**Theme:** True Believers Boast in The Cross of Christ

**Text: Galatians 6:11-18**

**11**See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand!
**12**Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ.
**13**Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh.
**14**May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
**15**Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation.
**16**Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.
**17**Finally, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.
**18**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Comment on the Judaizers bosting in the flesh

True Believers Boast in The Cross of Christ

**14 May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

The Crucifixion Letter," because it directly mentions the cross or crucifixion some seven times

**1 Corinthians 2:2**
For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

**1 Corinthians 1:18**
For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**1 Corinthians 1:22-24**
22 Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom,
23 but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
24 but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**2 Corinthians 4:5**
For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

**Paul gave four reasons why the cross is the believer’s only boast**

1. **The cross crucifies our Interest for the world.**

**14**May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

**1 John 2:15-17**

15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For everything in the world--the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does--comes not from the Father but from the world.

17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

**James 4:4**

You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

**1 John 5:19**
We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the power and control of the evil one.

1. **The cross creates a new person.**

**15**Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation.

**2 Corinthians 5:17**
Whoever is a believer in Christ is a new creation. The old way of living has disappeared. A new way of living has come into existence.

**1 Peter 1:23**23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

**Colossians 3:9-10**9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices
10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator**.**

**Ephesians 4:24**and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

**1 Corinthians 6:19**
Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

1. **The cross brings peace and mercy.**

**16**Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.

**Isaiah 48:22**
"There is no peace," says the LORD, "for the wicked."

**Romans 5:1**
1 Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.

**John 14:27**27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

**John 16:33**
"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

1. **The cross gives purpose to the scars of life.**

**17**Finally, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

(The word for marks (stigmata) means the branding marks that masters put upon their slaves). The marks identified the slaves as belonging to

**2 Corinthians 1:8-9**8 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life.
9 Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

**2 Corinthians 11:23-28**
23 Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again.
24 Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.
25 Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea,
26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers.
27 I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.
28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

1. **The cross crucifies our Interest for the world.**
2. **The cross creates a new person.**
3. **The cross brings peace and mercy.**
4. **The cross gives purpose to the scars of life.**

**Communion**