

## **THE NAILS OF THE CROSS** **(Colossians 2:14)**

### **I. They drove down the faithfulness of God.**

- a. The promise of Jesus coming to this earth was first given to the serpent (Genesis 3:15).
- b. Later, this promise was made to Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3).
  - i. It was given to him again on two other occasions.
  - ii. It was also given to Isaac and Jacob.
- c. We know that it was fulfilled in Christ (Luke 2:11).
- d. Jesus emphasized the certainty of its happening (Luke 24:44-47).
- e. As we think about this promise being fulfilled in Christ, surely we understand that if God kept this promise, the one that involved the death of His only begotten Son, then He will keep all His promises to us.
  - i. Jesus will come again (2 Peter 3:9).
  - ii. God will never leave us (Hebrews 13:5).
  - iii. God will grant our requests that are according to His will (Matthew 7:7-11).
  - iv. We will not be tempted above what we are able to bear (1 Corinthians 10:13).
  - v. Heaven is the home of the saved for all eternity (John 14:1-3).
- f. When we think of the nails of the cross, we need to realize that they drove down the faithfulness of God.

### **II. They joined together Christ and His church.**

- g. Ephesians 5:23-27.
- h. Did you notice the phrase in that text "and gave Himself for it"?
  - i. Jesus died for the church.
  - ii. He paid for it with His blood (Acts 20:28).
- i. Jesus and His church are inseparable.
- j. Don't let anyone get away with saying the church is not important.
  - i. It cost the Lord His life.
  - ii. His death brought a relationship between the church and Him that nothing can break.
- k. When we think of the nails of the cross, we need to realize they joined Jesus to His church.

### **III. They drove down baptism as a condition of pardon.**

- l. Romans 6:3-6.
- m. Those that are baptized into Christ are baptized into His death.
- n. You and I obey a likeness of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus when we are baptized into Christ.
  - i. This is where we appropriate the benefits of His death for us.
  - ii. We obtain the remission of our sins (Acts 2:38).
  - iii. We have our sins washed away (Acts 22:16).
  - iv. We are saved (1 Peter 3:21).
- o. You and I are washed in the blood of Christ when we are baptized (Revelation 1:5).

- p.No other act takes away sin and until one is baptized sin remains as stains on his soul.
- q.When we think of the nails of the cross, we need to realize they drove down baptism as a condition of pardon.

#### **IV. They forever closed every other approach to God.**

- r.Colossians 2:14.
- s.Jesus is the only way to God (John 14:6).
- t.Jesus is the only door to salvation (John 10:9).
- u.Jesus is the only Good Shepherd (John 10:11).
- v.This means we aren't saved by:
  - i.The Old Testament.
  - ii.Another testimony of Jesus Christ.
  - iii.Doctrines of men, creeds, feelings, traditions, or any other means.
- w.It is only through the blood shed at the cross that one can approach God.
- x.When we think of the nails of the cross, we need to realize they forever closed every other approach to God.

#### **V. They fastened in place a picture of God's hatred for sin.**

- y.If you listen to the vocabulary of man, it would seem that we are under the impression that God does not really hate sin.
  - i.We call adultery an affair.
  - ii.We call dishonesty a little white lie.
  - iii.We call drunkenness a party.
  - iv.We call abortion women's healthcare.
  - v.We call homosexuality an alternative lifestyle.
- z.To God, sin is sin.
  - i.Proverbs 6:16-19.
  - ii.Hebrews 1:9.
- aa.We need to realize the fate of those who die while involved in sin (Revelation 21:8).
- bb.When we think of the nails of the cross, we need to realize they fastened in place a picture of God's hatred for sin.

#### **VI. They forever drove down the fact of God's love for mankind.**

- cc.John 3:16.
- dd.Romans 5:8.
- ee.We can't doubt God's love for us.
  - i.No parent could ever look at God and think that He doesn't love us if he or she looks at the cross.
  - ii.God didn't throw away the life of Jesus on the cross, He showed us His love.
- ff.When we think of the nails of the cross, we need to realize they forever drove down the fact of God's love for mankind.