

A Taste of Death

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I was working out the other day and a friend of mine (James Fraley) and I began talking about some of the things that we did to get some exercise when we couldn't make it to the gym. He mentioned that he sometimes used a wire to jump rope with. And then he just sort of added that when he missed and the wire hit his back he felt just a little of what Jesus felt so long ago.

It is amazing how the conversation was suddenly transformed, changed from a routine discussion of our daily exercise regimen to that which was truly important. Suddenly, we were talking about Christ, and I felt a closer kinship to my friend.

He obviously held in great esteem the sacrifice that Christ endured for us. He was awed by it, to the point of being proud to partake of even a little taste of it. This reminded me of Hebrews 2:9: "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might **taste death** for everyone." Barclay says that a better translation is that Christ drained the cup of death for us. In other words, he did not just taste it, but he drank all of it. He gave it all for us.

This reminds me of another verse, Matthew 26:27-28 (KJV): "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

In whatever we do, we must decide that we will see things in light of what Christ suffered for us. And then in whatever we do, we will be motivated to glorify Him more.