

A cityscape at sunset with a glowing cross in the sky. The background is a panoramic view of a city, likely San Francisco, with the Golden Gate Bridge visible in the distance. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with a bright, glowing cross in the upper right corner. The text is overlaid on the image.

# The TRANSFORMING POWER of the Cross

WHAT IT MEANS TO BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF THE CROSS

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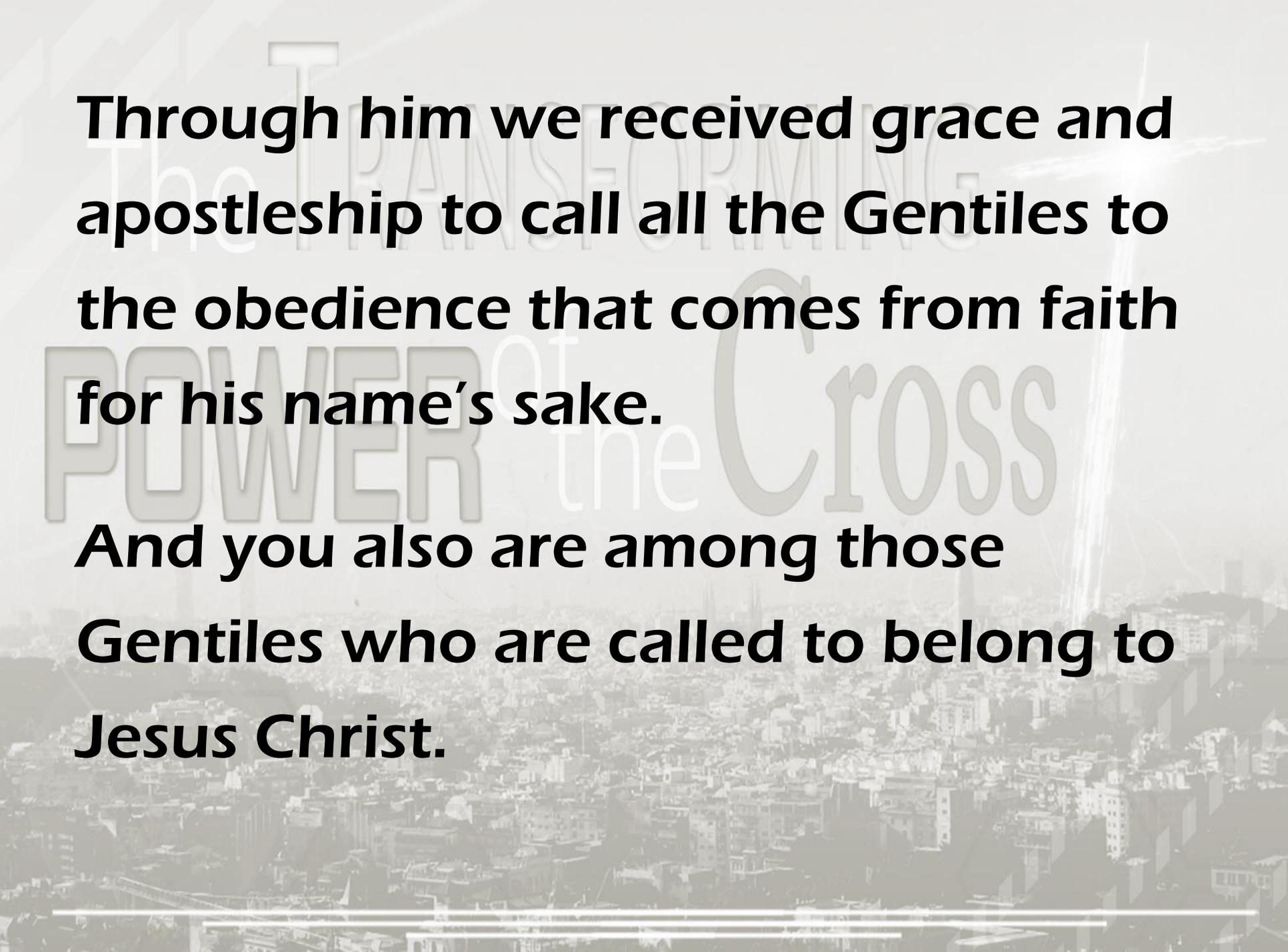
# **Introduction:**

When enough people say they believe in Jesus Christ to completely transform the world we're living in, we have all the evidence we need that something major is disconnected!

Text: Romans 1:1-7

**Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God — the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son,**

**who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.**



**Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.**

**And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.**

**To all in Rome who are loved by God  
and called to be his holy people:**

**Grace and peace to you from God our  
Father and from the Lord Jesus  
Christ.**

Romans 1:1-7

Text: Romans 1:16-17

**For I am not ashamed of the gospel,  
because it is the power of God that  
brings salvation to everyone who  
believes: first to the Jew, then to the  
Gentile.**

