

# ***At the Cross***

Jesus Died to Defeat Our Enemies

March 14, 2010

## **Colossians 2:8-15**

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, triumphing over them by the cross.

## **1 John 2:15-16**

<sup>15</sup>Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and the pride in possessions – is not from the Father but is from the world.

## **1 Corinthians 15:54-55**

<sup>54</sup>When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

<sup>55</sup>“O death, where is your victory?

O death where is your sting?”

## **Ephesians 6:12**

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

# **Discussion Questions**

How many enemies do you have?

Is enemy a strong word to use?

Is having an enemy an enjoyable experience?

Read verse 15 again.

Who are the rulers and authorities?

How did Jesus disarm them?

What do you think about viewing ‘the world’ as your enemy?

Is it a defeated enemy?

Do you think of death as an enemy?

In what way is it and is it not an enemy?

How is it a defeated enemy?

How is Satan our enemy?

If he is defeated, does he still have power?

How has Jesus destroyed one of his greatest weapons?

What place can/should these victories play in our daily life?