

The Cross, My Only Boast
Galatians 6:11-18

Historians have concluded that the wealthiest man in Rome around 80BC was a man name Marcus Licinius Crassus but he's known for other things as well. He put down the slave revolt with _____ and crucified _____ slaves on the Appian Way. The Romans didn't invent crucifixion, but they did perfect it. Crucifixion was for _____. Every single usage of crucifixion was for _____, except _____.

The world, then, and now, is at a _____ because his cross is _____ for all. Jesus + baptism = _____. Jesus + your good works = _____. Jesus + _____ = everything. That's the message of Galatians. There are only _____ religions in the world: _____ achievement and _____ accomplishment.

Paul was so concerned about his message that he even used his own hands to write the epistle.

I. Boasting in the Flesh, Alone.

The judaizers really didn't care about the believers there in Galatia. They were wrapped in _____,

_____, and _____. They were trying to impress other men by their _____ religion to make a show in the flesh. They were cowardly, not willing to be _____ with Jesus. Compromise would have been simple, submit to circumcision. These judaizers as well were _____. They were circumcised, but didn't even try to keep the whole law. False religion is always caught up in attendance and rituals.

Paul had another point to end his epistle:

II. Boasting in the Cross, Alone.

He wouldn't boast about his popularity, influence, appearance, income or his job. He didn't take pride in his accomplishments. (Phil 3:3-9). What did he boast in? Something extraordinarily embarrassing. Remember, the founder had been executed like a _____. The people of Paul's day wouldn't even whisper about death on a cross and here these Christians were _____ it. The cross is not just something to boast about, it is the _____ thing to boast about. (Ryken)

Paul bore the marks of a Christian and, if we only boast in the cross, we will as well. He's not saying we

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will bear the identical wounds as Christ. His marks came as a result of preaching Jesus Christ crucified as the only way to heaven. This offended the Romans, the Greeks and the Jews. Guess what, it still offends today. The world will accept that Jesus is ___ savior. To imply He is _____ Savior is another story for sure.

So, the questions for us are:

- 1) Are you trusting in Christ alone for your justification or something else?
- 2) Are you willing, at this moment, to bet eternity on your relationship to Jesus?
- 3) Are you known as a fully devoted follower of Jesus to people?