



## In the Shadow of the Cross

**“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's”  
(1 Corinthians 6:19-20).**

The Apostle Paul begins his epic and magnificent letter to the Romans with a salutation that was designed to establish his apostolic credentials and credibility. See Romans 1:1-6. Paul identified himself as a servant, called to be an apostle and separated unto the gospel of God. The term "servant" translates the word in the New Testament for *bond slave*. Such a person was absolutely committed to his or her master during their lifetime. The word *called* expresses the apostle's understanding that he was selected to his sacred office because of the sovereign activity of God and not for any merit of his own. "Separated" translates a word that means literally *off the horizon*. Paul was moved from one sphere of service (a servant to sin) to another sphere or horizon (a servant of God.)

These verses are applicable to those who serve in the church today. We too must establish a credible and contagious apologetic to those who are outside the veil of Christ. See 1 Peter 3:15. This is accomplished by consistent Christian living, prayer, the study of the Word of God, development of an intimate personal relationship with God and the sacrifice and commitment that is such an essential part of Christian ministry. It is no wonder, the bridge that separates the great doctrinal sections of the letter to the Romans and the practical and life application sections begins with the phrase - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship" (Romans 12:1).

During the observance of the Lord's Supper, it is appropriate, indeed essential that we examine ourselves in the shadow of the Cross. We must view sin as the ominous and awful thing it is that, in order to expiate; it necessitated nothing less than the death of the perfect Son of God on an ignominious cross. Our salvation, sanctification and glorification have been secured at a great cost. "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Dr. T.D. Stubblefield, Pastor-Teacher

### **Our Vision :**

To move "Forward in Faith" emulating the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, ministering to all people, exalting the Savior, equipping and supporting the members for Ministry, and evangelizing the lost, while continuing to nourish our rich Christian and cultural heritage

### **Our Mission:**

To advance the Kingdom of Jesus Christ in accordance with Matthew 28:18-20, through preaching of the Gospel, consistent Christian living, personal evangelism, missionary endeavor education and the public worship of God.