

OVERCOMING: SIMPLE AND COSTLY

The word of God tells us the message of the cross is the saving power of God that the world considers foolishness and the message of the cross brings to nothing the world's wisdom; Jesus Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God (in 1 Cor. 1:18, 24, 28). Here is the simple, overcoming message of the cross: The world did not just happen by chance. There is Creator God who is holy and there will be a judgment day when we answer for our life. We have sinned (not done God's will) and cannot of-self stand before holy God. God sent His Son Jesus to live a sinless life, to show us God in the flesh; He was the perfect, ultimate sacrifice for our sins when He bore our sins on the cross. Jesus was raised from the dead, exalted, so we can be made right with God by faith in Jesus. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to indwell, lead us, empower us, and remind us what Jesus said. We are to regularly read God's word, the Bible, to see what God is like, how to be, and see what Jesus said so we can know to be reminded by the Holy Spirit. When we believe this, repent, and confess Jesus as Lord, our sins are purged, we are clean in God's sight and can overcome. Trying to avoid persecution by also living and believing the way the world says causes a person to be overcome. By holding fast to the message of the cross only, you bring to nothing the world's attempt to overcome you.