

## JOHN 12:32

# JESUS CHRIST, LIFTED UP ON THE CROSS

*“But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” John 12:32*

The words “lifted up” refer to the cross of Christ, to His death upon the cross. Jesus said that once He is “lifted up,” He will draw all men to Himself. Note two points.

1. Note why the cross of Christ attracts men. It was the cross...
  - that delivered men from sin, death, and hell.
  - that made it possible for men to live abundantly and eternally.
  - that gave to men the presence and power of God’s Spirit to guide and care for them day by day.
2. Note how the cross of Christ gives so much to man. Very simply stated, Jesus died *for man* on the cross. When a man believes that Jesus died *for him*, God takes that man’s belief and counts it as righteousness. God simply *counts* the man as perfect. The man is not righteous, nowhere close to being perfect. The man, God, and everyone else knows he is not perfect. But the man honours God’s Son by believing in Him; therefore, God honours the man.

The point to see is that God will do anything for the person who truly honours His Son. God loves His Son so much that He is willing to do anything for anyone who honours Jesus. If a man honours Jesus by believing and following Jesus, God will take that man’s faith and...

- count his faith as righteousness
- deliver him from sin and from death
- give him both abundant and eternal life (Jn. 10:10)
- place the Holy Spirit and His power within the man to help him live day by day (1 Cor. 6:19-20; Rom. 8:1-39; Gal. 5:22-23).

The point is this: it is the cross of Christ that breaks the power of Satan in the world. It is the cross of Christ that “drives out” Satan: his power, his rule, and his reign. Man, by believing that Christ died for him, can now be counted righteous and delivered from the power of Satan, from the evil power that entices him to sin and that causes him to die and face the judgment of God. Man can now know the power of God, the power that freely forgives him and gives him life forever. Man can now experience the marvellous grace of God. □