



The Cross

What is it all about?

So many representations but



GREEK



MALTESE



St. ANDREWS



LATIN



PATRIARCHAL



PAPAL

It is a strange object to choose as an emblem.
An instrument of torture and death!!



Would you want to
be associated
with examples of
these ?



So what made the difference?

They were **Depressed Disciples** until Sunday
Their perspective was changed by Jesus' resurrection



The Emmaus road explanation by Jesus
Luke 24: 25-27

The cross – a cursed place



Be sure to bury him that same day, because anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse.

Deuteronomy 21: 23

The cross – a place of sacrifice and atonement
Sin's curse carried and then removed

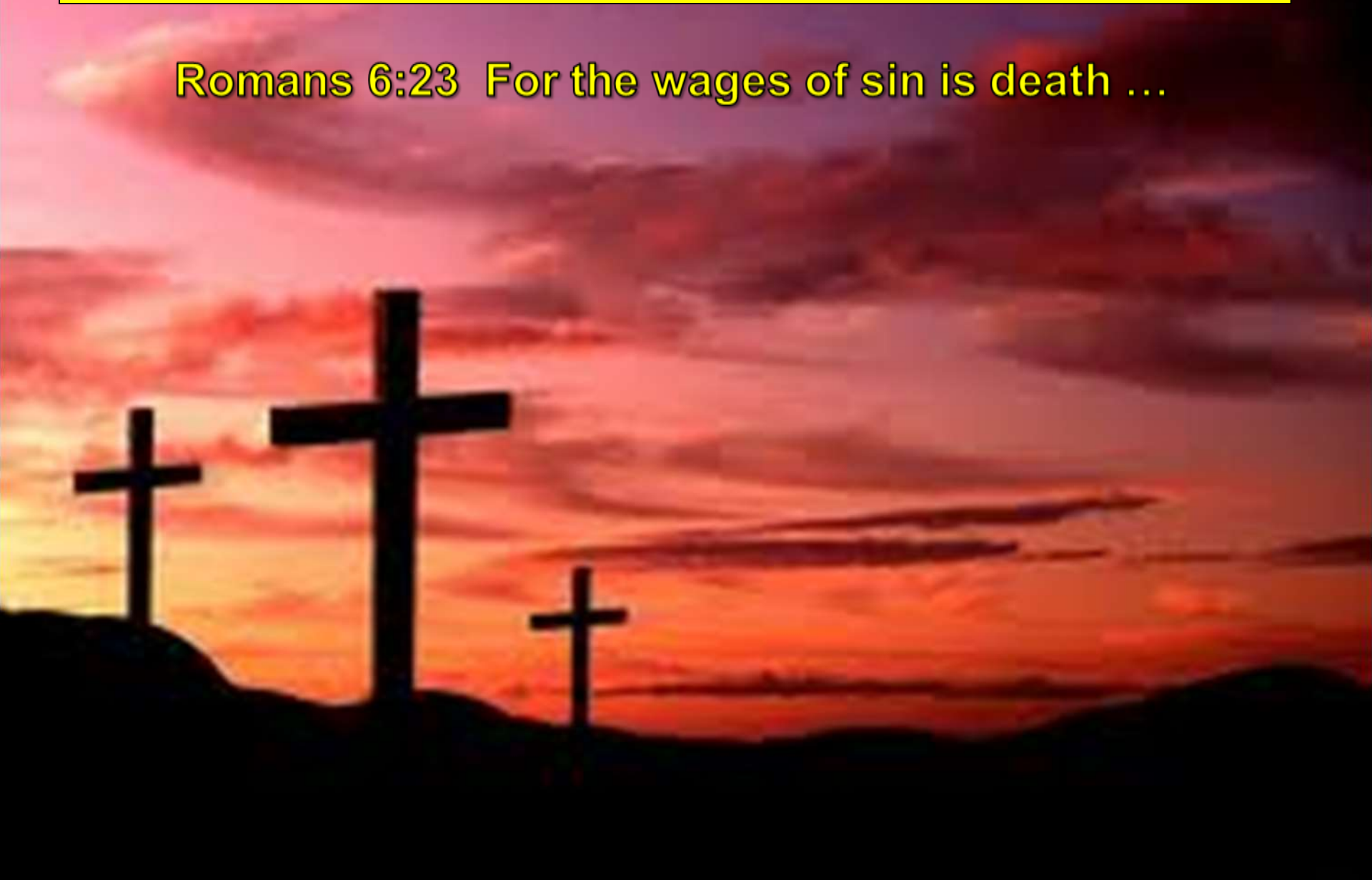


**He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours
but also for the sins of the whole world.**

1 John 2:2

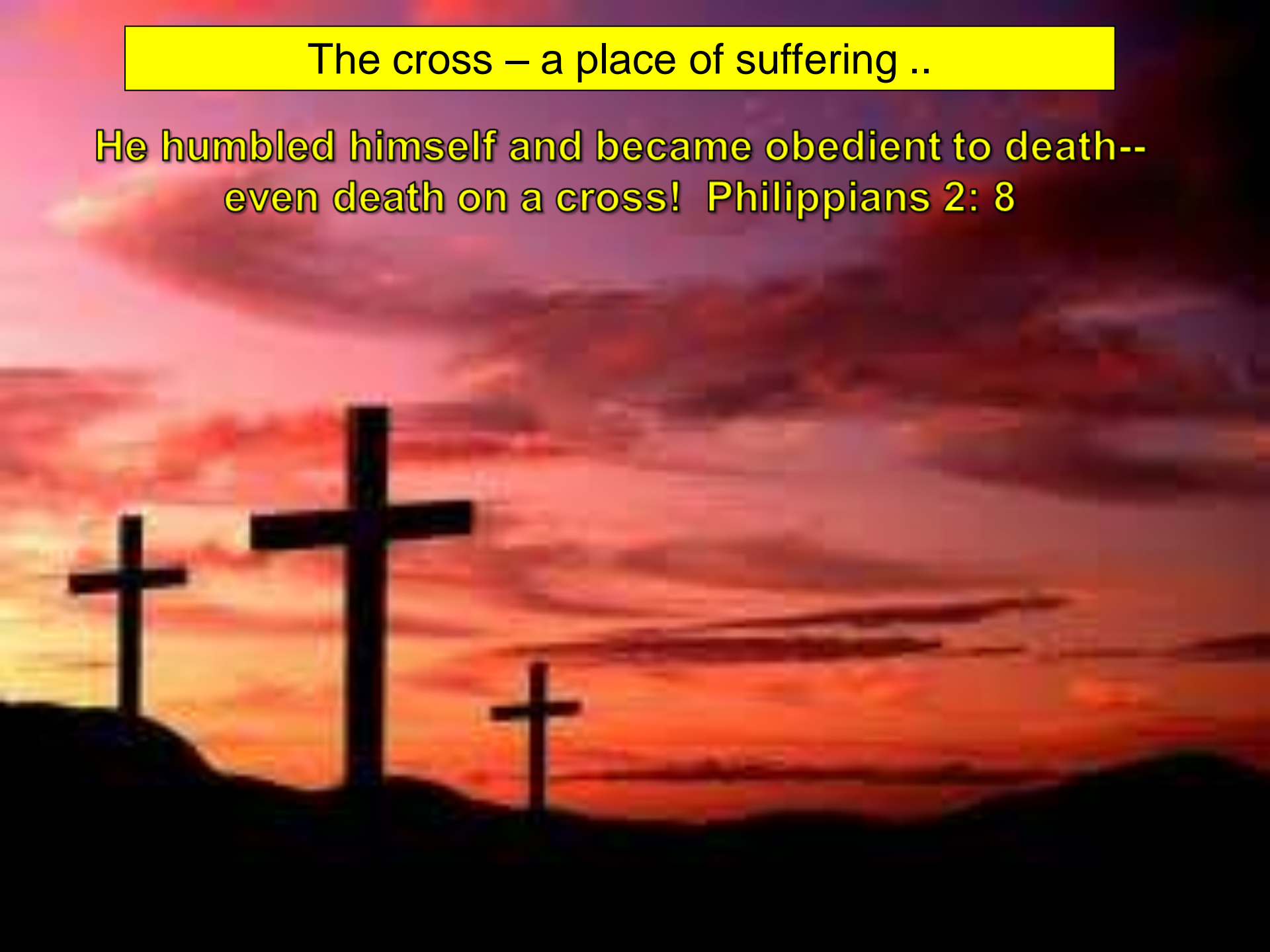
The cross – exposes the darkness of sin
The Cause of death

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death ...



The cross – a place of suffering ..

