

Why The Cross?
Colossians 1:13-23

- I. Introduction
 - A. Life of Jesus
 - B. Death of Jesus
- II. What Did He Do? (13-14)
 - A. Rescued – To snatch from danger
 - 1. From what?
 - 2. Domain of darkness
 - 3. Present evil power over our existence
 - B. Transferred – To remove from one place to another; to cause to change sides
 - 1. To what?
 - 2. Kingdom of His beloved Son
 - 3. Rule and reign of Christ over us
 - C. Redemption – Purchasing back of a slave for the sake of freedom: liberation
 - 1. From what?
 - 2. Sin and its power
 - 3. We now have forgiveness – cancellation of a debt
- III. How & Why Could He Do It? (15-20)
 - A. Because He was God in the flesh
 - 1. Cause of creation
 - 2. Ruler over all authority
 - 3. Sustainer of everything
 - B. Because He is the Resurrection
 - 1. First place in all things because of this (cf. Romans 1:4)
 - 2. Reconciliation and peace come from the cross
- IV. Why Did He Do It? (21-23)

- A. To reconcile those who were...
 - 1. Strangers
 - 2. Haters
 - 3. Evil doers
- B. Reconciliation – restoration of a disturbed relationship
- C. But why???
 - 1. Future – To Present Us Before Him...
 - a. Holy – sacred
 - b. Blameless – without fault
 - c. Beyond reproach – without accusation
 - 2. Present – To Call Us To Perseverance
 - a. We stand firm in the faith
 - b. In accordance with the gospel