

CROSS #2

No one else could ever accomplish what Jesus did through His death on the cross and yet the Bible teaches we must all be ready to make sacrifices in our own lives as Christians. Consider this from Luke 9:23 “And He was saying to them, ‘If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.’”

It appears that Jesus made this statement quite some time before His own crucifixion. He knew that He was going to die and perhaps every detail of how His death would take place. He realized that the only way He was going to be successful in meeting this challenge was to be totally dedicated to God’s will. So because of this, He was ready to go anywhere, do anything, suffer any loss, to accomplish the goals of the Father.

That understanding of sacrifice and commitment is what Christ was trying to communicate to His followers in the passage we just read. If we really want to be His disciples, we must be willing to humble ourselves by listening to Him and being obedient to His teaching. Then, we take up our cross daily, by doing each day what needs to be done according to His word, and, if necessary, willingly suffering the consequences for doing what is right, regardless of what we may have to endure.