

Power of the Cross - CYC 2020

Before God said, "Let there be light," He already knew what he wanted to do with people. He was predetermined. Look at the interesting language in Ephesians. God is going to accomplish his plan for people in Jesus Christ. Ephesians 3:9-12 says, *"...and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence."*

The cross is a plus sign for all people. It adds God and people and people and people. God and people can be reconciled. People can be reconciled with other people. The cross is the ultimate before and after sign. Blood connects God and people. We were brought near to God by the blood of Christ. Before the cross, people were separated and afraid of God. They hid from him. God showed blood trails throughout the Bible leading up to the death of Christ. With the blood of the cross, we have access to everything.

After we access the blood of the Christ we have the before and after things. We walk differently after the cross. We walk worthy, Ephesians 4:1-6. We walk in love, Ephesians 5:1. We walk as children of light, Ephesians 5:8. We are different from the person we were before.

Your before the cross and after the cross picture have to be different. Life is different when you have access to the power of Christ. Now we have the power of God to help us deal with people. We are surrounded by imperfect people. If God forgives us, he also expects us to forgive and work with other people. We can do that through the power of the cross.

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