



ssentials

KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE

EXAMINING THE TEXT

The Death of Christ

Read the following verses:

Mark 10:32-34, 45; John 10:14-15, 17-18;
1 Cor. 15:3-4

1. 1 Corinthians 15:3 talks about things of “first importance” or essential things. The Corinthians had many issues that were distracting them from really focusing on God. According to Paul, what is the item of first importance? Why would Paul bring them back to this essential in verse 3?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. How does the death of Christ on the cross resolve the conflict between mankind’s sin, God’s righteousness and God’s love?
2. Read Revelation 1:5; 5:12; 7:14; 12:11 & 13:8. These verses emphasize Christ as the redeeming Lamb. How does the thought in these verses compare with the notion that the cross of Christ is merely a beginning point (an elementary stage) which advanced believers have progressed beyond and left behind?

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

1. Many Christians from Calvinistic and Reformed backgrounds teach that Christ died only for the sins of the elect (those whom God in His foreknowledge knew would believe). Other Christians teach that Christ died for the sins of all mankind. Which of these views is consistent with Scripture?
2. Realizing that we Christians are still sinners, yet still forgiven based upon Christ’s redemption, what should our response to Him be? (see Luke 7:36-47).