

*Do you believe there are fairies
at the bottom of the garden?*



Arguments that are myths

Science and faith go in opposite directions

You can't be a Christian and believe the theory of Evolution!

Doesn't faith mean "believing without evidence"?

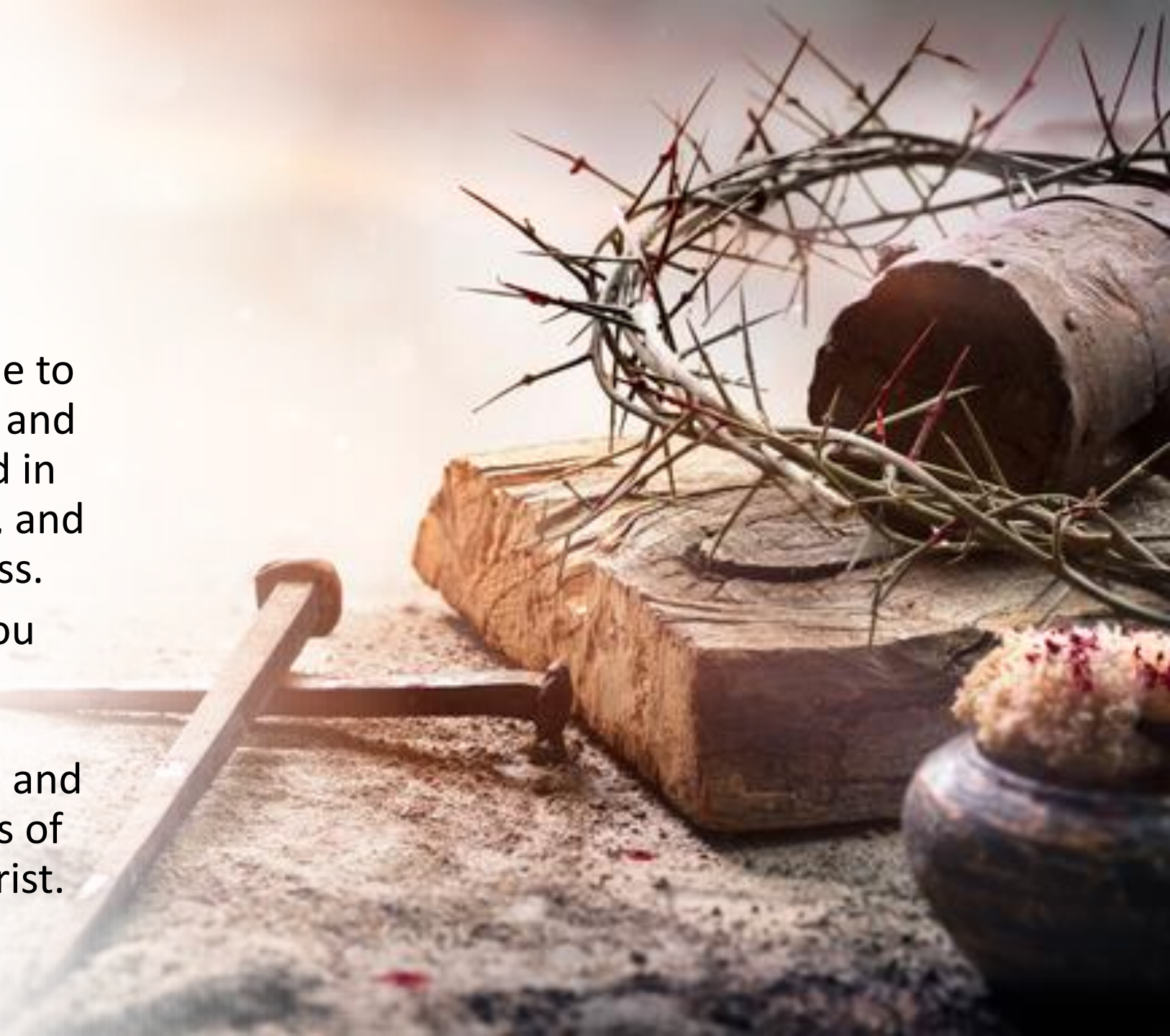
Isn't faith just a crutch for people who need it?



Colossians Chapter 2 verses 6-8

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.



Contrasting words that come in pairs

When you were **dead** in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you **alive** with Christ. He forgave us all our sins.

And having **cancelled** the written code which stood against and was opposed to us, he took it away, **nailing** it to the cross.

And having **disarmed** the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, **triumphing** over them by the cross.

1. **DEAD to ALIVE**
2. **CANCELED and NAILED**
3. **DISARMED in TRIUMPH**



DEAD to ALIVE – v13 ...

In order to defeat death
Christ *had to enter* death ...

