



THE CROSS *and* CROWN

"No Cross, No Crown"

a publication of Highway Mission Tabernacle and Resurrection Life Church, Philadelphia, PA

Edition LXXXIV | September 29, 2024 copyright ©2024, Highway Mission Tabernacle

Recently, when my wife and I were stopped at a busy intersection, I marveled at the intricate choreography going on all around us. All of a sudden, a line of cars to our left, and another across the street from us, pulled forward and turned left, their movements as coordinated and synchronized as any dance in a Busby Berkeley musical. As quickly as it had started, the movement in those lanes came to a halt, and the cars on the cross street took their turn, moving from left to right and right to left past our windshield.



It's amazing to think that a large group of total strangers, most of whom have never met and have almost certainly never practiced driving together, can move in so elegant and coordinated a fashion – at such high speeds! Of course, it only works because all of the drivers agree to play by the rules and obey the traffic signals. Think of it: Traffic moves along in a safe, efficient manner because of a series of electric lights which have no intelligence and no ability to enforce the laws – and cannot even see the traffic that they're controlling!

When everyone complies with the rules, we all stay safe. It's when people choose to go their own way that accidents happen.

God gave his Law – both the written code of the Old Covenant and his Word written on our hearts under the New Covenant – not to oppress and burden us, but so that we can live in harmony with him and each other. When we look at the Law as a series of restraints to box us in, we miss its point. God gives us rules so that we can thrive, as individuals and in community.

We can't control how others drive, but that doesn't mean that we, too, should flout the traffic laws. On the contrary, we must be even more diligent, to protect both others and ourselves!

Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. (1 Timothy 4:16)

Thanks for Praying!





Don't discount the effects of your prayers! We're still in the fight because of your prayers. Please continue to agree with us for:

- more faith in the face of fresh challenges,
- a season of rest and recovery,
- more of God's Spirit, wisdom and direction, and
- laborers and leaders in this mission field.

We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join with you in praying for, please let us know. (We will only publish your requests in this newsletter with your permission.)

Thanks so much to those who have taken the time to keep in touch! It helps to know that you're out there with us!

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* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we won't be offended! Just call or write us, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know, or subscribe to it at crossandcrown.online/subscribe !

PHILADELPHIA TRAFFIC RULES

Controlled by different colored lights, also by Traffic Officers

RED LIGHT—Stop.

GREEN LIGHT—Start only on this light.

AMBER AND GREEN—Keep going, but be ready to stop for amber light.

AMBER LIGHT—Stop, as red will show immediately.

Lights are located either in the center of street intersections, or on the sidewalks at the corners. On some main streets traffic is controlled from center of street by traffic officers with small semaphores. These have red and green lights at night time. Watch for these semaphores.

Did you know?

The visitors' guide published for the General Council which met at Highway, in 1933, contained a section on Philadelphia traffic rules, including an explanation of what the traffic lights mean.

The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. (Psalm 119:105)



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