

# KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE - PAUL E. LITTLE

## CHAPTER 4: JESUS CHRIST'S DEATH

Theme: The cross of Christ has been called the central fact of Christianity.

1. When the cross of Jesus Christ is called "the central fact of human history," what does that mean?

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2. Why is Christ's death also the central fact of Christianity?

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3. How did Christ's death fulfill the Old Testament sacrificial system?

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4. How do the terms listed below describe Christ's death on the cross?

Atonement

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Ransom

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Reconciliation

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Substitution

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Appeasement

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5. Explain one of the theories that people have used throughout history to minimize the importance of Christ's death on the cross.

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6. How would you answer a friend who asked you, "Why was the cross necessary? Why couldn't God just forgive?"

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7. How would you answer a friend who asked you, "How could one person die to save the whole world?"

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8. "The gospel is not Christ 'plus' something, as good as that something may be." What does that statement mean?

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9. What does Christ's death mean to you?

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10. Think of someone you know who needs to hear about Jesus Christ's death on the cross. Pray for that person. How might you tell your own experience of Jesus Christ?

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*The gospel is not a set of swimming instructions to a drowning person. It is the God-man jumping in and rescuing a drowning person.*