

Thank you,..Luis Cantun
Speaker for today

It was for us!

*“But He was pierced for our offenses,
He was crushed for our wrongdoings;
The punishment for our well-being was laid upon Him,
And by His wounds we are healed.
All of us, like sheep, have gone astray,
Each of us has turned to his own way;
But the LORD has caused the wrongdoing of us all
To fall on Him.”*
Isaiah 53:5-6

December Birthdays

17 Bill Brown 18 Alexis Brown
22 Elizabeth Medina. 31 Bob Pescador

December Anniversaries

18 Jim & Marie Burruss

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Website:
indiochurchofchrist.com

Preacher: Vacant

Church of Christ
81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

Vol. 36 No. 48
December 7, 2025

*“Trust in the Lord with all
your heart and do not lean on
your own understanding.”*
Proverb 3:5

- *“Fight the good fight”*
- *“Keep the faith”*
- *“Finish the course”*



Nails of the Cross

By Robert Notgrass

Choice, not nails, held Jesus to the Cross.

Matthew tells us that the mob on the hill of Calvary challenged Christ to “come down from the cross” (Matthew 27:40). What held Christ to the cross?

IT WAS NOT THE NAILS THAT HELD HIM ON THE CROSS. He had the power to remove the nails. He could have called *“more than twelve legions of angels”* to remove him from the cross (Matthew 26:53). He who could still the storm, feed

the multitude, and raise the dead, could have removed the nails. That crowd could not have killed Christ if he had not wished to do His Father's will. *"Therefore, doth my father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay down of myself..."* (Jn. 10:17-18).

THE FATHER'S WILL AND WISH HELD HIM ON THE CROSS. Jesus prayed and said, *"My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass away from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt"* (Matthew 26:39). It was the will of God that His Son become the *"atoning sacrifice, for our sins"* (1 John 2:2). The Savoir's love and our sins held Christ to the tree.

GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE HELD CHRIST TO THE CROSS. Jesus died to purchase the church with His own blood (Acts 20:28). The church is the institution through which the eternal purpose of God is to be made known to the world (Ephesians 3:10). Without Christ's death, God's purpose for the world would have been aborted. Thus, His love for God and man held Him to the cross and not the nails.

THE JOY SET BEFORE CHRIST HELD HIM TO THE CROSS. The *"author and perfecter of our faith"* disregarded His suffering and *"for the joy set before him endured the cross despising the shame"* (Hebrews 12:2). The angry mob's mocking at the cross was ignored by Christ because of the "joy set before Him."

Neither the lack of power nor the nails held Jesus to the cross. His resignation to the will of God and His love for the souls of mankind bound Him to the tree on which He died.

The Beauty of the Cross

By David Ferguson (modified for 2025)

Paul wrote in Galatians 6:14, *"But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."* (NKJV)

It is an old common saying that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. The cross of Jesus was a rough and ugly instrument of torture. It had no beauty in itself. As we think of the cross in 2025, we see an ornament, a precious piece of jewelry, or a religious symbol.

Why is the cross so attractive to us? Why does it bring us such joy and peace when we see it? It is because of the special meaning that Jesus gave it by His sacrificial death that it has attained its beauty.

Jesus knew the price He had to pay for my soul and yours. He knew the incredible pain and suffering that was to come for Him as He underwent the excruciating agony of the cross. God the Father knew that our sin required that someone would die, *"for the wages of sin is death"* (Romans 6:23). Jesus obeyed the Father and went to His death in order that you and I could live, even knowing He had done no wrong, because He loved us so much.

God's reaction to the sacrifice of Jesus gives the cross eternal beauty. Because of what Jesus did, God can look at those of us who have accepted Christ as their Savior, and see us as no longer His enemy, but instead as new creatures who are pure and sinless. Jesus alone restored the fellowship between God the Father and mankind. Jesus has been glorified and He was, is and will always be worthy of praise and worship.

Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 1:27-29, *"But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence."* (NKJV)

In a nutshell, it is the love of God the Father and Jesus His Son for the lost that has transformed the cross, an instrument devised for the purpose of eliciting extreme torture and death, into a thing of beauty. Let us who are God's children do no less than Paul, and *"boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ"*.