

SEVEN FINAL WORDS
Cries from the Cross of Christ
Part 6: A Cry of Triumph (John 19:30)

INTRO: We come to sixth of seven cries from the cross (read John 19:30). It is not the cry of the anguish cry of a victim, but the victorious cry of a victor: “It is finished!” Just one word in Greek: *Tetelestai*! He had reached His goal. A single word can change everything: Hired, Y/N (marriage proposal), Fired, etc. Never has a single word more impacted history than this one in John 19:30.

I. “It is Finished!” A COMMON PHRASE

- A. Jesus spoke often of finishing the work God sent Him to do (John 4:34; 5:36; 17:4; 19:28; 19:30). In each passage, the italicized words come from the same root word “to bring to an end, complete finish.” His words were no painful and hollow cry, but of mission accomplished. W.W. Wiersbe quote . . .
- B. What work has God assigned you to complete? Paul (Acts 20:24). My work (life purpose) is to serve others by igniting their growth. What’s yours?

II. IT IS FINISHED – WHAT IS “IT”?

Generally, Christ came to do God’s will and to fulfill it to the last detail. He didn’t say, “I am finished.” *Specifically*, these were four distinct areas of the Father’s will that were finished (Heb. 10:4-10).

- A. God’s will concerning the *Atonement* (vv. 5, 8-10)
The sacrifice of Christ’s body on our behalf was God’s will. To “atone” is to cover over, specifically our sin and sins (2 Cor. 5:15, 21). Four proofs that God was fully satisfied with the Son’s sacrifice on our behalf:
 - 1. The temple veil was torn top to bottom (Lk. 23:44-45; Heb. 9:11-14). Once for all!
 - 2. Christ was raised from the dead.
 - 3. Christ ascended and was accepted back into heaven.
 - 4. The Holy Spirit was sent to indwell all believers.
- B. God’s will concerning the *Scriptures* (Jn. 19:28-30)
Over 300 prophecies in OT fulfilled by Jesus. Twenty-eight specific prophecies of the sufferings of Jesus were fulfilled in the

24-hour period leading up to His death on the cross! (Lk. 24:25-27, 44-46). God keeps His Word. Every Word of God is true (Pro. 30:6).

- C. God’s will concerning the *Law*. Up to His death, the Law of Moses was in effect. Every devout Jew tried to keep it, yet all were crushed by it. All were condemned under its requirements. The problem was with mankind not the Law (Rom. 7:12 holy, just, good). Matt. 5:17; Rom. 8:3-4; 10:3-4; Gal. 3:13, 21-26; 4:4-5. Law can show us we are sinners but cannot cure it.
- D. God’s will concerning the *Devil*. Christ’s death cemented Satan’s eternal sentence (Heb. 2:14-15; Col. 2:13-15; 1 Jn. 3:8). He is a defeated and sentenced enemy awaiting execution: Christ successfully completed the work the Father gave Him to do.
Nothing can be added to what Christ has done. The beginning and the end of our salvation was finished by the work of Christ. Our sole role is to believe!

CONC: “It is finished!” Most of our lives are scattered with unfinished business: letters, texts, books, projects, marriages, etc. We die too young, or too soon, or with work unfinished. Each of us must know the work He has uniquely called and equipped each of us to do—and complete it. But, unlike most, Jesus completed His task. It is a shout of triumph over sin, death, hell, and Satan.” It is finished” is perfect tense meaning: It was finished in the past, it is still finished in the present, and it will remain finished in the future. Actually, *tetelestai* is an accounting term that means “paid in full.” When Jesus spoke this word, He was declaring the sin debt mankind owed the Father was wiped away completely and forever. PAID IN FULL! If every debt and credit-card bill you owed was suddenly paid, how would you act? Jesus paid your bill—and mine. Zero balance. Should impact how we live. What sin are you struggling with today? Each has been stamped by God with one word-*Tetelestai*, Debt Paid in Full!

Anger . . . *Tetelestai* . . . Paid in full (fear, greed, lust, gossip, lying, laziness, pride, . . .) all of them.