

August 18, 2019

## Boasting in the Cross of Christ

By Michael Hickox

# Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street  
Olney, IL 62450  
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[www.olneychurchofchrist.org](http://www.olneychurchofchrist.org)

## Services

### Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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**Elders:** Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

**Deacons:** John Frost, Dave Goff,  
Roger Sholders

*Visitors are welcome*

*We offer Bible classes for all ages*

*We also offer in-home Bible studies*

We have Bible lessons on the radio  
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

**Galatians 6:14:** *But far be it from me to boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*

As **Ephesians 2:8-9** points out, salvation is not something we deserve. Rather, it is made possible through God's grace, which is extended to us through Christ. Thus, our boasting should be in *Him*, rather than *self*.

Without Jesus, we would be forever *enslaved* to sin. Yet, through Jesus' death on the cross, it is possible to be *redeemed*. **Ephesians 1:7** says, "***in whom we have our redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.***" Christ's blood paid the ransom in order that we might be released from the bondage of sin.

Without Jesus, we would forever face the *wrath* of God. Yet, through Jesus' death on the cross, *propitiation* for sins is possible. **1 John 2:2** says, "***and He is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.***" A perfectly just God does not let sin go unpunished. Christ's death offers the appeasement of God's wrath against sin.

# Boasting in the Cross of Christ

(Continued)

Without Jesus, we would stand *condemned* before God. Yet, through Jesus' death on the cross, it is possible for man to be *justified*. Notice **Romans 5:9: *Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we will be saved from God's wrath through Him.*** The guilty can be pronounced "not guilty" because the "**just**" (Christ) died for the "**unjust**" (us) - **1 Pet. 3:18.**

Without Jesus, we would be forever *out of fellowship* with God. Yet, through Jesus' death on the cross, it is possible for man to be *reconciled* to God. **Romans 5:10** teaches, "***For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we will be saved by His life.***" Though sin has separated us from God, the blood of Christ allows us to be brought back into harmony with Him.

The cross of Christ demonstrates the height of man's wickedness. **Acts 13:28** says, "***Though they found no cause of death in [Jesus], yet desired they Pilate that He should be***

***slain.***" Before His crucifixion, Jesus was mocked (**Matt. 27:29**), spit on and smitten (**verse 30**), reviled (**verse 39**), and falsely accused (**John 18:30**).

Yet, what was the ugliest act of man's hatred was the perfect demonstration of God's love. **Romans 5:6-8** says "***For while we were yet weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man. Yet perhaps for a good person someone would even dare to die. But God commends His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.***"

When we understand and appreciate what Christ has willingly done for us, it leaves no room for arrogance.

We must trust and obey Christ to receive salvation (**Heb. 5:9**), but there is still nothing for us to boast about except the death of Christ. Without Him, we would be doomed to eternal condemnation in hell.

May we boast in Jesus rather than self, considering *His* greatness and what *He* has done for us.

## God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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## Words to Consider

***“If then ye were raised together with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God. Set your mind on things that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth.” – Colossians 3:1-2***

## Prayer List

Holly G  
Sandy S  
Betty P  
Mabel H  
Cheryl S  
Norma C  
Dody G  
Joe B  
Allen S (Cancer)  
Raymond & Maxine  
June H (Broken Pelvis)  
Randy S (Strokes)  
Mike & Family

## Daily Bible Reading

August 18 – Psalms 87-88; Rom. 13  
August 19 – Psalms 89-90; Rom. 14  
August 20 – Psalms 91-93; Rom. 15:1-13  
August 21 – Psalms 94-96; Rom. 15:14-33  
August 22 – Psalms 97-99; Rom. 16  
August 23 – Psalms 100-102; 1 Cor. 1  
August 24 – Psalms 103-104; 1 Cor. 2

***“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly...” – Colossians 3:16***

### **Prayer Leaders**

Sunday, August 18, 2019

Bible Study: Roger

Worship: Jeff

Evening: Mark

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Mike

### **Cleaning Building**

Cynde

### **Prepare Communion**

Linda

### **Upcoming Reminders**

**August 24: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.**

*Study: Ruth's Care for Naomi (Ruth 2:14-23)*

### **Assignments**

Sunday, August 25, 2019

Reading: Jeff

Announcements: Dave

Table: Harold

Serve: Jim

Travis

John

Mark

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

Invitation: Travis

### **Anniversaries**

### **Birthdays**

August 19 – Paula

August 24 – Debbie

August 25 – Olivia

August 31 – Stephanie