



# THE CROSS

the curse and the cure

A wooden cross stands in a desolate, hazy landscape. The cross is made of weathered wood and is the central focus. In the foreground, a crown of thorns and two nails are visible on the ground. The background is a misty, brownish-grey sky, suggesting a somber and reflective atmosphere.


**In the beginning, humanity hid behind  
a tree to escape from God.**

**At the cross, God hung on a tree  
to bring humanity out of hiding.**

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**“For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”**

**1 Corinthians 15:22 NIV**

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**“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: ‘Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.’”**

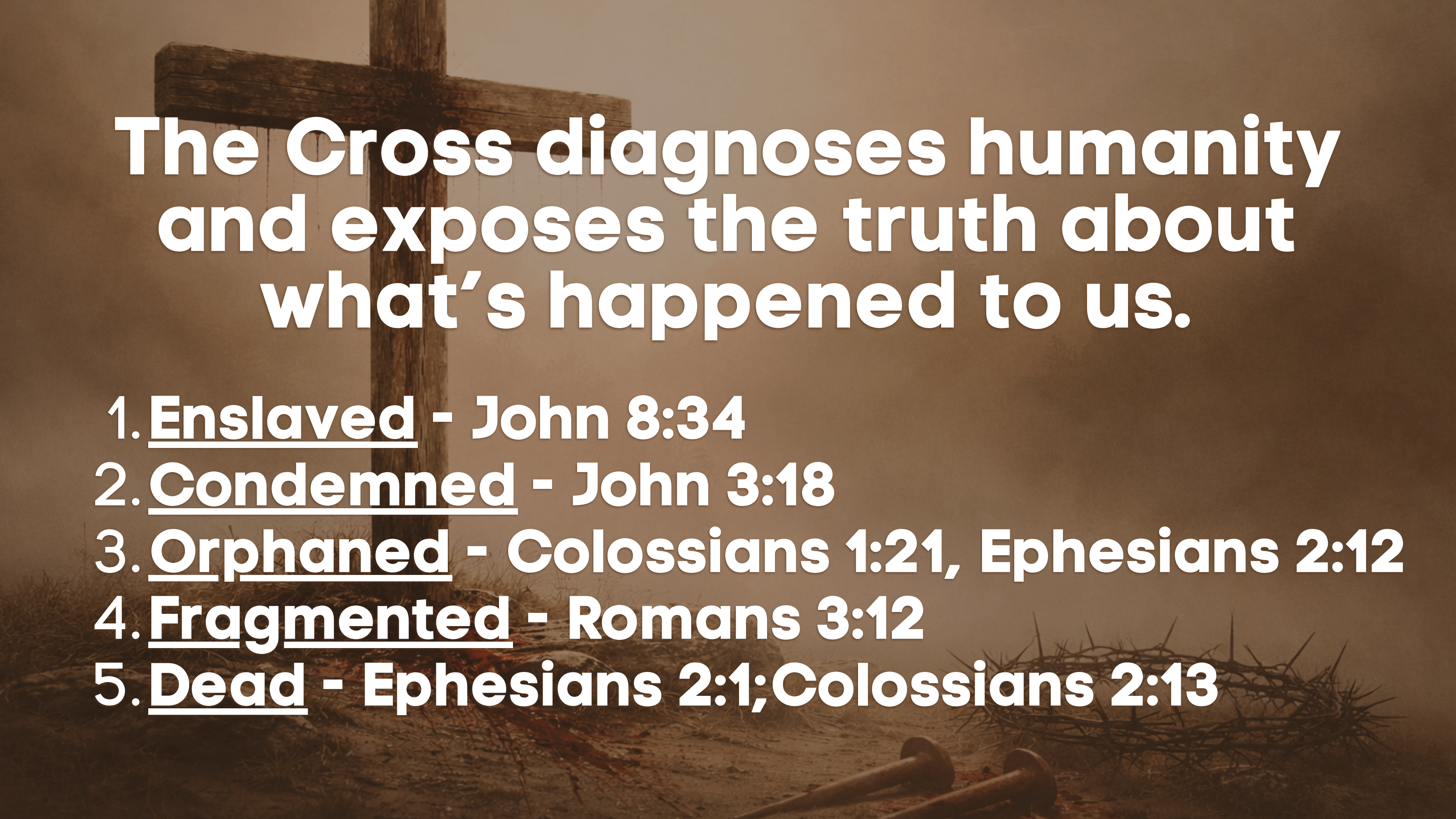
**Galatians 3:13 NIV**

# Reverse the Curse

<b>Adam and Eve (Genesis 1-3)</b>	<b>Jesus Christ (The Gospels)</b>	<b>Theological Truth (What this Means)</b>
<b>Created in Paradise (Gen 2:8)</b>	<b>Leaves heaven; enters the broken world (John 1:14)</b>	<b>God moves toward what was lost; not away from it.</b>
<b>Tempted in the Garden (Gen 3:4)</b>	<b>Overcomes temptation in a Garden (Matt 26:36, 39)</b>	<b>Jesus succeeds where humanity failed.</b>
<b>Disobeyed God in the Garden (Gen 3:6)</b>	<b>Obeys in a Garden (Luke 22:42)</b>	<b>Humanity fell through disobedience; redemption comes through Christ's obedience.</b>
<b>Sin enters the world through them (Gen 3:6-7, Rom 5:12)</b>	<b>Salvation enters the world through Him (Luke 19:10, Acts 2:38; Eph 2:5-7)</b>	<b>The cross is not a reaction; it is an invasion and a reversal.</b>

<b>Covered their own nakedness (Gen 3:7)</b>	<b>Stripped naked and exposed (Matt 27:28, 35)</b>	<b>Human self-covering is replaced by divine covering.</b>
