

“It is finished”

This morning, we will be listening to John’s account of the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In just a few moments, we will be reading John 19:1-30.

After a few introductory remarks, we will start the passage. When we do, I will be making some observations. But they will be limited, so as not to interrupt the flow of John’s narrative.

I find it almost unbearable to read about the trials and crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is just one thing that gets me through it. John 20 – the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Another word for it is HOPE.

/This is what sets Christianity apart from religions and science and philosophy: the hope that springs from the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The hope of salvation. The hope of eternal life. The hope of glory.\

These are the five central facts of Christianity:

/The Lord Jesus Christ was born of a woman.\

/He is God in the flesh.\

/He suffered and died for us, to take away our sins.\

/He was buried.\

/And He was raised from the dead.\

When we are in the blackest moments of pain in our lives, one thing gives us hope: that God raised His Son Jesus from the dead.

So while today we will read about Jesus' suffering and crucifixion, Remember well: chapter 20 is coming. Next Sunday is coming.

John 19:1-30

19 Pilate then took Jesus and scourged Him. 2 And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and put a purple robe on Him; 3 and they began to come up to Him and say, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and to give Him slaps in the face. 4 Pilate came out again and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him." 5 Jesus then came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold, the Man!" 6 So when the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out saying, "Crucify, crucify!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him."

/Pilate considered all the evidence and pronounced his verdict: "I find no guilt in Him". He did so in public. He died so three times.\

John 18:38

38 Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to them, "I find no guilt in Him."

/The first time was in chapter 18:38. *"I find no guilt in Him".*\

/The second time was in chapter 19:4. *"I find no guilt in Him".*\

/The third time was in chapter 19:6. *"I find no guilt in Him".*\

He was sinless. No deceit was found in His mouth (1 Peter 2:22).

John 19:7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out to be the Son of God."

8 Therefore when Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid; 9 and he entered into the Praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.

/Three things struck fear in the heart of Pilate that morning:\

1. / His wife's message to him.\

Matt 27:19

19 While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him."

2. /Who Jesus claimed to be: a king in another realm and the Son of God.\

3. /The Jewish mob, who was whipped into a frenzy and accused Pilate of being no friend of Caesar.\

John 19:10 So Pilate said to Him, "You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?" 11 Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin." 12 As a result of this Pilate made efforts to release Him, but the Jews cried out saying, "If you release this Man, you are no friend of Caesar; everyone who makes himself out to be a king opposes Caesar."

/The Jewish leaders now played their trump card. "you are no friend of Caesar". \

Pilate had little concern for Jewish religious matters. But he knew that his position as governor was tenuous. He served at the pleasure of Caesar. Not to mention the fact that Caesar might have Pilate put to death for such a traitorous action.

13 Therefore when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out, and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. 14 Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover; it was about the sixth hour.

And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!" 15 So they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

/In Matthew's account, the mob cried out for His blood.\

Matt 27:24-25

24 When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves." 25 And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us and on our children!"

Let's continue in John. Chapter 19. Verse 16.

16 So he then handed Him over to them to be crucified.

17 They took Jesus, therefore, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha.

/Luke calls this sacred hill Calvary from the Latin for Place of a Skull – Calvaria.\

Notice here that Jesus went out of the city.

/map\


The book of Hebrews says that Jesus suffered outside the gate.

Let's continue in John 19:18

18 There they crucified Him, and with Him two other men, one on either side, and Jesus in between. 19 Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross.

It was written, "JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS." 20 Therefore many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin and in Greek. 21 So the chief priests of the Jews were saying to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews'; but that He said, 'I am King of the Jews.'" 22 Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

/During Pilate's interrogation, Jesus said he was a king several times. Pilate never contested this.

John 19:23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His outer garments and made four parts, a part to every soldier and also the tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece. 24 So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, to decide whose it shall be"; this was to fulfill the Scripture: "THEY DIVIDED MY OUTER GARMENTS AMONG THEM, AND FOR MY CLOTHING THEY CAST LOTS."

/Six Old Testament scriptures were fulfilled in verses 24-37. The soldiers' actions in verses 23 and 24 fulfilled Psalm 22:18 .

25 Therefore the soldiers did these things.

But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" 27 Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own household.

28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, to fulfill the Scripture, said, "I am thirsty." 29 A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon a branch of hyssop and brought it up to His mouth. 30 Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Jesus knew that all things had been accomplished. So after fulfilling the Scripture (Psalm 69:21), Jesus cried out "It is finished".

/The Greek word "tetelestai" meant to finish. It meant: the debt has been paid! \

Col 2:13-15

*13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 **having canceled out the certificate of debt** consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and **He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.***

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All things had been accomplished. It is finished.

/What things were accomplished, finished, on the cross?\

1. /All the scriptures had been fulfilled.\

Luke 24:44

44 Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

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2. /Jesus had done the will of His Father. His obedience was complete.\

John 17:3

4 "I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.

3. /He had borne our sins in His body on the cross, 1 Peter 2:24.\

/His death was the one, perfect and complete sacrifice for sin for all time. \

/Heb 10:14

*14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. *

/ We have redemption through His blood, the blood of the cross.

Eph 1:7

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us.

/God forgave us of all our sins based on the blood of Christ.\

Col 2:13

13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

Jesus truly is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

The place of the skull was the most sacred place of all. There, the Lord Jesus Christ abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light.

2 Cor 5:21

21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.