

the cross how life's poor distinctions vanish away, and how the area of a common manhood widens and brightens! We preach Christ crucified as teaching most impressively this most important lesson. The crucified Lord thus determined for his disciples the legitimate results of their allegiance to him. They are to be crucified to the controlling power of the world's lusts, and the world is to be crucified to them.

We preach Christ crucified as fulfilling upon the cross the law of perfect obedience. This law found its noblest and most impressive embodiment in the life and in the death of the Saviour. His blood was the seal set to his mission. The special work given him to do was finished at the cross. The majesty of the moral law was vindicated. The soul had triumphed. Sin, with its seductive snares, was beneath its feet. The moral law had been broken; through Christ its unity and vigor were restored. And moral life is restored to us through the power and strength of Christ's righteousness in its controlling influence over the soul. He was obedient unto death—even the death of the cross. Its shadows fell darkly about his steps. He had been buffeted, scoffed at, neglected, and despised; and the law of perfect obedience had been sustained.

Turn our wills to this consecrated Lord, and we are furnished with power for that integrity of purpose, that strength of character, which shall render us faithful unto death, and shall fit us for the crown of life. So let us turn our wills—so let the moral powers of the Crucified work in our souls, until the cross with its lessons of spiritual obedience shall be re-erected in our affections, and the smoke of this free-will offering shall go up from the altar of our hearts.