

March Edition: Would Today's Society Crucify Christ?

Would Today's Society Crucify Christ?



People Today and People at the Crucifixion

Would today's society crucify Christ? Today, people tend to pretend that we have advanced in our morals --that we're past the "sin" thing. But in actuality, we have only advanced in technology and in ways to numb ourselves to sin's reality. Think about it: We have "reality shows" which do not represent reality. Our phones constantly light up and distract us from the true Light: Jesus Christ. Music inundates our senses at stores so that we ignore the still, small voice inviting us to come to Christ. Countless ads and incentives entice us to buy our way to happiness. Yet when our shopping sprees finish and the carts are empty and when the parties end, people find themselves with empty hearts. Social media and other forms of media attract our attention so that we ignore the truth of Christ.

How people in our society function and treat Christ today is just like those who participated in actual crucifixion, which was prophesied and described in Isaiah 53:3-4 (TLB): "We despised him and rejected him--a man of sorrows, acquainted with bitterest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way when he went by. He was despised, and we didn't care. Yet it was our grief he bore, our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, for his own sins!"

How Our Modern Society Treats Jesus

You hear it everywhere: Today, people use the Name of Jesus as a swear word, dragging His Name in the dirt like He was some kind of criminal. People treated innocent Jesus as a criminal when He was crucified between two criminals. You see it everywhere: Secular society mocks Jesus -just like the people who mocked Jesus on the cross.

Would Today's Society Crucify Christ?

So would today's society crucify Christ? The answer is a heart-piercing, horrifying "yes." It is because Jesus Christ, as the perfect, holy, good, and only Son of God, reminds us of our rebellion and sin against God. And humans in power will do anything to keep their power instead of identifying their sin and repenting of it. The Bible says, "If we claim we have not sinned, we are lying and calling God a liar, for he says we have sinned" (1 John 1:10, TLB). Sin is serious: Sin is rejecting God and doing things our way instead of His Way. It's falling short of the glory of God. We are not God. He is God. And we offend Him when we reject His loving, righteous, holy reign and break His commandments, which are based out of His love and what is best for us.

People Today Still Act Like Pilate, Peter, and Judas

Pilate initially didn't want to crucify Christ. He knew it was a power-driven, politically motivated move by Jewish leaders who felt threatened by Christ. But, when the crowds cried out for Christ to be crucified, Pilate caved to the pressure. Countless people are like Pilate today: They desire the approval of people more than God. They choose popularity instead of Jesus.

Then there are the people who are like "Peter": They decide to go "all in" with Jesus and then, when their preconceived visions are dashed by unexpected tragedy, misunderstanding, and difficulty, they deny and run from Jesus when the going gets tough.

Oh, and people who are like Judas certainly do exist today. They trade and betray Jesus for money and do not even blink. But they always despair at the end.

Faithful Followers of Jesus

However, we can't forget about the faithful followers! These true Christians are like those who stayed with Jesus at the foot of the cross and wouldn't leave Him because they loved Him and kept His commandments with disregard of people's approval.

Yes, today's society is comprised of people who are just like those present when Jesus was crucified and resurrected. Today's society is comprised of sinful human beings who misidentify and mistreat Jesus constantly. Yet Jesus still offers us Himself.

The GOOD News of Good Friday

Yes! The Good News of Good Friday remains current Good News: God still offers us a chance to turn to Jesus no matter how we've treated Him in the past. Listen: It's not too late! Come to Jesus. He'll clean you, make you a new creation, free you from the effects of sin and death, and give you His victory!

Or if you've drifted in your devotion, do not despair: Just come to Jesus and remember that "If we [freely] admit that we have sinned and confess our sins, He is faithful and just [true to His own nature and promises], and will forgive our sins and cleanse us continually from all unrighteousness [our wrongdoing, everything not in conformity with His will and purpose]" (1 John 1:9).

Hallelujah! He lives! And, because He lives, we have the facts that we who know Him will be with Him forever in Heaven! That makes Good Friday so good. That makes Easter worth celebrating today and every day! I Corinthians 15:57 surges joy in my heart: "How we thank God for all of this! It is he who makes us victorious through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (1 Corinthians 15:57)

(Do you know Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord? He's the only Way to Heaven. He said so. [Click here](#) to learn how to know God and go to Heaven.)

-Stacie Ruth Stoelting Hudzinski

Good Friday and Easter Messages by Billy Graham



Billy Graham shares the triumphant message of the Resurrection, reading from John 19-20 and I Corinthians 15. Taken from an Easter address filmed in Jerusalem, 1960.



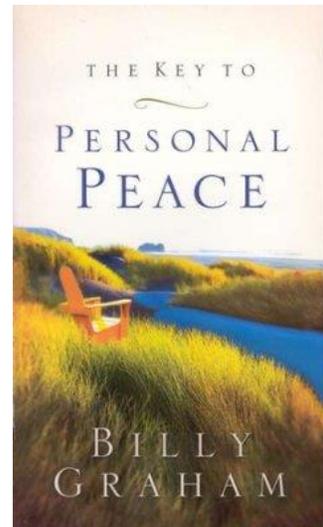
Billy Graham - Why the cross? (Charlotte NC 1958)
Billy Graham explains why Jesus had to die on the cross.

**Request a Free Copy of
The Key to Personal Peace by Billy Graham**

Update: We're amazed and touched by the great response to our give-way of *The Key To Personal Peace*. It's been exciting to how this has been used to share about Jesus, encourage others in their faith, and remember Billy Graham as well. Please be sure to request your free copy, too!

