



# THE CROSS *and* CROWN

*"No Cross, No Crown"*

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*"Brothers and sisters, pray for us." 1 Thessalonians 5:25*

In Solomon's account of the Creation, he speaks of Wisdom (that is, the Holy Spirit) being "filled with delight day after day" at God's handiwork (Proverbs 8:30). This is the joy that was shared by God's creation itself – humans and angels – during the second entrance of Light, when Christ – the second Adam – entered the world.

Evolutionists tell us that the Universe came into being by a series of coincidences; that there was no Creator or design behind all of the billions of planets, stars and galaxies, and behind every living thing on Earth. Imagine thinking that random chance repeated itself billions of times over, resulting in all of the varied forms of life, from microscopic to gigantic, that we see on our planet – and yet random chance has not resulted in the creation of a single form of life on any of the thousands of planets that we've studied! If I believed that we were only here through random chance, I would join those philosophers who say that life is meaningless, so why should we even bother?



How wonderful it is to know the truth – that we were created for a purpose by a God who still loves us and still watches over us! God loves us personally and individually. He loves us presently and eternally. His love, shown in Creation, in Advent and at Calvary, is equally active in our lives today.

As we contemplate Christ's birthday, let us look around at all of God's creation, and let us overflow with joy at what it means. How could we not celebrate a love that brought the Creator down to us, to live like us, to die for us and be resurrected to fulfill his purpose for us – that we might live forever with him?

*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? (Psalm 8:3,4)*

# Brothers and Sisters, Pray for Us!

Our call is to proclaim God's glory to our neighbors! Thank you for agreeing with us in prayer for:

- those in our city with inadequate heat and housing for this cold weather,
- more God's his Spirit, wisdom and direction,
- more grace and provision for the many challenges around us and ahead of us, and
- ministry planning and execution in the new year.







Please pray with us for our neighbors and our Advent outreach.

## We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list\*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join with you in praying for, please let us know. (We will only publish your requests in this newsletter with your permission.)

Whether it's to share a prayer need, a praise report or a word of greeting or encouragement, please keep in touch. Hearing from you encourages us more than you know.

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\* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we won't be offended! Just call or write us, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know, or subscribe to it at [crossandcrown.online/subscribe](https://crossandcrown.online/subscribe) !

## Did You Know?

Scientists at NASA estimate that between one and three percent of the stars in our galaxy that are like the Sun may have a planet that is similar in size and make-up to the Earth. If that's true, then there are many as two billion Earth-like planets in the Milky Way alone.

**Remember to extol his work, which people have praised in song. All humanity has seen it; mortals gaze on it from afar. How great is God—beyond our understanding! (Job 36:24–26)**



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