Why the Cross?

(The Exclusivity of Christ and His Death and Resurrection for the Salvation of Mankind)

Selected Scriptures

Introduction: Why is the way to God exclusively through Jesus Christ? Why is Christ's Work on the Cross the only way to our attaining forgiveness of sins and eternal life?

Couldn't God have devised another means of Salvation?

Couldn't there be an easier way? A less offensive way? Couldn't any road be the right road to Heaven?

See: 1 Corinthians 1:18-f

• Christ's payment for sin at the Cross is the only payment God accepts.

Why is the Cross the only way? Why is Jesus the only way to Heaven?

First a preliminary thought:

Because God is God, and Heaven is His Heaven, He deserves the right to determine the means by which anyone enters His Heaven! If He requires Faith in His Son, He has the right to do so.

In order for Salvation to be made possible, the following had to be accomplished:

- 1. Sin had to be paid for
- 2. Forgiveness had to be granted
- 3. Righteousness had to be imputed
- I. God's <u>nature</u> demands a salvation plan which would be <u>consistent</u> with <u>His character</u>. (Romans 3:26)
- II. God's <u>justice</u> demands that <u>sin be paid for</u>. (1 Peter 3:18)
- III. Sin's infinite <u>price</u> demands an <u>infinite payment</u>. (2 Corinthians 1:10)
- IV. God's holiness demands a perfect sacrifice for sin. (Hebrews 9-10)
- V. God's Son is the only one who could qualify to pay sin's penalty. (Hebrews 7:27)
- VI. God's glory demands a salvation plan which would give Him the highest credit, honor, and praise. (Isaiah 42:8; Isaiah 43:10-12)