[The Key to Personal Peace](#) Click here to request a free copy of *The Key to Personal Peace* by Billy Graham. In honor of Billy Graham, Unite the USA is excited to have the opportunity to give away copies of one of his books. It's a short book yet filled with truth and hope. We are so happy to have the blessing of giving you a copy as a gift.

God bless you,
Carrie and Stacie



The Key to Personal Peace by Billy Graham

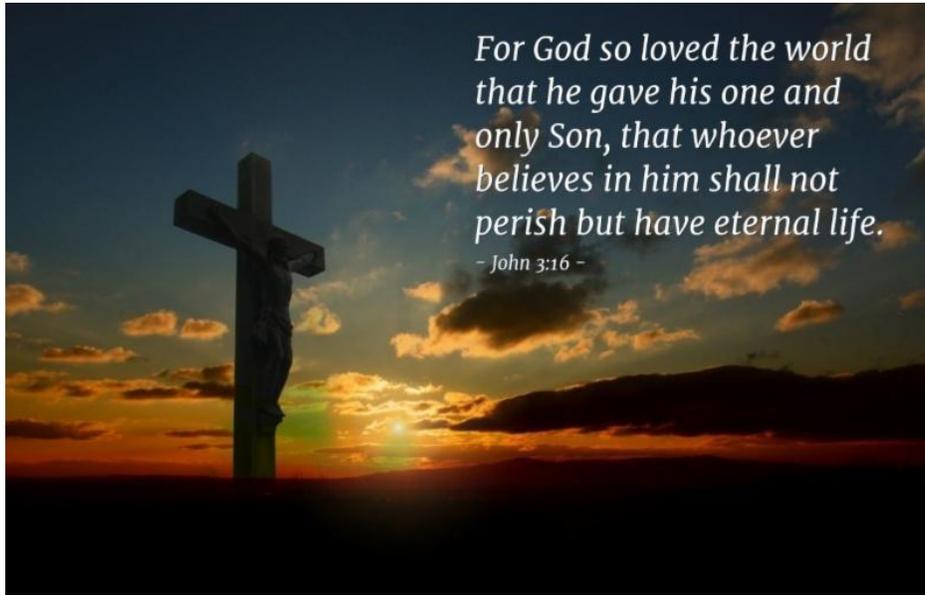
We live in unsettling times colored by terrorism, political unrest, natural calamities (including devastating earthquakes, hurricanes, and tsunamis), and moral decline. Where can we find comfort? Graham offers hope and a road map to peace---not just in this world, but in the world to come. An excellent "outreach" book for personal evangelism. (57 pages, softcover)

Featured Quote

"Beginning today and culminating on Sunday morning, Christians will celebrate with their families the resurrection of Christ, His victory over death. We will remember that He gave His body and His blood--washing clean the faults and the shortcomings of the world. In our rejoicing we will renew the hope that is ours through the risen Lord."

President Ronald Reagan

This Month's Bible Verse



"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." **John 3:16**

The Power of the Cross



Keith and Kristyn Getty perform "The Power of the Cross".

The Power of the Cross

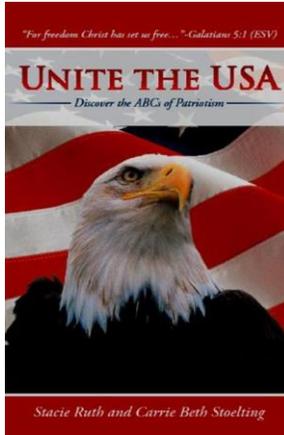
Oh, to see the dawn
Of the darkest day,
Christ on the road to Calvary.

Tried by sinful men,
Torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

[Chorus]

This, the power of the cross,
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame, bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross.
Oh, to see the pain
Written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought,
Every evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.
Now the daylight flees
Now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two,
Dead are raised to life,
"Finished!" the victory cry.
Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.
This, the power of the cross
Son of God slain for us
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Order Now



Unite the USA: Discover the ABCs of Patriotism is a new book by **Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth Stoelting**. It's a book that empowers patriots to make a big difference in the land we love. With 100+ ways to make a positive difference in America, *Unite the USA* is a must-have tool for patriots. *Unite the USA* will inspire and educate Americans to defend faith and freedom. (Important Note: All proceeds go to fund the mission of UnitetheUSA.org.) Order it here today!

In God We Still Trust an inspiring album dedicated to God and veterans by Stacie and Carrie Stoelting



Per request from veterans who love patriotic and inspiring music sung by Stacie and Carrie, [In God We Still Trust](#) was recorded. From the National Anthem to "God Bless America" you will be inspired and uplifted about our God-given freedoms. All proceeds go to Unite the USA. Help promote faith and freedom in America. Your support is important and appreciated. [ShopBuy or download a copy today](#). God bless you as you celebrate the red, white, and blue!

In God We Still Trust Video

Our country needs to turn to Jesus. Listen to "In God We Still Trust" for inspiration to keep "fighting the good fight". For hope and encouragement, listen to Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth sing "In God We Still Trust".



Share and Sign Up

Be sure to share this edition with your friends. Sign up for Unite the USA's free monthly e-mail [Shophere!](#)

Booking Info



Celebrate the true spirit of America with Carrie Beth and Stacie Ruth. Book Stacie and Carrie for concert or conference! E-mail info@unitetheusa.org for more information.