



Christ Has Died

1 Corinthians 15:1-5 and 11:26

The Heart of Christianity:

- Christ has **DIED**
- Christ is **RISEN**
- Christ will **COME AGAIN**

On Palm Sunday, we remember Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, celebrating him as King of **CREATION** and **REDEMPTION**. (Luke 19:32-40, Matthew 21:9-11)

- At Calvary, creation's (and Israel's) **KING** went to the cross.
- For Jesus, there could be no **FINAL** crown without a cross.
- The cross is the ultimate display of God's **HOLY LOVE**.

Application

1. We ought not be surprised by our seasons of suffering. As with Jesus, so with us: crosses **PRECEDE** crowns.
2. The three-fold heart of Christianity **ECHOES** in life's joys and pains. We experience seasons of death, burial, and resurrection and can identify with Jesus in them.

...that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. - Philippians 3:11

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The Cross: The Outgushing of God's Mercy

"The cross of Jesus displays the most awesome exhibition of God's hatred of sin and at the same time, the most august manifestation of God's readiness to pardon sin. Pardon, full and free, is written out in every drop of blood that is seen, it's proclaimed in every groan that is heard. Oh, blessed door of return, open to the wanderer from God and never shut. How glorious, how free, how accessible.

Here the sinful, the vile, the guilty the unworthy, the poor, the penniless may come. Here too the weary spirit may bring it's burden, the broken spirit it's sorrow, the guilty spirit it's sin, the backsliding spirit it's wandering. All are welcome here!

The death of Jesus was the opening and the emptying of the full-hearted God. It was the outgushing of that ocean of mercy that heaved and panted and longed for an outlet. It was God showing how he can love a poor, guilty sinner.

-- Octavius Winslow (Pastor in the mid-1800's)