



# TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

**For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

*1 Corinthians 1:18*

## **Rebel #3 - The Bloody Fool**

Jesus would never make the list of superheroes. He just wouldn't. He doesn't carry himself like a superhero. He doesn't act like a superhero. The cross appeared to be his kryptonite, rendering him powerless. If you look at the man, Jesus, and his story, you'll see that he has quite a dismal end.

When human eyes look at Jesus, they may be tempted to see only a failure. His enemies got away with his murder. He appeared to have lost everything at the grave.

Human ears hear things that don't make sense. His enemies tell lies about him, and Jesus doesn't defend himself. The people mock him, and Jesus silently lets them. We hear sounds of defeat and loss, and Jesus seems powerless to stop it.

This is our Savior!?! The one who loses to all his enemies? The one who is mocked and doesn't even offer a response?

He is the one we worship. He is the one in whom we believe.

It's no wonder that people think we are foolish. The One we call on for help and salvation couldn't even help himself. "He couldn't even save himself, how will he save the world," they mock. "He was silent against all his enemies, maybe they were right," they laugh. The One we trust seems like a failure, and we look foolish for trusting him. People think we're crazy for believing in Jesus as we do.

But it's not as foolish as it seems. In the weakness of Jesus, we see the power of Jesus letting people take his life so that we could have our life forever. In the death of Jesus, we see Jesus taking all the punishment that our sins deserved, so that we wouldn't be punished for the things we had done. In the cross, we see the triumph of Jesus over and against all our enemies. There at the cross and in his death, Jesus delivered a death blow to our enemy, the devil.

There in his death, we find our life and resurrection. There in his weakest moments, we find our salvation. To the world, our Savior Jesus seems like a bloody fool. But to us, he is our Savior and our God.

**Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for helping me to see you as you really are. You are not weak, you are mighty to save. You are not foolish, you are wise to win me for heaven. Grant me faith to believe you even when the world says I'm crazy and foolish for doing it. Amen.**