



“I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Myself”

John 7:32

**Why did the Lord choose
to die by being crucified?**

1. He could not die from any sickness since it results from the natural weakness caused by sin

2. His death had to be in public

“A secret and unwitnessed death would have left the resurrection without any proof or evidence to support it”

--St. Athanasius

3. The Savior had to accept death in whichever form it might be presented to Him

“A generous wrestler, virile and strong, does not himself choose his antagonists, lest it should be thought that of some of them he is afraid”

--St. Athanasius

4. “He preserved His Body whole and undivided, so that there should be no excuse hereafter for those who would divide the Church.”

--St. Athanasius

**5. The Cross is the way by
which He bears the curse
that lay on us**

“Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.”

Galatians 3:13

6. It is the way by which He can die with outstretched arms

“it was that He might draw His ancient people with the one and the Gentiles with the other, and join both together in Himself. Even so, He foretold the manner of His redeeming death, ‘I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Myself.’”

(John 7:32)

--St. Athanasius

7. In the air, He conquers Satan, the prince of the power of the air

“The apostle refers to this when he says,
‘According to the prince of the power of the air,
of the spirit that now works in the sons of
disobedience.’” (Ephesians 2:2)

--St. Athanasius