1. We can look forward to an
eternal life after our earthly life

AND

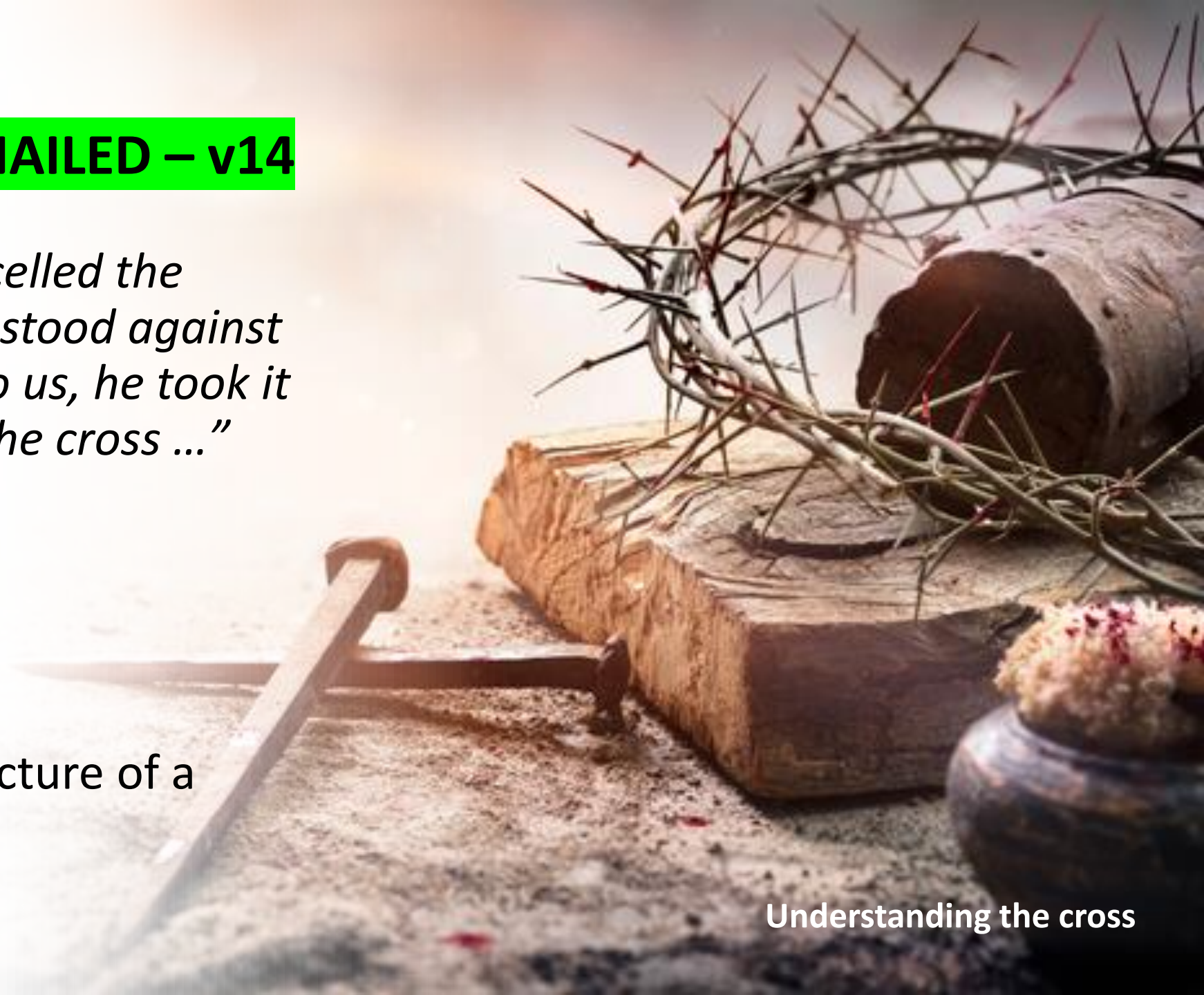
2. Life now, in this world, is a
different kind of life



CANCELLED and NAILED – v14

“... And having cancelled the written code which stood against and was opposed to us, he took it away, nailing it to the cross ...”

Paul gives us this picture of a
“cancelled debt”



CANCELLED and NAILED – v14

.....

*Think of it! All sins forgiven, the slate wiped clean, **that old arrest warrant cancelled and nailed to Christ's cross.** He stripped all the spiritual tyrants in the universe of their sham authority at the Cross and marched them naked through the streets. *The Message**

A close-up photograph of a wooden cross. The cross is made of thick, weathered wooden beams. A crown of thorns, made of dry, sharp branches, is draped over the top of the cross. In the foreground, a small, dark, round vase contains a bouquet of white and red flowers. The background is a soft, hazy landscape with a bright light source, possibly the sun, creating a warm, golden glow. The overall scene is a religious or symbolic representation of the crucifixion.

Understanding the cross

DISARMED in TRIUMPH – v15

*And having **disarmed** the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, **triumphing** over them by the cross.*

Violent militaristic imagery!



