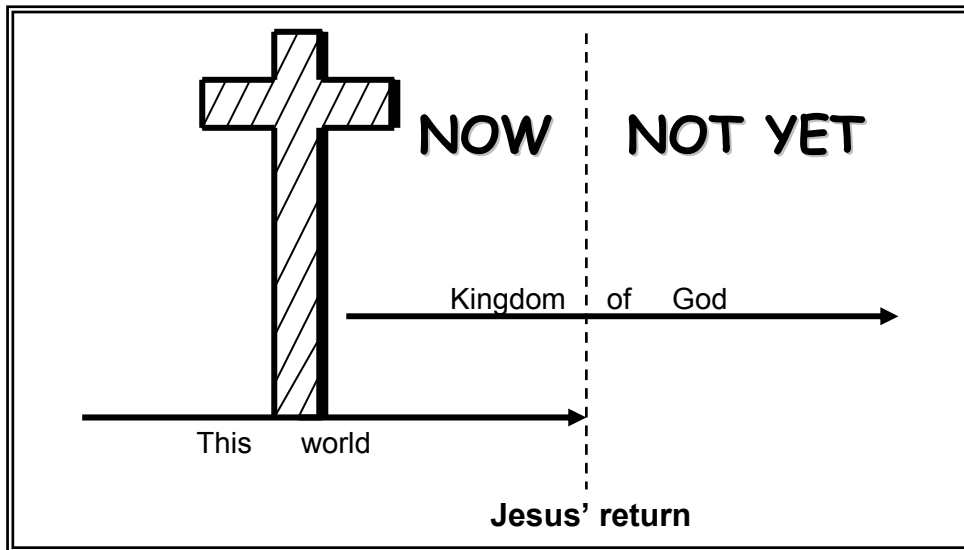




# Cross Purposes 6

## The way of the cross



Romans 6:5

**Now**



**NOT YET**

*"We **have** been united with him in his death"*

*"We **will** be united with him in his resurrection"*

### The offence of the cross:

*Read Mk.8:27-33*

What did Peter understand about Jesus' identity?

Why did Jesus rebuke him?

Do you think Jesus would rebuke us? Why? Or why not?

### The demands of the cross:

*Read Mk.8:34*

What three demands does Jesus make on those who would be his disciples?

- What does it mean to deny oneself? What will it mean for us in practice?
- What did it mean in the 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman Empire to take up one's cross? What will it mean for us today?
- What did it mean for the disciples to follow Jesus? What will that mean for us?

"When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die"  
 [Dietrich Bonhoeffer]

## A cross-shaped life:

“To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an **example** that you should follow in his steps.”  
[1Pet.2:21]

“example” = **TRACING**

tracing Jesus’ life in ours

*Rom.8:16-17*

What’s the condition of our inheritance and hope of glory?

*Phil.3:10-11; Col.1:24; 1Pet.4:12-13*

In what ways do we share in Jesus’ suffering? In what ways can we *not* share it?

*2Cor.4:8-12*

How should we respond to suffering for Christ?

*1Pet.4:12-16*

What does such suffering achieve?

**WITNESS = MARTYR**

## The victory of the cross:

VICTORY PREDICTED (*Gen.3:15; Is.53*)

VICTORY SECURED (*Heb.2:14; Col.2:13-15*)

VICTORY DECLARED (*Rom.1:1-5; Act.10:39-40*)

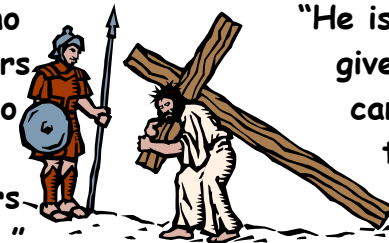


VICTORY LIVED OUT (*Eph.2:6-7; Col.3:1-3*)

VICTORY COMPLETE (*Rom.16:20; 1Cor.15:24-26*)

“There are no crown-wearers in heaven who were not cross-bearers here below.”

[CH Spurgeon]



“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose.”

[Jim Elliot]