King James Bible Study Correspondence Course**

*An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries*  
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

## The Cross

### Lesson 1 The Real Power

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A young man by the name of Robin Rose was responsible for speaking up and telling me that I was a sinner, destined for the devil's hell. Weeks later, after being overwhelmed with the conviction from the truth of Robin's statements, I repented and believed in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the only way for me to escape the fires of Hell. On that day, I trusted in what Jesus Christ did on that cross, and that He would forgive my sins and take me to Heaven when I die. At nineteen years of age, kneeling at the foot of my bed, I humbly called out to God, asking Him to forgive me of all my sin and make me the person He wanted me to be. Within the blink of an eye, I knew something was different, as if a great weight had been lifted off my back, and a flood of joy rushed into my soul. That blessed event occurred in late July 1972.

For those of you who are still reluctant to bow your knees, let me say this – 49 years later, I have never regretted trusting in Jesus Christ.

Whenever a man will pick up the Holy Bible and read this grand and glorious verse, he will find this truth, “...*the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is* (this very present moment) *the power of God.*” (1 Corinthians 1:18)

Notice from this verse that we're speaking about “*the preaching of the cross*”. That is one particular cross. Only God Almighty knows how many men down through the centuries of time have died the cruel and horrifying death of crucifixion on a cross. (One of the most brutal of all forms of capital punishment.) But this verse is not speaking of a wicked person who is cursing, railing, screaming and begging for mercy, realizing his fate. No, this verse is speaking about the sinless man who died on the cross but had the power to save any and all who would call on Him.

The Bible says the preaching of **the** cross. That is the cross that was in the middle. Not only in the middle of two malefactors, but also in the middle of all human history. The cross upon which the Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, died to pay for the transgressions of Adam's fallen race. That cross upon which He died to pay for my sin, your sin, everyone's sin. It is His death on that cross, when preached in its true and proper fashion, that foolish, lost men

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will mock, but faithful men will believe, resulting in their being saved by the power of God.

If you reject the cross-work of the Lord Jesus Christ, you testify to the fact that you will perish, you will die in your sins. The verse says, ***“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”*** Notice the dividing line – ***“but”***. You see, the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ stands as the dividing line between the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament has the laws, sacrifices, ordinances, rules, rituals, and regulations - what we call the “do’s and don’ts”. These are all of the things that should show man that he is a sinner (Galatians 3:24), the things that should show man that he hath come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23), the things that show man that he could never earn heaven...***but!***

On the New Testament side of the cross is our Lord Jesus Christ offering salvation full and free, pardon, abundant life, cleansing from all iniquity, ability to pass from death unto life. All of this is made available to us because Jesus died on that cross to pay for all the sins that men would ever commit against the laws and commandments of God’s Old Testament scriptures.

The verse says, ***“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but...”*** That ***but*** is more than just the dividing line between the Old and New Testaments, it is also the dividing line between heaven and hell. On the one side are the foolish, who think their religion can save their soul, their good deeds can cancel out their bad deeds, one religion is as good as another, all roads lead to heaven, they have their own way to get there, and they do not need Jesus as their Saviour. This is the wrong side; these individuals will die in their sins and burn in hell fire.

***“But...”*** This word encompasses a dividing line between the wrong side and the right side, a dividing line between an old life of bondage to sin in the flesh (habits, vice, iniquity) and a new life of liberty, to live with joy, love, happiness, and peace, flowing from Jesus Christ to the hearts of all them that know and trust Him. ***“...unto us which are saved it is the power of God”***. Soul saving, life changing, heart satisfying, eternal life granting power from God to man is the cross-work of Jesus Christ, God’s own Son.

The Scripture says in 1 Corinthians 1:19, ***“For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the***

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*prudent.*” You say, “I don’t understand.” God wants you to believe. Will you trust man’s wisdom as opposed to God’s wisdom? If so, you will be destroyed.

The Bible says in verse 20, *“Where is the wise?”* Where is the philosopher of days gone by? He’s dead! Where is the genius of a century ago? He’s dead! My friend, where is the Lord Jesus Christ? He is risen from the dead, alive forevermore, seated at the right hand of God the Father. He is ruling and reigning over the hearts of all those that have surrendered to Him; and, someday, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, He will rule and reign over all that He has created.