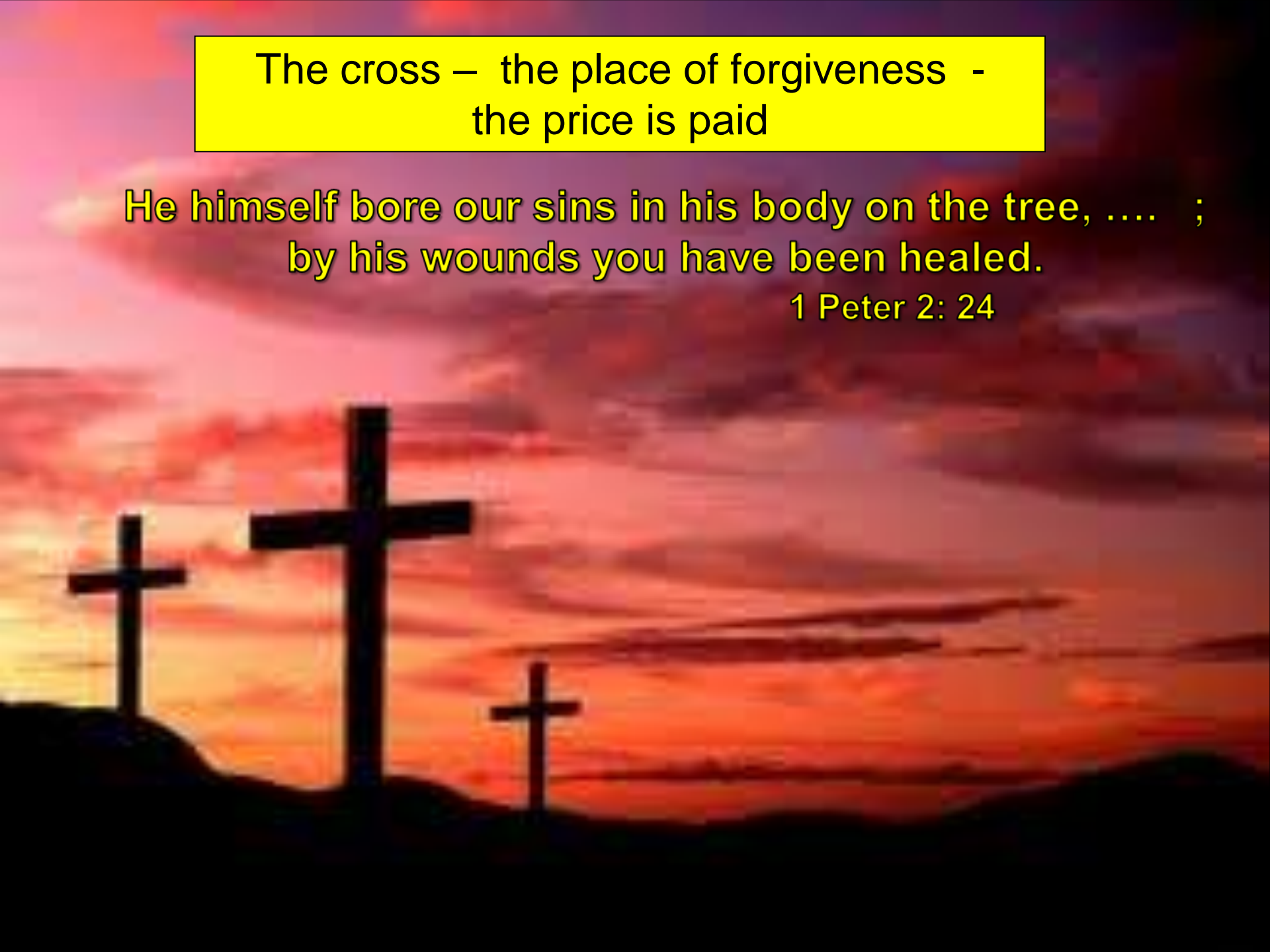
He humbled himself and became obedient to death--
even death on a cross! Philippians 2: 8



