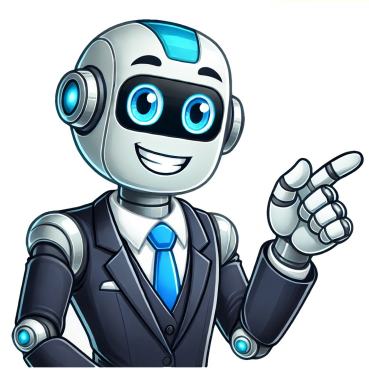


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CROSS (staurós, "a cross," "the crucifixion"; skolops, "a stake," "a pole"): The name is not used in the Old Testament. It is derived from the Latin word *crux*. In the Greek language it is *staurós*, but sometimes we find the word *skolops* used as its Greek equivalent. The historical writers, who transferred the events of Roman history into the Greek language, make use of these two words. No word in human language has become more universally known than this word, and that because all of the history of the world since the death of Christ has been measured by the distance which separates events from it. The symbol and principal content of the Christian religion and of Christian civilization is found in this one word. 1. Forms of the Cross: The cross occurs in at least four different forms: (1) the form usually seen in pictures, the *crux immissa*, in which the upright beam projected above the shorter crosspiece; this is most likely the type of cross on which the Saviour died, as may be inferred from the inscription which was nailed above His head; (2) the *crux commissa*, or Anthony's cross, which has the shape of the letter T; (3) the Greek cross of later date, in which the pieces are equally long; (4) the *crux decussata*, or Andrew's cross, which has the shape of the letter X. 2. Discovery of the True Cross: The early church historians Socrates (1, 17), Sozomen (2, 1), Rufinus (1, 7) and Theodoret (1, 18) all make mention of this tradition. The most significant thing is that Eusebius (Vit. Const., iii.26-28), who carries more weight than they all together, wholly omits it. According to it, Helena, the mother of Constantine the Great, in 325 AD, when she was 79 years old, discovered the true cross of Jesus by an excavation she caused to be made on the traditional spot of His grave. With the cross of the Saviour were found the two crosses of the malefactors who were crucified with Him. A miracle of healing, wrought by touching the true cross, revealed its identity. Whencefound it was intact, even the holy nails of the crucifixion being discovered. The main part of the cross was deposited by Helena in the church she erected at the spot, the church of the Holy Cross. Constantine, and he alone, was placed in a position to check, specify, and authenticate the story. Small fragments of the cross were carried off to other churches, and since many among the heathen scholars were desirous of seeing the relics, the emperor ordered the multiplication of the cross' fragments, and the emperor's designation of the relic as *infecta mater*! (Paulinus, *passim*, 11 Sav.) was thus to be found in many Roman Catholic churches of the Christendom. It is said, that the First eccl. council at Nicaea (325) was convened at the request of the emperor Constantine, and that the emperor Constantine himself presided at the council. The evidence for this fact is late and untrustworthy. It is evident, that the West celebrated the invention of the True Cross, on May 3, since the time of Gregory the Great in the 6th century. The finding and publication of the cross.

[illegible]

painful; in fact, the word excruciating literally means out of crucifying. However, because of Christ and His death on the cross, the meaning of the cross today is completely different.In Christianity, the cross is the intersection of Gods love and His justice. Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29). The reference to Jesus as the Lamb of God points back to the institution of the Jewish Passover in Exodus 12. The Israelites were commanded to sacrifice an unblemished lamb and smear the blood of that lamb on the doorposts of their homes. The blood would be the sign for the Angel of Death to pass over that house, leaving those covered by blood in safety. When Jesus came to John to be baptized, John recognized Him and cried, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! (John 1:29), thereby identifying Him and Gods plan for Him to be sacrificed for sin.One might ask why Jesus had to die in the first place. This is the over-arching message of the Biblethe story of redemption. God created the heavens and the earth, and He created man and woman in His image and placed them in the Garden of Eden to be His stewards on the earth. However, due to the temptations of Satan (the serpent), Adam and Eve sinned and fell from Gods grace. Furthermore, they have passed the curse of sin on to their children so that everyone inherits their sin and guilt. God the Father sent his one and only Son into the world to take on human flesh and to be the Savior of His people. Born of a virgin, Jesus avoided the curse of the fall that infects all other human beings. As the sinless Son of God, He could provide the unblemished sacrifice that God requires. Gods justice demanded judgment and punishment for sin; Gods love moved Him to send His one and only Son to be the propitiation for sin.Because of Jesus atoning sacrifice on the cross, those who place their faith and trust in Him alone for salvation are guaranteed eternal life (John 3:16). However, Jesus called His followers to take up their cross and follow Him (Matthew 16:24). This concept of cross-bearing today has lost much of its original meaning. Typically, we use cross-bearing to denote an inconvenient or bothersome circumstance (e.g., my troubled teen is my cross to bear). However, we must keep in mind that Jesus is calling His disciples to engage in radical self-denial. The cross meant only one thing to a 1st-century persondeath. Whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it (Matthew 16:25). Galatians reiterates this theme of death of the sinful self and rising to walk in new life through Christ: I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me (Galatians 2:20).There are places in the world where Christians are being persecuted, even to the point of death, for their faith. They know what it means to carry their cross and follow Jesus in a very real way. For those of us who are not being persecuted in such fashion, our job is still to remain faithful to Christ. Even if we are never called to give the ultimate sacrifice, we must be willing to do so out of love for the One who saved us and gave His life for us. Return to:Questions about Jesus ChristWhat is the meaning of the cross? Suggest a Verse Suggest a Verse

What is the spiritual meaning of a cross. Meaning cross bible. Does the word cross appear in the bible. What does a cross mean in the bible. What does the cross mean spiritually. Is the word cross in the bible. What is the cross according to the bible.

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