*“Where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world?”* (1 Corinthians 1:20). Isaac Newton is dead; Thomas Paine is dead; Voltaire is dead. One infidel after another drops off the face of the earth. Madalyn Murray O’Hair is gone, nearly forgotten. Anton LaVey is dead and burning in the hell fire that he thought so much of. One after another of these who would dispute with, argue with, revile, and ridicule the Bible believer, die and wake up in the burning, fiery torments that they denied. Withing a matter of mili-seconds they are Bible believers...but too late (Job 10:21-22; 1 Samuel 2:9; Luke 16:23,26.)

*“...hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?”* George Washington died of a disease called Epiglottitis. The medical experts of his day believed that having him gargle with vinegar and butter, swabbing his throat with dried beetles, bleeding him with leeches, and giving him enemas would cure his disease. Instead, it eliminated the electrolytes in his immune system, causing him great agony, shortness of breath, and a rapid death. Charles Darwin, who taught that his grandmother was an ape, is dead. Lenin and Stalin, who set up communism with the idea that all men would live in equality (except for the men in power who milked the system and got rich off it) are dead. You understand...

1 Corinthians 1:21, *“For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”* Please examine this statement, *“...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”*

Robin Rose was no Bible scholar, yet he knew in his heart that Jesus Christ is the real deal. Something told him that if he would tell his rebellious and arrogant neighbor who Jesus was, that man could have eternal life and avoid going to hell if he would believe.

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There are men and women who give millions of dollars to charity, walk sidewalks, ride bikes, say repetitious prayers, and get wet in baptismal pools, all in the hope of balancing the scales in their favor to avoid their ultimate destiny. What a waste to live in false hope, when believing is so much easier and truly rewarding. The Bible says in Ephesians 2:8-9, *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.”* There is nothing that can be done to earn one’s way into Heaven; there is nothing that can be done to balance the scales in one’s favor. 1 Corinthians 1:21, *“...it pleased God”* Not you, not your denomination, not your rabbi, not your minister, but *“it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that...”* do what? Contribute? Clean up? *“...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”* Have you believed?

1 Corinthians 1:22-25, *“For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: 23 But we preach (there it is again) Christ crucified, (not Christ’s good life, not even His great teachings) “...we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; 24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”* God in the flesh, dying on the cross is a greater power than the combined might of every man, woman, and child that has ever lived on the face of this earth.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29, *“For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: 27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; 28 And the base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: 29, “That no flesh should glory in his presence.”*

Do you know why everyone who is saved is saved by simply believing on the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you know why? So that in the glories of God’s heaven, for all eternity, no one will receive any praise, honour, glory, or worship except Jesus Christ. Everyone in heaven will be glorifying the only One that is deserving of glory – that is the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31, *“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.”* All glory to

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Jesus Christ, who hung on that cross at Calvary, shed His precious blood, and died for my sins that I might receive the gift of God which is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Do you know Him? Have you received Him? Have you trusted Jesus' death for your soul's salvation? Read these last verses aloud to yourself...Acts 4:12, ***“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. 1 Corinthians 2:5, “That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”***

**Notes**

KJV
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**The Cross – Lesson 1**  
**The Real Power**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

( \* ) if asterisk is shown in the question, scripture is required along with an answer in your own words.

1. What does it take for you to secure a home in Heaven and escape the fire of hell?
2. Who is going to be on center stage throughout eternity?
3. When do wicked ungodly men/women have their chance to go to heaven?
4. Why did God chose the weak things in life to confound the wise?\*
5. What does it take to show someone how to have eternal life and a home in Heaven?
6. How did people before Jesus Christ go to heaven?\*
7. How do people after the rapture go to heaven?\*
8. What did the Malefactor do in Luke 23:39-43 to be with Jesus?

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9. When Jesus comes back to Earth, what Kingdom will be established?\*
10. Define Ephesians 2:8-9
11. In addition to Eternal life, what else do we receive upon believing?\*
12. What was the lesson trying to teach us?\*
13. Robin was 14 years old, what motivated him to tell a 19 year old ex-Marine that he was going to die in his sin and go to hell?
14. In 49 years of being saved, how many days have I regretted what I did that late July evening on my knees before God?

**True/false**

- If I give to Charity and are kind to the less fortunate, God will secure a place in Heaven for me.
- Baptism consummates the believing in Jesus Christ for salvation.
- If I am a faithful member of an established denomination, then God will honor my faithfulness and grant me a spot in heaven.

**Scripture memorization**

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Corinthians 1:18; 1 Corinthians 2:4

any questions?