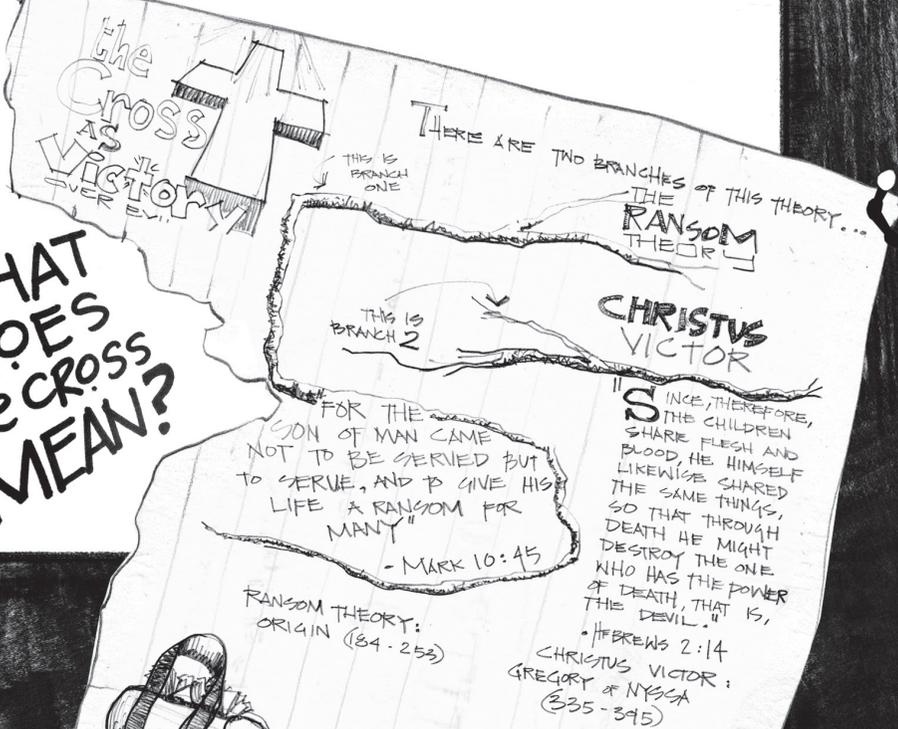


WHAT DOES THE CROSS MEAN?



"FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY"

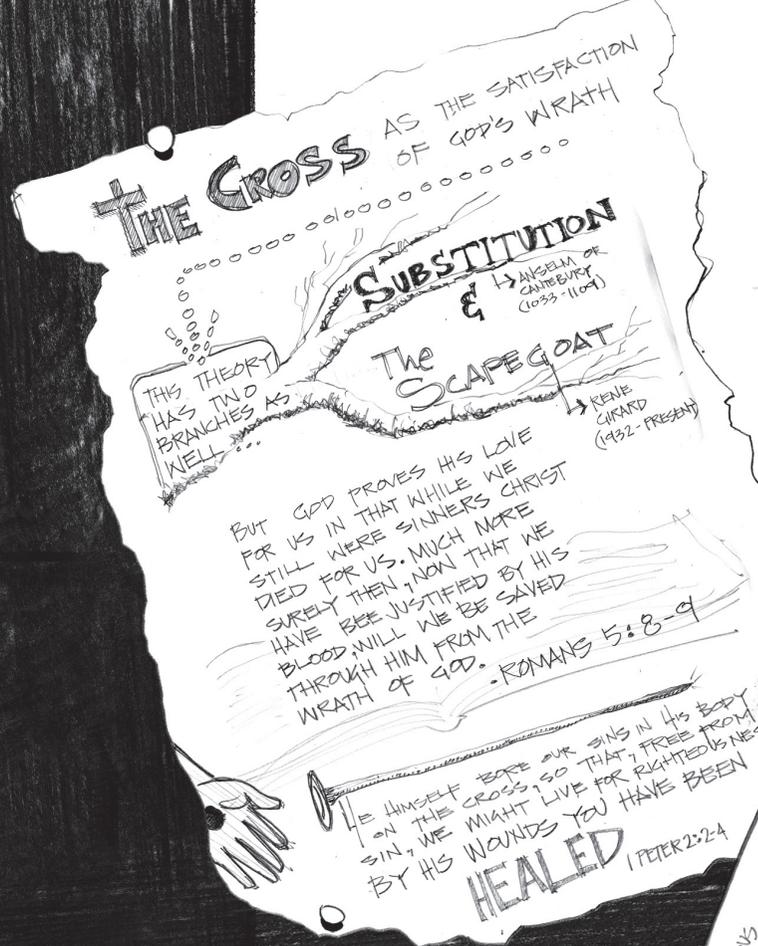
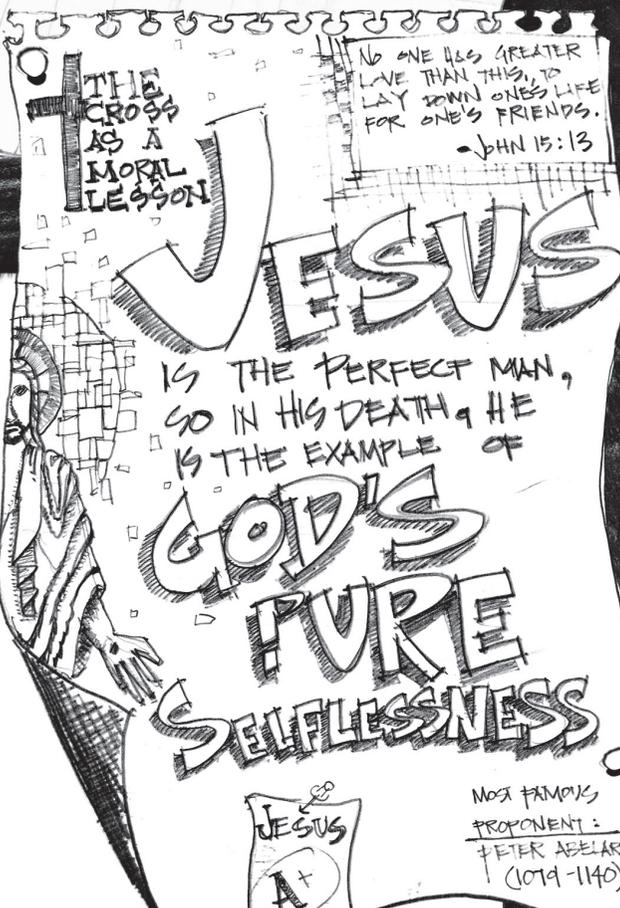
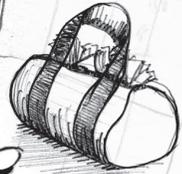
- MARK 10:45