<b>Experienced shame (Gen 3:7)</b>	<b>Despised and shamed (Isa 53:3)</b>	<b>Jesus absorbs shame to remove it from us.</b>
<b>Hid behind a tree (Gen 3:8)</b>	<b>Hanged publicly on a tree (Luke 23:33; Gal 3:13)</b>	<b>What was hidden in shame is exposed and healed in Christ.</b>
<b>Curse enters (Gen 3:17)</b>	<b>Becomes the curse (Gal 3:13)</b>	<b>Jesus doesn't avoid the curse. He embodies and removes it.</b>

<b>Adam and Eve (Genesis 1-3)</b>	<b>Jesus Christ (The Gospels)</b>	<b>Theological Truth (What this Means)</b>
<b>Thorns from the ground (Gen 3:18)</b>	<b>Thorns worn as a crown (Matt 27:29)</b>	<b>The symbol of curse becomes the symbol of redemption</b>
<b>God clothes them (Gen 3:21)</b>	<b>Christ clothes us in righteousness (Gal 3:27)</b>	<b>God still provides covering, now fully in Christ</b>
<b>Driven out of Paradise (Gen 3:23)</b>	<b>Promises Paradise (Luke 23:43)</b>	<b>Exile is reversed, and access is restored</b>

A wooden cross stands in a field. In the foreground, a crown of thorns lies on the ground. The background is a soft, hazy landscape.

**The Cross diagnoses humanity  
and exposes the truth about  
what's happened to us.**

- 1. Enslaved - John 8:34**
- 2. Condemned - John 3:18**
- 3. Orphaned - Colossians 1:21, Ephesians 2:12**
- 4. Fragmented - Romans 3:12**
- 5. Dead - Ephesians 2:1; Colossians 2:13**



**The Cross doesn't just reveal who we were, it equally prescribes what we can become.**

- 1. Freed - John 8:36**
- 2. Justified - Romans 5:1**
- 3. Adopted - Romans 8:15**
- 4. Sanctified - Hebrews 10:14**
- 5. Glorified - Romans 8:30**

# A Restorative Vision:

This is the kind of life the gospel produces; a people who don't just believe the message, but become the message:  
a body formed by love,  
a family marked by maturity and belonging,  
a household that serves, and  
a community that bears witness to an eternal kingdom.



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