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1. God's love demonstrated towards us

Romans 5:6-10, *For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.*

2. Salvation through His death

Acts 4:12, *"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."*

John 3:16, *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

3. Set apart

The cross separates the believers from the unbelievers

The cross separates the good from the evil

The cross separates man from sin

The cross separates the heart from temptation

The cross separates man from the world

Matthew 25: 32, *“All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.”*

4. Living life

2 Corinthians 5:14-15, *For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died;¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.*

Galatians 5:13, *For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.*

Galatians 2:20, *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

5. Cross is the Power of God

1 Corinthians 1:18, *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

Cross is the power of God in pardoning sin

Cross is the power of God in transforming the mind

Cross is the power of God in connecting human hearts

6. Peace through the Cross

Colossians 1:20, *and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*

7. Take up the cross

Matthew 10:38, *Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.*

Luke 14:27, *And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.*

John 21:19, *Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"*

John 21:22, *Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."*

1 Peter 2:21, *To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.*

Guilt of Humanity

Acts 3:13-15, The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. 14 But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, 15 and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.

When Jesus was about to be crucified the Jewish people preferred the robber Barabbas rather than Christ. We are also left with same choice every day either to choose Satan or Christ.

You may be thinking that you are smart that how those Jewish people could choose the robber rather than Christ but yet we are more foolish to crucify Him every day in our life. They were not educated and did not have any knowledge about who Christ was. But today you have more knowledge about God yet what do you do?

Conclusion: Knowing now the different reasons for adoring the cross, what is necessary is our ability to have the cross imprinted in our hearts. It is not sufficient if we wear the cross on our chest. It must be buried deep into our hearts which cannot be removed by anybody else as long as we live.

Let us pray to God to help us get the cross imprinted into our hearts.
Amen.

Luke 9:23, Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.