

Ten Coins of the Cross Luke 15:8-10

Why Ten Coins?

I'm drawing ten from the second part of the singular parable in Luke 15:8-10

-Luke 15:8 "Or what woman, having ten silver (*signifies redemption, see Num. 18:15-16*) coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?"

9 And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!'

10 Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

-Likewise, there is great rejoicing and boasting amongst redeemed sinners who have misplaced the greatness of the Cross of Jesus Christ our Lord and have re-discovered it again.

Get ready to do some rejoicing and boasting!

-Rejoicing and boasting: I get rejoicing, but why boasting?

-Turn to Galatians 6:14 the first half

-Gal. 6:14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

-This is the only place where boast and the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are used together in the same verse

-I thought it was significant...

-38 times the Greek word for boast or glory is used in the NT.

-Of the 38 usages in the NT 26 are found in the Corinthian letters alone.

-Corinthians were according to Paul: Divided, Carnal babes, poor in judgment, ignorant of certain spiritual truths, leavened, yet still brothers and sisters in Christ!

-Those conditions often lead to a lot of misplaced boasting!

Do we boast in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ?

-The benefits of the cross, the glory of the cross are not seen in nature.

-They are impossible to see by observing the crucifixion itself.

-Your heart and mind cannot tell you the benefits of the cross apart from the revelation of the H.S.

-Religion cannot tell you the benefits of the cross,

-Because religion is man-made, man centered, man's effort, not cross centered

-The Old Testament is full of the cross. Every book. Every story is tied to the cross, tethered to if you will, and looking forward to it.

-All of the New Testament looks back at the cross- all of it.

-The 33 benefits of grace all owe their origins their unleashing to the 'God of the Cross'

-The Holy Spirit thru the Apostles is the primary revealer of what happen on our behalf at the cross to our Lord Jesus Christ

-Every Christian doctrine has as its core the cross.

-Our lives as believers involve many relationships, many needs, many gifts-all have as their source of power, the cross.

What we need to do is to survey the Wondrous Cross: The Silver Coins of the Cross

-We need to do it every time we have communion

-We need to be surveying the cross daily, weekly

-Understanding the cross keeps us close and low to the ground

-It's hard to fall when you're close to the ground

-It's hard to get lost, to wonder, when you stay close to the cross

Listen to the words of **Isaac Watts**: A Surveyor in Song:

*'When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.*

Is that my reaction to the cross?

*Forbid it Lord that I should boast Save in the death of Christ my God
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood*

Of all of things or people I boast about- is the cross first and foremost?

Of all the things that get me excited is the cross tops on my list?

*See from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

Thorns represent the curse that came upon all of the creation because of our sin. Sickness, came. Suffering came. Hate came. Death came, Do you See him bear the curse for us!

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!*

Our minimum response-Amen!

-We've heard from Isaac, let's see what John, Paul, and Peter have to say thru the Holy Spirit about the coins of the wondrous cross

-Let us briefly survey what the cross of Christ has done for us.

-**The lost coin of Luke 15:8** reminds me that I often lose the presence of mind of the cross in my daily, hurried life.

-Let's keep the Ten Coins of the Cross ever before us and within us.

So here we go....

-Each coin has an inscription...

-Each coin has an unwritten value.

-God the Father Knows the complete value of the cross of the Son of His love

-The question for us is do we truly understand the value of the cross to us on a daily basis?

-My confession is that I value the cross more today than forty-two years ago, & hopefully more so tomorrow

Ten Coins of the Cross

-The first coin is the key and the sum of all of the other nine.

-The last nine are in groups of three

#1-The Finished Coin

John 19:30

30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

This is further explained by Paul....

Col. 2:14 having wiped out the 'certificate of debt' that was against, coming down on us, which was contrary or hostile to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it the debt certificate to the cross.

-wiped out or blotted out: M&M usage outside of the Bible: The practice of "washing out" the writing on papyrus, so that the sheet might be used for other purposes,

- So that we with him can say it is finished or my debt is paid in full!
- Our Boast is that Whatever the cross means is a Finished Work or accomplishment we will boast in that.
- Finished states nothing has been left undone.
- No loose ends, forgotten sins, forgotten issues that involve sin or its instruments

The Next Three Coins Are for God

#2-God's Coin of Propitiation

1John 2:2

2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

-**Spiros Zodhiates** says this of propitiation: *Hilasmós*, found only in 1 John 2:2 and 4:10..... It is the means of putting away sin and establishing righteousness. God is never presented as changing His mind toward the sinner or the sin that estranged the sinner from Him. Man is never said to be able to appease God with any of his offerings, as in the heathen religions where man offered gifts in an attempt to accomplish this.

-and we read in **1John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

God is satisfied, is propitiated by the cross of His son and we now move to the second coin for Him

#3-God's Coin of Reconciliation

2Corinthians 5:19-21

19-God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word or message of reconciliation or the message of complete change in mankind due to the cross.

-To reconcile a severed relationship one or both parties must change.

-Since God is perfect the change has to occur on our side.

-But we are unable to change to the satisfaction of God.

-So He sent His to die and be the reconciler, the change maker.