RANSOM THEORY: ORIGIN (84-258)

"SINCE, THEREFORE, THE CHILDREN SHARE FLESH AND BLOOD, HE HIMSELF LIKEWISE SHARED THE SAME THINGS, SO THAT THROUGH DEATH HE MIGHT DESTROY THE ONE WHO HAS THE POWER OF DEATH, THAT IS, THE DEVIL."

HEBREWS 2:14

CHRISTUS VICTOR: GREGORY OF NYSSA (335-395)



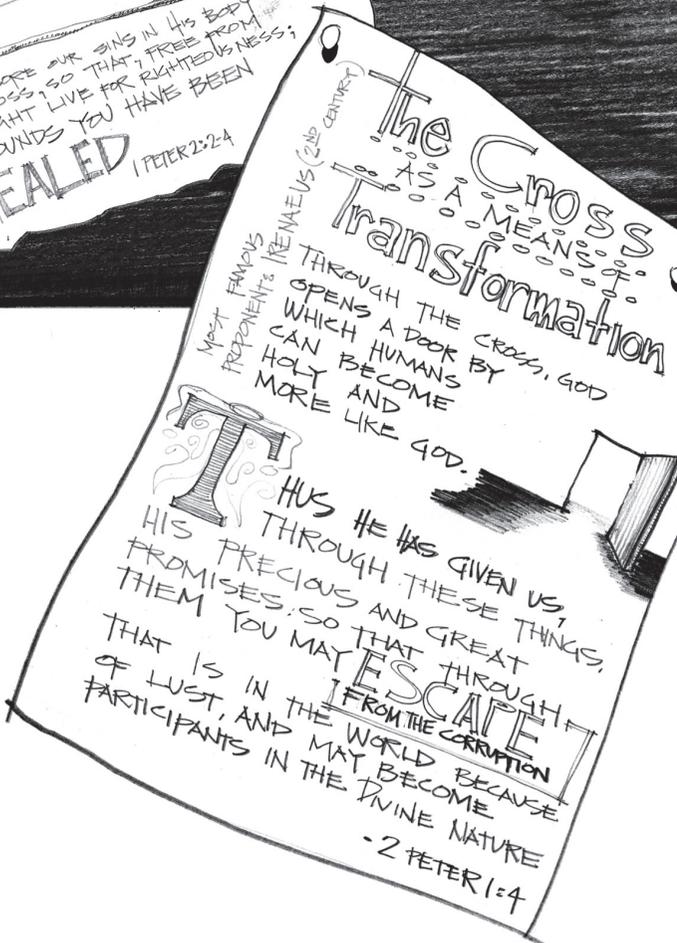
BUT GOD PROVES HIS LOVE FOR US IN THAT WHILE WE STILL WERE SINNERS CHRIST DIED FOR US. MUCH MORE SURELY THEN, NOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD, WILL WE BE SAVED THROUGH HIM FROM THE WRATH OF GOD.

- ROMANS 5:8-9

HE HIMSELF TOOK OUR SINS IN HIS BODY ON THE CROSS, SO THAT, FREE FROM SIN, WE MIGHT LIVE FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS; BY HIS WOUNDS YOU HAVE BEEN HEALED

PETER 2:24

THERE ARE FOUR PRIMARY THEORIES THAT CONTINUE TO SHAPE OUR IDEAS ABOUT THE CROSS AND THE ATONEMENT:



JUST AS THERE ARE MANY IMAGES OF THE CROSS, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY WAYS OF UNDERSTANDING THE CROSS OVER THE CENTURIES, EACH ONE TRYING TO ANSWER THE QUESTION "WHAT EXACTLY WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THE CROSS?"