

Lincoln
Baptist Church

THE GREAT CROSS OF DISCIPLESHIP

II Thessalonians 1:3-7

³ We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. ⁴ Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

II Thessalonians 1:3-7



⁵ All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. ⁶ God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you ⁷ and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.

II Thessalonians 1:3-7

A stylized illustration in the bottom left corner shows a hand holding a flaming cross. The cross is black with a bright orange and red fire at its center, and a white cross is visible within the fire. The background is a solid red color.

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.



1 Thessalonians 2:13

You took off your former way of life, the old self that is corrupted by deceitful desires; ²³ you are being renewed in the spirit of your minds; ²⁴ you put on the new self, the one created according to God's likeness in righteousness and purity of the truth.

Ephesians 4:22



Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters,
whenever you experience various trials,
³ knowing that the testing of your faith
produces endurance. ⁴ But endurance must do
its complete work, so that you may be mature
and complete, lacking nothing.

James 1:2-4



For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. ¹³ This is why you must take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand.

Ephesians 6:12

A stylized illustration in the bottom left corner shows a hand holding a cross. The cross is black with a red sunburst at its center. The background is a solid red color.

We cannot
prevent
people from
being:

- ❖ OPPRESSIVE
- ❖ SUPPRESSIVE
- ❖ COMPRESSIVE
- ❖ DEPRESSIVE
- ❖ AGGRESSIVE
- ❖ REGRESSIVE

So, we
are called
to love and
encourage
them.



Until they
affect others'
and become
a problem.

- ❖ OPPRESSION (abuse, enslave)
- ❖ SUPPRESSION (restrain, hold down)
- ❖ COMPRESSION (squeeze, pressure)
- ❖ DEPRESSION (sadden, distress)
- ❖ AGGRESSION (attack, dominate)
- ❖ REGRESSION (weaken, set back)



Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you - unless, of course, you fail the test? ⁶ And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test.



II Corinthians 13:5

The Cost of Discipleship

These things that we call
“the great COST” of discipleship
are also our great REWARDS
of discipleship.



THE GREAT
COST
OF DISCIPLESHIP

