

Volume 3 – Day 30: What Is The Cross I Must Bear

So, what the cross is for Jesus, it cannot be for you. The cross was death for Him and it is life for you. The cross was punishment for Him and forgiveness for you. The cross was judgment on Him and it is freedom for you. So when we come to love the cross and to stand before the cross, the cross is not a symbol of our pain, it's a symbol of His.

When Jesus said, "Take up your cross and follow me," He wasn't talking about pain or suffering. That was His deal with the cross. It's not ours. He was punished so that I could go free. He suffered so that I didn't have to. The cross is a symbol of your freedom, your forgiveness, your acceptance, the love of God, the generosity of God, the kindness of God, the mercy of God, the beauty of God. When He said "Take up your cross," He said, "Take up everything that's beautiful about me and follow me." "Take up everything that's marvelous about my love for you and come and walk with me. Come follow after me." — Graham Cooke, 'Abiding - John chapter 15'

Don't we want to follow someone who loves us and cares about our future? Don't we want guidance from a competent leader? Don't we want to feel secure in someone stronger and more capable than we are? Well that's who God is! And to think, "He loves us on our worst day as much as on our best day."

Granted, when the enemy is shooting at our leader, God, the enemy's bullets are also coming at us. When people curse God, they are also cursing those who have faith and trust in Him. But, our Commander-in-Chief can never be defeated. So we can walk with our heads held high. We actually know that we have already won!

My Confirming Scripture: My Aligning Experiences: