

My Cross I'll Carry Till I See Jesus

Scripture Text: Acts 22:4

As we continue our series about "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus," We come to the third verse "My Cross I'll Carry Till I See Jesus." This verse is especially important for those of us Christians as it serves as a reminder of our lifelong commitment that we have made.

When looking at this specific topic, it is often best to look at the life of Paul as it relates to our life of service to God. There are three main areas I would like for us to focus on.

1. He had a life to live

A. We all have a life to live, the question is what will we do with it? Our purpose is to worship and praise God.

B. Acts 22:4- Paul's own confession of what he had done. He thought he was doing right. He thought.

C. Acts 8:1-4, 9:1-3: God knew that Saul was sincere in what he was doing, and He came to Saul.

D. Saul asks, "Who are you, Lord?" Rev. says that all who hit Jesus will have their names called on the Judgment Day.

E. 9:8ff- Paul was not saved on the road to Damascus; he had to go find Ananias and find out what to do.

F. Paul had a life to live, and so do we. How are we living our life?

2. We all have a cross to bear

A. 9:15, 17- When he calls him Brother, he was not calling him brother in the spiritual sense yet. He called him brother in the Jewish sense. Saul was about to become a spiritual brother.

B. As long as we are on this earth, we will never have the home court advantage. This is something that you desperately want to have in sports. Why?

- In golf, you know the course.

- In basketball, you know the floor.

- In football, you know the field.

- In racing, you know each and every twist and turn. WHY?

- It is your home course. However, this world is ruled by the wickedness of Satan and we don't have the home court advantage. We will up in Heaven.

C. There were some things that Paul had to bear:

- All of his fellow “friends” hate Paul.
- The church was now afraid. Peace comes to the Lord’s church when Paul “switches sides.”

Some of these things we might have to bear as well. However, if we truly want to go to Heaven, we will gladly bear these things and more.

D. We are told that we need to bear our cross, Gal.2:20. Why could Paul say this?

E. Paul also made the statement in Phil. 1:21.

F. Can we make this same statement? If not, why not?

3. A Decision to make

A. Paul was told by Ananias that he had a decision to make.

B. Acts 22:12-15

C. Acts 22:16 – tarriest? “Why do you wait to obey God?” Ananias is basically telling Saul that he is just waiting to obey the Gospel. He knows what he has to do, everything is physically present for him to do so. Paul is just dragging his feet. Why?

D. Today, we have a decision to make as well. Just like Saul, Acts 22:16.

E. Everything that we need is right before us:

- Water
- Person to baptize
- Witnesses
- Person who needs the baptism

F. We are just waiting on the sinner to respond to the invitation. Just like Ananias, we are waiting on that response. They have the knowledge; it is all in the Bible. There are plenty of people around that could help explain something to them if they needed it. We are just waiting on them.

G. We are also just waiting on the erring child of God to come back to God before it is too late. Do not think this does not apply to the one who has fallen away; it does.

“My Cross I’ll Carry Till I See Jesus.”

Paul had a cross to carry, and so do we. Do we carry this cross?

More importantly, do we carry our cross on a daily basis or just when we think that someone might be looking? We don't need to carry it just when it feels like we need to or because someone is watching.

Being a Christian means that we are going to carry our cross each and every day of our life, no matter what. On the good days, on the bad days, and on the days in between, we will always carry our cross "until we see Jesus."

Have you decided to follow Jesus?

Are you going to follow Him even if no one else is?

Are you going to carry your cross daily until you see Jesus?

If we can help in any way, please come as we stand and sing.

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