
Stand-Alone Message

TURNING TOWARD THE CROSS

A message for the Lenten season / Hebrews 2:14-18

By Josh McNall

Introduction: Each year, Christians across the globe observe the season of Lent. Its purpose is to turn our hearts to the cross as we prepare to celebrate the joy and hope that Easter brings. Yet understanding *how* a Roman cross brings “good news” is not always easy. Questions abound: How exactly is a brutal death salvific for followers of Jesus? What is happening in the sacrifice of the Messiah? And what does it look like to prepare our hearts to experience a fresh sense of God’s transforming love?

Today we’ll seek answers in a single passage from the book of Hebrews, as we turn our gaze toward the miracle of Jesus’s work.

1. The “HOW?” of the cross is directly connected to the “WHO?” of Jesus Christ.

Heb 1:1–3; Heb 2:14a

2. The cross breaks SATAN’S POWER by removing his ability to condemn.

Heb 2:14b

3. The cross frees us not only from DEATH'S REIGN—but from the enslavement that comes from living constantly in *fear*.

Heb 2:15

The Big Idea: Turn toward the cross this Lenten season by committing to read, to pray, and to serve in cross-shaped ways.