



## The Burning Bush - Online article archive

**SermonAudio** amongst sponsors of Gen2 Leadership Conference which has chosen a man clutching a crucifix as one of its promotional photos.



Examine the evidence yourself at <http://gen2conference.com/> where the speakers at the Conference and the list of sponsors are clearly listed. The image above is used as the background on **this webpage**.

### Does it really matter?

The following are matters of grave concern when it comes to the use of a crucifix, especially by professed Bible-believing Protestants.

**1. The sign of the cross.** While the sign of the cross has come to be almost universally accepted as a Christian symbol, there is no Biblical warrant for its use as such. In fact the T-shaped cross sign as a sacred religious symbol can be traced back in history to Babylonish idolatry in existence long before the time of Christ.

**2. A crucifix.** No doubt many Christians do not realise the place that the "crucifix" has in the pagan teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. The following quotes are from Second Vatican Council documents and authoritatively define the Church of Rome's view on the matter. They state very clearly just what the "crucifix" is according to Roman Catholic teaching.

"The faithful who use with devotion an object of piety (crucifix, cross, rosary, scapular or medal) after it has been duly blessed by any priest, can gain a partial indulgence." (Vol. 1, p. 77)

"An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already



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been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain defined conditions through the Church's help when, as minister of Redemption, she dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfaction won by Christ and the saints." (Vol. 1, p. 75)

"An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin." (Vol. 1, p. 75)

The use of a crucifix, according to Rome, can in certain circumstances be the means of the church being able to pardon sin! Such a blasphemous notion is entirely foreign to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Given its associations with Roman Catholic mysticism, surely it is wrong for professing evangelical Christians to employ such a symbol.

**3. A physical image of the person of Christ.** To make such an image is, according to the plain teaching of God's word, to fashion an idolatrous representation of God Himself. If, as the Scripture teaches, the Lord Jesus Christ is truly and fully God, then by the terms of the second commandment, all physical images of Him are forbidden. Sadly, because of the gross ignorance that prevails in the Church of Christ today, many Christians give little heed to such a consideration.

The use of this pagan, Christ-dishonouring symbol by those organising the "Gen2 Leadership Conference" and who claim to be offering leadership to evangelical Christians, suggest that the leadership they are offering will take those foolish enough to follow them, down the path to Rome!!

Ivan Foster

January 31st, 2015.

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Following the mounting of this article the following email exchange took place between the Editor and Mr. Steven Lee of SermonAudio.

Mr. Foster,

I actually contacted the conference organizers directly regarding the graphic and they informed me that the graphic was inadvertently selected by their graphic designer and will ensure it is not repeated in the future.

Sincerely,

Steven Lee

To this I replied:

Dear Steven,

The crucifix is still on the site!

If there was any true fear of God or consciousness of the offensiveness to Him of such an object it would have been taken down immediately and an apology mounted in its place!

The organisers, and I must include you with them Steven, show nothing of the Spirit that our Saviour



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showed when He purged the temple of that which was of lesser offensiveness than the blasphemous mockery of His sacrifice on the cross that a crucifix is.

This latest turn of events should speak loudly to you about the character of those with whom you are fellowshiping and that which you are sponsoring!

Sincerely in Christ,

Ivan Foster.

PS. I will be adding this exchange to the article in order to show your response.

There the matter rests at the present!

Are we really expected to believe that nobody reviewed and approved the website designers work? Mistakes can happen, but it would take very little time and effort to change or remove the image. Yet, the image is still there.

The fact of the matter is that there is no real sense of alarm over something being wrong. This is all an insight into how easily Baal worship and other forms of idolatry was allowed back into Israel in the days of the Judges when every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

Ivan Foster

February 2nd, 2015.