

April 3, 2026 - Good Friday

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: Four Observation from the Cross

Series: Good Friday 2026

Text: Colossians 1:15 – 23, Philippians 2:5 - 11

Purpose: I want to PERSUADE my congregation of four life perspectives that guide believers as they walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Introduction:

~ Philippians 2:5 – 11, Read

~ Colossians 1:15 – 23, Read

~ Here we are on Good Friday; there is nothing that we can add to the work of Christ Jesus that was accomplished on the Cross and there is nothing that can ever diminish that work!

~ John 19:30, "When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

~ Matthew 16:24, "Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.""

See Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23 and 14:27

~ As I meditated on Matthew 16:24 my soul was continually brought back to the Cross of our Blessed Saviour; four thought gripped me:

~ on the cross there is limited visibility, ~ there is no going back, ~ personal plans are over,

~ love is the binding force

1. The Cross Offers Primarily a Forward Vision:

~ When nailed to a cross after sever beating there is limited mobility thus nullifying the ability to look in 360 degrees; there are times walking to work that I have discomfort turning my trunk to check for traffic, I need to stop and turn my whole body. I cannot imagine being nailed to a cross; the primary vision would be forward.

~ Hebrews 12:2, "looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

~ Hebrews 12:1, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,"

~ Galatians 6:14, "But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."

~ Song – I have decided to follow Jesus

2. The Cross Offers No Going Back:

~ Matthew 16:21, "From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

~ Matthew 26:53, "Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels."

At the time of Augustus a Roman legion consisted of 6,100 foot soldiers and 726 horsemen for a total of 6,826 men. 6,826 X 12 =81,912

~ Luke 9:62, "Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

~ 2 Timothy 4:10, "For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia."

~ Psalm 27:4 and 8, "One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple." (8) "You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."

3. The Cross Results in an End to Personal Plans:

~ Luke 22:42, "say, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."

~ 2 Corinthians 5:9, "So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him."

~ Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who love me and gave himself for me"

4. The Cross is a Love Commitment:

~ Colossians 1:22 – 23, "he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, (23) if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister."

~ 2 Corinthians 5:14, "For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died,"

Conclusion:

Communion