

Galatians 5:11, I Corinthians 1:23

July 14, 2024

## The Offense of the Cross

### 1. What's the message of Christ crucified?

#### a. Facts of the Cross

I Corinthians 15:3,4

#### b. Response to the Cross

Romans 10:9

#### c. The blessing of God through the work of the Cross

John 3:16

Ephesians 1:3

### 2. Jesus has always been offensive!

Matthew 11:2-6

### 3. Why was this message offensive to the Judaizers and other Jews?

Galatians 5:11, Romans 9:30-33

#### a. It strips away pride showing

i. The failure of human righteousness

ii. The failure of heritage to bring salvation

### 4. Why is Jesus and the message of the cross offensive today?

#### a. Jesus' exclusive path to God claim

John 14:6

#### b. Jesus' truth claim

#### c. Jesus' depravity of man claim

Luke 13:1-5

#### d. Jesus' demands for total submission

Luke 14:25-27

#### e. Jesus' death demonstrates God's wrath

John 3:36

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Stumbling Block References: I Corinthians 1:23, Romans 9:33,

Matthew 11:6, 13:57, 15:12, 24:10, 26:31, 33

Mark 6:3, 14:27,

Luke 7:23

John 6:61

Those that are offended by the cross are blatantly rejecting Jesus.

Offend means to cause to feel upset, resentful, irritated, annoyed

In this case, the message of the cross, or the truth of Jesus dying on the cross is a snare, or trap that causes one to stumble, fall. For those who are trusting in their own righteousness in some way for salvation, the message that only Jesus can achieve the righteousness of God will cause them to fall

If Paul preaches circumcision the message will not be offensive to the Jews (or at least to many of them) He

Jesus has always been offensive because His message is offensive.

How is Jesus offensive today?

- Jesus is exclusive, narrow
- Jesus rejects pride and only gives grace to the humble
- Jesus defines truth:
  - What is righteous and unrighteous, right and wrong
- Jesus demands to be Lord, Master, Supreme above man....demanding obedience to His words

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- Jesus rejects all those who rely on their own works to earn salvation

Right and Wrong are not social constructs. There is an absolute right and wrong that transcends all people, in all places, in all times.

If Paul would have preached circumcision then the offense of the cross would have been taken away.

Offending someone is not sinful. Offense that is spoken in love

Exclusivity of Jesus	Inclusivity of Jesus