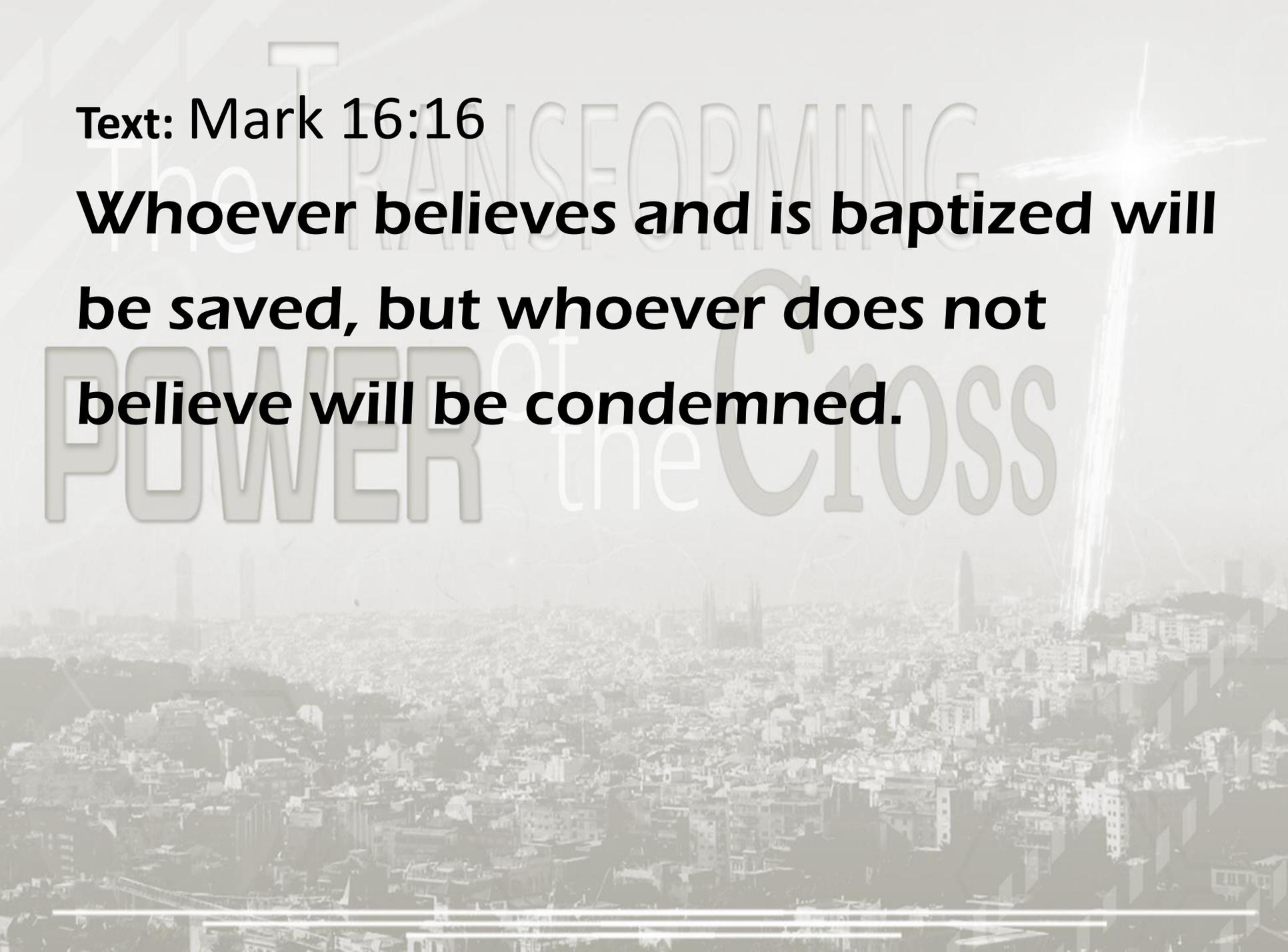
**For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed — a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written:**

**“The righteous will live by faith.”**

Romans 1:16-17

Text: Mark 16:16

**Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.**



Text: John 3:16

**For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.**

Text: Acts 16:31

**They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved — you and your household.”**

The TRANSFORMING  
POWER of the Cross



The cross of Jesus Christ has great power,  
because it represents the:

**PROOF** of God's **LOVE**.

**EVIDENCE** of Jesus' **POWER** and  
**AUTHORITY**.

**FULFILLMENT** of  
**PROPHECY**.

The cross of Jesus Christ has great power,  
because it represents the:

**GATEWAY** that passes between  
**DEATH** and **LIFE**.

**WEAPON** with which God  
**DEFEATED** sin.

Belief in Jesus Christ is a:

**CONDITION** to be satisfied.

**CALLING** to be embraced.

**CONVICTION** to be acted upon.

Please consider three vital questions related to your belief in Jesus Christ:

Is your belief **INSURANCE** or **ASSURANCE**?

Is your belief **PERSONAL**, or did you find yourself marching in someone else's parade?

Please consider three vital questions related to your belief in Jesus Christ:

Are you **INTERESTED** in the Kingdom of God, or are you **INVESTED** in it?

The TRANSFORMING

*Things that are true  
can be proven!*

POWER of the Cross



The personal proofs of a saving belief in Jesus Christ include:

**CONFIDENCE** that your sins have been forgiven and that you have experienced the spirit of adoption.

Mental, emotional, and spiritual

**PEACE**.

The personal proofs of a saving belief in Jesus Christ include:

A sense of **LOVING WARMTH**  
and **CONNECTEDNESS** with  
God and others.

A strong impulse to give **GRACE** to  
others.

The personal proofs of a saving belief in  
Jesus Christ include:

A deep and persistent desire for  
**GODLINESS**.

The TRANSFORMING

## **Conclusion:**

What you believe is proven by  
what controls your behavior.

POWER of the Cross

A cityscape at sunset with a glowing cross in the sky. The background is a dense urban area with many buildings, illuminated by the warm light of the setting sun. In the upper right corner, a bright cross is visible in the sky, with a vertical beam of light extending downwards from it. The overall color palette is dominated by warm yellows, oranges, and reds, with a blue sky above.

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