

Embrace  
Holy  
Living

# RE- FLECTING GOD

**02/10/16 - The Cross, The Crown**

RG AUDIO 021016

Acts 2:14-36

When Jesus was crucified, it seemed that the forces of evil had won a resounding victory. The enemies of Jesus thought they would have no more trouble with Him. How little they knew!

Jesus was not a helpless victim. He said, "I lay down my life?only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord" (John 10:17-18). Jesus' death was not a mistake or a defeat, but the fulfillment of the Father's plan.

God is always at work, sometimes behind the scenes, to bring victory out of seeming defeat, joy out of sorrow, and peace out of pain. The cross and the empty tomb are evidence of this. A lost job, a sickness, or an unanswered prayer may be God's open door to greater blessing.

Death could not keep its hold on Jesus (Acts 2:24). He is "the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). The One they crucified has been crowned Lord of all. One day every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Philippians 2:11). Let's not wait. Let's do it today.

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