The cross – the place of forgiveness -
the price is paid

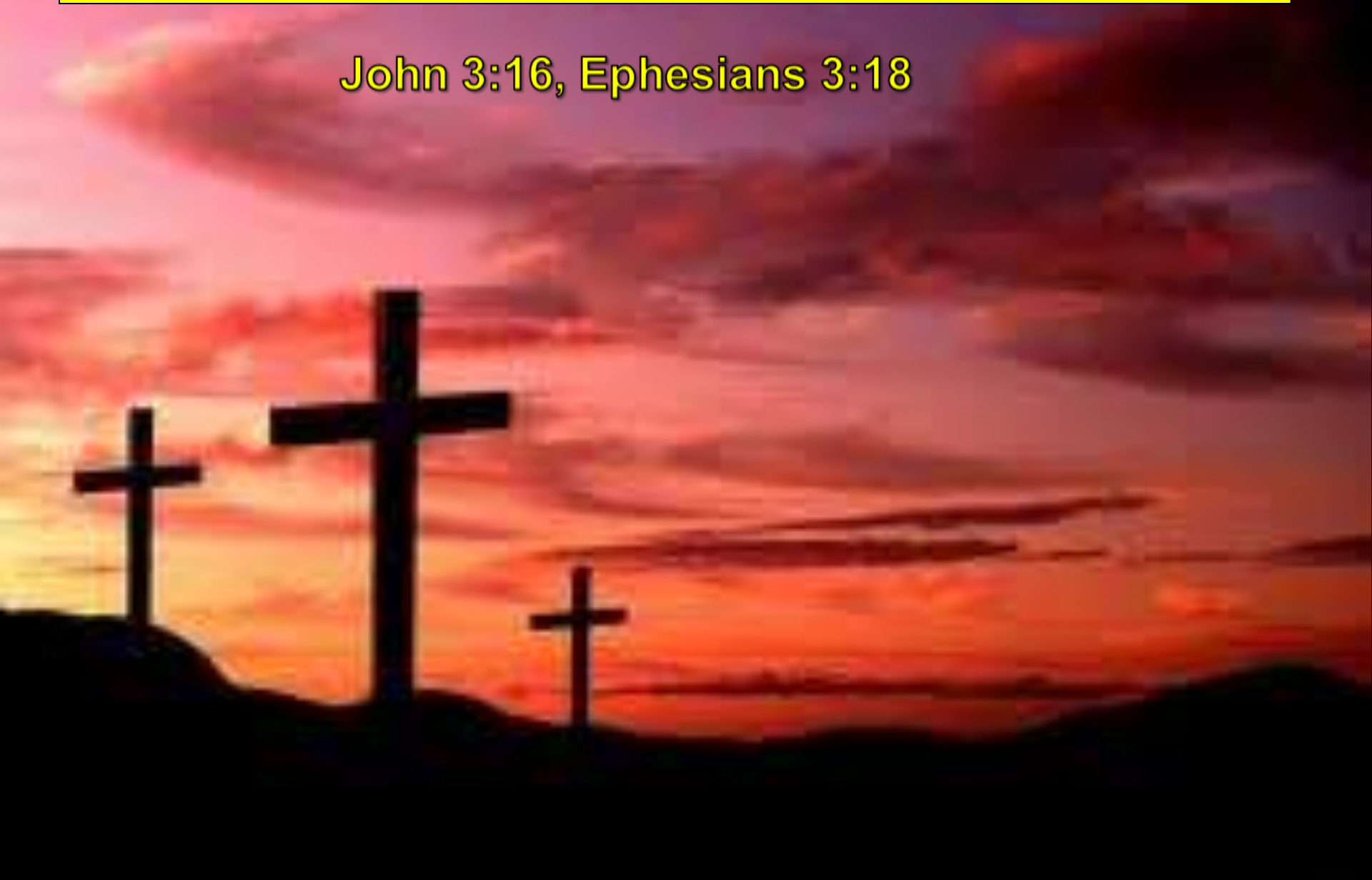
He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, ;
by his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 2: 24



The cross – illuminates the greatness of God's love
Strong grace revealed

John 3:16, Ephesians 3:18



Reactions to the message of the cross

1 Corinthians 1:18, 22-23

Offensive to Jewish minds (without resurrection knowledge)
Foolishness to gentile minds - death is the end – not victory!



Reactions to the message of the cross - selfish rejection

For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, **many live as enemies of the cross** of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things.

Philippians 3 : 17 - 19



Reactions to the message of the cross - saving faith

But to those who are being saved – the wisdom and power of God

1 Corinthians 1:18

Wisdom – available to all who trust

(background, limitations not counted)

Power – does the job! Sets free from guilt and power of sin

Jesus' cross My cross ?

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

My cross -

Then he said to them all.. "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and **take up his cross daily** and follow me.

Luke 9: 23



**A choice – a path to take
Going his way !**

My cross -

Gateway to Resurrection Life
now and then

My share in the cross of Jesus

May I never boast except in the
cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
through which the world has
been crucified to me, and I to the
world. Galatians 6 : 14

The “sign” of the cross -

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the centre of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. Revelation 5:6

His Glory – Our Security

