

Living in the Shadow of the Cross...
I Can See the Motivation to Sing about the Cross
Hebrews 12:1-3
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the motivation we should have to sing about the cross.

- Intro:
1. Read **Hebrews 12:1-3**
 2. Today we will be reminded about the motivation we have to sing about the cross and the importance to do so.
 3. **First, we need to see the motivation to sing.**
 - a. **When we do not actually sing praises to God.**
 1. **Do you hear that sound? Neither does God!**
 - b. **What DOES God hear when we do not sing praise to Him?**
 1. **The sound of an unmotivated servant...**
 2. **The sound of an ungrateful servant**

I. Why the cross?

- A. Symbol of Sacrifice
 1. Jesus Paid It All (song)
 - a. Sin leaves a crimson stain that Christ paid all to remove. (chorus)
 - b. In Christ alone we are made complete (v.3)
 2. The sacrifice of Christ
- B. Symbol of Love & Dedication
 1. There is a Fountain (song)
 2. ***“There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel’s veins”***
 - a. ***“And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains”***
- C. Symbol of Hope
 1. The Way of the Cross Leads Home (song)
 - a. ***“...there is no other way but this; I shall never get sight of the Gates of light if the way of the cross I miss”***

II. Singing about the Cross...

- A. Serves as a Reminder
 1. Lead Me to Calvary (song)
 2. ***“Lest I forget thy thorn-crowned brow, lead me to calvary.”***
 3. ***“May I be willing, Lord, to bear daily my cross for thee; even thy cup of grief to share, thou hast borne all for me.”***
- B. Humbles
 1. A Wonderful Savior (song)
 2. ***“A wonderful savior is Jesus my Lord, He taketh my burden away...”***

III. Lessons for Us Today (**I will sing about the Cross because...**)

- A. I am the reason
 1. When I Survey the Wonderous Cross (song)

2. *“See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down; did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?”*

B. I am grateful.

1. Glory to His Name (song)

2. *“O precious fountain that saves from sin, I am so glad I have entered in; there Jesus saves me and keeps me clean; Glory to His name.”*

C...I will always remember

1. **The scourging and the cross were designed to punish and to kill.**

2. **I will remember, will you? (slides)**

Application & Conclusion:

1. There is a Fountain: *“Ever since by faith I saw the stream thy flowing wounds supply, redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.”*

2. It is clear why we should sing about the cross, it is the place where the Christian finds hope, salvation, grace, mercy & the hope of everlasting life.

3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9