**Sermon on the Cross**

**INTRODUCTION:**

**A. John 20:24-29**

**B. While nails are mentioned at least nine times in the Bible,** **John 20:25** is the only reference to them in the life of Christ

 1. Growing up around a carpenter’s
 shop, no doubt, **Jesus understood
 the normal use of nails**

 2. Nails **were used to hold things
 together**

 3. Nails in the days of Christ were
 probably **crude and ugly** — not
 smooth like the ones we purchase
 today

**C. Our text referred to the nails used
 to crucify Christ**

 1. **Man used three nails to hold
 Christ on the cross**

 2. **The pain and agony of the nails —
 unbearable**

D. May I suggest that there is
something more important about these nails. **Those three nails did more than nail Christ to the cross:**

1. They **nailed down the Faithfulness
 of God**

 2. **They nailed close the Door of
 Judaism**

 3. They **nailed together Christ and
 His Church**

 4. They **nailed together the Blood
 and Baptism**

 5. They **nailed closed Every Other
 Way**

 6. They **nailed down the Love of God**

**DISCUSSION:**

 **A. THEY NAILED DOWN THE FAITHFULNESS
 OF GOD**

 **1. Notice the complete ability and
 dependability of God:**

 a. **2 Corinthians 1:20**

 b. **Romans 4:21**

 c. **Ephesians 3:20**

 d. **Philippians 3:21**

 e. **Hebrews 11:11**

 f. **Titus 1:2**

 g. **Hebrews 6:18**

 **2. Consider the difficulties:**

 a. 4,000 years of time was
 involved

 b. The right tribe and family

 c. A remnant spared

 d. Christ came into this world in
 Bethlehem

 e. Then, true to His word, the
 death of God’s only begotten
 Son on the cross of Calvary

 3. While it is true that God will
 carry out all His promises, it is
 equally true that he will carry
 out all His threats

 a. **John 3:16**

 b. **John 8:24**

 c. **Matthew 10:32-33**

 d. **Mark 16:16**

 e. **Revelation 2:10**

 f. **Hebrews 10:26-17**

 4. Thus, the nails of the cross
 nailed down the fact that God
 will keep His promises, even at
 the cost of His Son’s death on
 the cruel cross of Calvary

**B. THEY NAILED CLOSED THE DOOR OF
 JUDAISM**

 1. We are not under the Old
 Testament system:

 a. **Colossians 2:14**

 b. **Hebrews 9:15**

 2. The Old Law served as a
 schoolmaster, looking forward to
 the coming Seed — **Gal. 3:19-25**

 3. Nailed shut are the requirements
 of the Old Law…

 4. To try to return to that system
 is to fall from grace —**Gal. 5:4**

**C. THEY NAILED TOGETHER CHRIST AND HIS
 CHURCH**

 1. Many have the wrong attitude
 toward the church:

 a. “The church is not essential
 to salvation”

 b. Join the church of your choice

 2. The **nails were driven to purchase
 the church**

 a. **Acts 20:28**

 b. **Ephesians 5:25**

 3. Some will:

 a. **Forsake the church**

 b. **Resent the church**

 c. **Ignore the church**

 d. **Divide the church**

 4. The church and Christ are as much
 a unit as a husband and a wife —
 **Ephesians 5:31-32**

**D. THEY NAILED TOGETHER THE BLOOD AND
 BAPTISM**

 1. It is only through the blood of
 Christ that we have redemption in
 Christ

 a. **Revelation 7:13-14**

 b. **1 Peter 1:18-19**

 c. **1 John 1:7**

 2. Three facts that show beyond
 question the relationship
 between baptism and blood

 a. We are washed from our sins
 in His blood (**Rev. 1:5**). We
 are washed from our sins in
 baptism (**Acts 22:16**).

 b. It is through the blood that
 we have remission of sins
 (**Matt. 26:28**). It is through
 baptism that we have
 remission of sins(**Acts 2:38**).

 c. It was in Christ’s death that
 His blood was shed (**John
 19:34**). We are baptized into
 His death (**Romans 6:3-4**).

 3. The nails of cross have joined
 baptism and the blood of Christ.

 a. Man cannot draw out these
 nails

 b. **Mark 16:16**

 c. **1 Peter 3:21**

**E. THEY NAILED CLOSED EVERY OTHER WAY**

 1. A hymn says, “I must needs go
 home by the way of the cross,
 there’s no other way but this.” —
 **This is indeed true**

 a. **John 14:6**

 b. **Acts 4:12**

 2. People will say that there are
 many ways of salvation, but —
 **John 10:1**

 3. The Bible emphasizes the
 designation of one in **Eph. 4:4-6**

**F. THEY NAILED DOWN THE LOVE OF GOD**

 1. **Romans 5:8-9**

 2. Many things seems to hide the
 love of God from us

 a. **Sin may seem to hide the love
 of God** — but it really
 shouldn’t

 b. **Sickness may seem to hide the
 love of God** from us — but it
 really shouldn’t

 c. **Pain may seem to hide the love
 of God** from us — but it really
 shouldn’t

 d. **Unkindness may seem to hide
 the love of God** from us — but
 it really shouldn’t

 e. **Grief may seem to hide the
 love of God** from us — but it
 really shouldn’t

 3**. But look at the nails!**

 a. Consider Jesus’ cry for help

 1) **Matthew 26:29**

 2) Yet, God made the choice of
 love

 b. Consider the pitiful sigh from
 the cross

 1) **Matthew 26:39**

 2) Yes, God made the choice of
 Love

 4. **Hebrews 13:5** — this fact has been
 nailed down by the nails of the
 cross

**CONCLUSION:**

**A. A great hymn says:**

When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but lost,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my Lord;
All vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

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?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

**B. Are these nails enough to nail down…**

 1. **Your conviction?**

 2. **Your conversion?**

 3. **Your commitment?**

**C. The nails of Christ did more than
 nail Christ to the cross!**