20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ (with a message of change), as though God were pleading through us (which is what an ambassador does): we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

Paul how has the world, which we were a part of, been reconciled or changed in the eyes of God?

21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin payment for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

-Not only was the debt paid, but the cross enabled us to made righteous by Grace

-We might become, have imputed to us the righteousness of God.

-Our part is to believe and the 'might become', becomes a real righteousness reality and experience

God is propitiated and mankind is reconciled and we thru faith may have the righteousness of God imputed to us and an everlasting Father Child relationship who believe.

That leads us to the next coin God's set, number 4....

#4-God's Peace Coin

Colossians 1:20-21

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

Paul why do we need peace made for us by God?

21 And you, who once were alienated (*separated strangers*) and enemies in your mind by your wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

-Alienated and enemies, Paul adds in **Eph. 2:12**

you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

-The fruit of reconciliation between God and us thru the cross is peace between God and us

-The cross appeased his righteous law and sinless nature, and the cross made peace between God and us..

God is satisfied and ready to reconcile with mankind and bring peace between us but there are enemies to be dealt with thru the cross...

The Next Three Coin Payments Are Judgments on our Enemies and that brings us to the 5th coin..

#5 The Devil's Coin

Hebrews 2:14

-We start with the judgment of the God of this World, The Prince of the Power of the air

Heb. 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy (*or render inoperative, not remove*) him that had the power *or dominion* of death, that is, the devil;

-Through His cross Satan no longer has to have power over us.

The second enemy to be judged at the cross is the world system the devil rules over, which brings us to our sixth coin...

#6 The World's Coin

Galatians 4:3 with 6:14

4:3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements *or the basic principles* of the world system....

-What are the basic principles of the world system? Anything but faith in Christ Crucified and anything but living a life of faith based on the graces that flow from Christ Crucified!

Paul tells us how can we free from the bondage under the elements of the world?

6:14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

-by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world, is a picture of separation of bondage broken, no longer under its authority and no longer blind to its spell

What enabled, encouraged us to be a part of the world's system? Why were we drawn to and lusted for the world's system?

The last coin in this set of three, the seventh coin is for the last enemy....

#7 My Sinful Nature's Coin

Romans 6:6

Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, in order that the body of sin might be destroyed or better rendered inoperative, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

-The cross provides daily victory and freedom from our body of sin. Do you have it?

-As with the Devil, the world's system, our sinful natures are not done away with but rendered powerless by faith in the Crucified Christ whose cross has made them inoperative.

The Next Three Coins Are Personal

#8 The Coin of My Crucifixion

Galatians 2:19-21

19 For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

-How did you die to the law Paul?

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.

21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness *comes* through the law, then Christ died in vain."

-Paul makes a similar co-death statement in Rom. 6:2-5

2b. How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

Paul, how did we, how did I die from 'sin' Paul to life?

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness of His resurrection,*

We live thru our crucifixion with Christ and that brings us to our ninth coin....

#9 My Righteous Living Coin

1 Peter 2:24

He Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness-- *by whose stripes you were healed.*

-The cross provides healing. Go to the cross!

-The cross will heal whatever keeps you from living righteously

Living and living and living righteously also means living with each other righteously, which brings us to our tenth coin....

#10-Our Peace Coin

Ephesians 2:14-15

14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, **15** having abolished in His flesh the enmity (*between God and each other*), that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

-The Cross satisfies the demands of the law-that demand is death for transgression, and took it out of the way

-it stood between and separated Jew and Gentile.

-The Jew had the law but could not keep it.

-The gentiles did not have the law and were aliens, strangers outsiders because of it.

-And now both are to live and operate under the rules of Grace and love and do so in peace.

The principle is this: The Cross makes many diverse ethnic groups one body, Jews and gentiles, which comprise all other ethnic groups

-Peace/Unity starts at the cross: How hard this is to do apart from the cross?

-Peace/Unity among the ethnos that in the Body of Christ.

-Peace/Unity between Husband and wife

- Peace/Unity within a family
- Peace/Unity within the local body
- And it our job to strive to maintain the peace and unity of the Spirit within the Body of Christ.

This was just a brief survey.

There is much more.

How do I receive these benefits you ask?

- Simply by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- You can't earn them, you can only receive them by faith.
- But how do I receive the faith to make these claims?
- By what we are doing now, and every Sunday, and in every small group, and hopefully everyday.
- Through study of His word, His doctrines, His great Love story to us.

As We survey the wondrous cross....We say with Paul

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Tonight we looked at Ten Silver Coins of the Cross

(put these up on the screen one at a time as I read them)

#1-The Finished Coin

John 19:30

#2-God's Coin of Propitiation

Romans 3:23-26

#3-God's Reconciliation Coin

2Corinthians 5:19-21

#4-God's Peace Coin

Colossians 1:20-21

#5 The Devil's Coin

Hebrews 2:14

#6 The World's Coin

Galatians 4:3 with 6:14

#7 My Sinful Nature's Coin

Romans 6:6

#8 The Coin of My Crucifixion

Galatians 2:19-21

#9 My Righteous Living Coin

1 Peter 2:24

#10-Our Living Together Coin

Ephesians 2:14-15

Let us Pray and Have Communion!