

## What was the Significance of the Crucifixion of Jesus?

We mentioned in the previous teaching regarding the punishment for our sins being placed on the cross, Colossians 2:14 NLT: **He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.** It was the sum total of all of our offenses (sins) against God, which caused us to be sentenced to death, eternal separation from God, the Father, Romans 6:23 NLT: **For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.** It is by Jesus taking our sins to the cross that we escaped the penalty for our sins. God then 'pardons' us so that we might be in right standing before Him, Romans 5:1 NLT: **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.** This is why Paul tells us to take care of our fleshly desires, Galatians 5:24 NLT: **Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there.**

The significance of this action is that we are now allowed to be of the family of God. Originally, Israel was considered the Chosen People of God. Now through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, we have gained access to the things of God, Ephesians 2:19 NLT: **So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family.** Foreigners were people that lived in Israel but because of their status, they did not have the rights of the citizens of Israel. Now through Jesus, we have full citizenship and rights to the things of God. This is a tremendous blessing, being part of the Jewish family, for salvation is of the Jews, John 4:22 NLT: **You Samaritans know very little about the One you worship, while we Jews know all about Him, for salvation comes through the Jews.**

In addition to citizenry, we have healing for our souls. Every sin that we have committed has damaged our mind, will, and emotions (the soul). The benefit of salvation is to bring healing to our souls. This is why we are told that through His stripes we are healed, Isaiah 53:5 NLT: **But He was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.** This means that as we allow God to work in our lives, teaching us obedience through the things that we suffer, Hebrews 5:8, we will be able to experience deep healing in our souls and also we will be able to offer that healing to others. The Kingdom of God, which is living under the authority of God in our lives, is quoted in Romans 14:17 NLT: **For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness (righteous living) and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, (emphasis added is mine).** The expressions of love, peace, and joy in life, are the signs of a healing soul.

The final benefit to the crucifixion is that we become new people in Jesus, 2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT: **This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!** The insides of our being have been transformed by the Spirit of Jesus into a new person. This means that on the inside we are motivated to a Godly life as opposed to the sinful people we were before. We must be on guard so that the new person does not give in to the ways of the old person, for our new being has power over the sinful ways of our old nature by the power of Jesus that is in us.