

It Is Finished

John 19:30 Jesus said, “*It is finished*”

2 Corinthians 5:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not **imputing** their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

- God is not holding our sins against us
- Through Jesus God declared, “God isn’t mad at you. Your sins aren’t a problem!”

If you buy something and say, “*Put it on my account,*” they would write it down and then at the end of the Month you would come and pay up, but when you went to pay there was no balance

2 Corinthians 5:17-18, 21 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

¹⁸ Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation

²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- Jesus made a difference in the way God relates to mankind
- Jesus brought all of mankind back into harmony with God
- The debt has been paid
- The books have been reconciled

Romans 8:32 (NKJV)

³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us **all things**?

- God has forgiven your sins and taken them all away
- Jesus paid the price in full
- He loves you so much that He gives you “all things” to live an abundant life – **John 10:10**
- That’s the Gospel!

It’s an Unconditional Covenant

Isaiah 54:9 (NKJV)

⁹ “For this *is* like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn that the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, so have I sworn that I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.

God is saying this new covenant He put into place with Jesus is like the covenant with Noah

The covenant God made with Noah had no qualifications

- God didn’t say, if you do this or that, I’ll do this
- There were no strings attached
- It’s a promise that no matter what the world does He will never flood it again

Is there something in your life that you’ve done that you’re ashamed of or haven’t admitted to anybody?

- Are you even trying to hide it from God?
- The truth is, He already knows about it
- He’s already dealt with it at the cross
- God loves you in spite of what you’ve done

Religion is what makes you think God is angry at you and that He has forsaken you

- God is not the author of condemnation
- He is the author of peace

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)

8 *There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

- In the Spirit we have been made as righteous as God Himself
- Condemnation isn't coming from Him when you blow it
- He will NEVER leave you! – **Hebrews 13:5**

Matthew 28:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ *teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*

People say when you talk like this you're saying people can just live in sin

- It's a logical question
- But the answer is no!

Romans 6:1–2 (NKJV)

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? ² Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!

When you're born again your motive for not sinning is love

- You are not trying to earn favor with God
- But, because you understand the tremendous favor you have been given you want to live holy

1 John 4:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ We love Him because He first loved us.

Many people are going through the motions

- Giving, going to church, reading the Bible, and so on
- Doing all the right things but with the wrong motive
- The Lord isn't pleased with any of your good works
- It's all wood, hay and stubble

1 Corinthians 3:11–13 (NKJV)

¹¹ For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³ each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.

- Going to the biggest, most popular church doesn't make you a committed Christian
- If your motive isn't love you will miss out on all the benefits God has for you
- You will have no real joy, peace, or victory in your life
- If you're just going through the motions you aren't pleasing God

If you truly understand the Grace of God, you would live holier by accident than ever you would on purpose

Titus 2:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age

- Grace has appeared to all men
- Grace becomes your teacher or guide
- You will serve God out of a pure heart
- Not because you're trying to earn something
- God will inhabit your good works
- The Lord will be pleased and satisfied
- It will change your whole life

Colossians 2:6 (NKJV)

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him

- You have got to live by the same Grace that saves you

If you think, now that I'm a Christian, I NEED to pray, fast, tithe, study the Bible, attend church in order for God to love and bless me, it will profit you nothing

Galatians 5:2, 4 (NKJV)

² Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing.

⁴ You have become estranged from Christ, you who *attempt to* be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

No matter how good you are, you will fail in some area in life

James 2:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one *point*, he is guilty of all.

- The law is impossible for man to keep
 - There is no Hell #1, 2, or 3
- It was given to show us that we needed a Savior
- It shows us our imperfection
- The whole Law and the Prophets point us to Grace

Romans 3:20–21 (NKJV)

²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets

- Keeping the law will not justify you before God
 - It shows us our sin
- The standard in the NT is higher than the OT
- If you think about murder and adultery it's just like committing it – **Matthew 5:28, 1 John 3:15**
- You need a Savior

Hebrews 9:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ But Christ came *as* High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. ¹² Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

This wasn't a short-term redemption – only good until the next time you sin

- Its was once for all!

If you're backsliding you don't have to repent and get back into relationship with God to get your prayer answered

If God can only answer prayers when there's no sin in your life, then He can't answer any prayers

Remember sin is not only the wrong that you do, but the good that you don't do

James 4:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do *it*, to him it is sin.

Jesus took care of it all!

Hebrews 9:13–14 (NKJV)

¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh,

¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

The problem we all have is that we have a conscience that has been defiled

- If we don't purge our conscience with the truth of what Jesus has done for us the devil will drag up all of the things you've done and remind us of how bad you are
- That will destroy your faith

Remember, because of Grace you aren't getting the things you deserve, and you are getting the things God deserves

- You get to use the name of Jesus
- He paid for all of your sins
- Past, present and future

Hebrews 9:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

- We have an eternal inheritance
- You aren't just a family member until the next time you blow it
- God doesn't put you on a list of children who don't get any of the benefits of the inheritance
- Its eternal!

You have a spirit that is made perfect

- It doesn't get perfecter

However, you do have a body and a soul that do get defiled by sin

- That's where the battle is

Hebrews 12:23 (NKJV)

²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect

The problem is, you can't look in a mirror and see how righteous you are

- Your spirit can only be perceived through the word of God

John 6:63 (NKJV)

⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life.

- The word is like a spiritual mirror – James 1:23-25
- We are blessed with every spiritual blessing
– Ephesians 1:3
- We are the head and not the tail – Deuteronomy 28:13
- You are as righteous, pure and holy as Jesus
– Ephesians 4:24, 1 John 4:17

Most of us don't know ourselves in the spirit, we only know ourselves by the outward appearance

The Old Testament is full of symbols, types and shadows of what Jesus has now done for us

Hebrews 9:23 (NKJV)

²³ Therefore *it was* necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

- There is an actual mercy seat and altar in heaven
- God instructed Moses to make things as an exact replica
- He saw into heaven and saw the temple there

The veil of the temple represented the physical body of Jesus that separated between the Holy of Holies and the Holy Place

Something happened to this veil when Jesus died

Matthew 27:51 (NKJV)

⁵¹ Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split

- This symbolizes that Jesus' flesh was broken, and that the way to God is now available through Him
- All the sacrifices in the OT had to be repeated over and over again
- But now, Jesus' sacrifice was sufficient once and for all!

Hebrews 9:24–26 (NKJV)

²⁴ For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; ²⁵ not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another—²⁶ He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

- The constant flowing of blood in the OT was just a picture
- They weren't the real thing
- The author is contrasting the priest entering repeatedly with Jesus only needing to enter once

Hebrews 9:27–28 (NKJV)

²⁷ And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Hebrews 10:1–2 (NKJV)

For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins.

- God did this to give us a clean conscience
- Notice the question mark in verse 2?
- If the OT sacrifices would have worked then they would have stopped offering them
- Because they were repeated there was a constant reminder of their sin – a consciousness of sin

We live in a performance-based world

- We get what we deserve
- From relationships to work
- From our ABC's on
- People don't treat you by grace
- If you don't show up for work, you get fired
- If you treat someone poorly they will "unfriend you"

Yet the Lord forgave us

- We didn't deserve it
- He did it because He loves us

1 John 4:9 (NKJV)

⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.