**Spoken From The Cross – It is finished!**

*John 19:28-30*

**Introduction**

1. The order of the sayings of Jesus from the cross differs amongst commentators, and scholars. (My order is the conclusion I reached based on my own study. I do not suggest in any way that it is the absolute correct order. No man can.)
   1. However, despite the differences in opinion on the order of the sayings, the second to last, and last sayings are obvious.
   2. ***Matthew 27:50 – “yielded up His spirit.”***
   3. ***Luke 23:46 – “And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ ” Having said this, He breathed His last.”***
   4. ***John 19:30 – “And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.”***
   5. Matthew and John record what Jesus did (giving up His spirit), but Luke records what Jesus said He did.
      1. After each, Jesus died.
      2. Before, in John, He spoke the words, ***“It is finished!”***
2. These three words come from a weary man upon a cross, exhausted, and pushed to the limits.
3. It is a cry of relief, and victory at the same time.
4. ***“It”*** concisely, yet without detail, embodies Jesus’ whole purpose in coming to earth for mankind – Redemption of Man.
   1. ***“It”*** ultimately represents Jesus’ redemptive work, which found its end in His death.
   2. The price that had to be paid in order for man to be redeemed was paid.
   3. **Hebrews 10:10, 14, 16-18, 26** – The Hebrew writer explains that His redemptive work only took place once, for it was sufficient. If one rejects the sacrifice of Christ, he rejects all there can be for his redemption.
5. The Redemptive Work of Christ
6. The need for redemption.
   1. **In order to understand what Jesus had finished, we must first understand why He was doing what He was doing – that which He finished.**
   2. **Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 6:23** – Sin has separated us from God. (This is spiritual death.)
      1. This is a result of God’s wrath.
      2. His wrath is consummated when the separation is final in Hell.
      3. **Sin’s wage is death, but God’s gift is life in Jesus. (Only way – John 14:6).**
7. The need for blood.
   1. **Hebrews 9:22** – Forgiveness, salvation, reconciliation, our righteousness, all depend upon the shedding of blood. Why? 🡪
   2. **Day of Atonement**
      1. **Leviticus 16:11, 14-16 – Blood was to be sprinkled on the mercy seat to make atonement for sins.**
         1. **Atonement – to cover; to wipe away; to expiate.**
         2. **Atonement is the idea of a separation in the relationship of God to man because of sin being repaired by means of appeasement.**
         3. **God’s wrath toward man because of sin is appeased because of the sacrifice.**
      2. **Leviticus 17:11 – Sanctity of blood – the life is in the blood.**
         1. Flesh is alive when it has its blood.
         2. When the blood is let out, the life is leaving the flesh – death occurs.
      3. **Hebrews 10:1-4** – The sacrifices under the OT were merely shadows.
         1. That blood of the animals reminded of sin – they were slain because of the sin of men to reconcile them to God.
         2. When the blood was shed, it signified that which was necessary to appease God’s wrath.
         3. **However, the blood of animals was not sufficient! (Type or shadow of Christ – v. 10 – once for all, not year after year.)**
8. Christ – the figure or antitype – the actual sacrifice.
   1. **Hebrews 2:14-17** – Jesus MAKES propitiation for our sins.
      1. Propitiation – to expiate; to appease.
      2. **The object if propitiation here is sin – sin requires death in God’s wrath, and Jesus satisfies that wrath by dying.**
   2. **1 John 2:1-2 –** Jesus IS the propitiation for our sins**.**
      1. **This is the same as saying He is the expiatory sacrifice for our sins.**
      2. This is provided for the whole world, but must be accessed by faith **(cf. Romans 5:2).**
   3. **Romans 3:21-26 – He is the propitiation (atoning/expiating/appeasing sacrifice) by means of His blood.**
      1. What significance does His blood have? How does that appease God’s wrath?
      2. **Blood is put for death – life is in the blood, and when blood is spilled life is taken – death.**
      3. **God is just – because the wages for sin were paid (Jesus died) – and the justifier – because the one who has faith in Christ accesses the benefit of His sacrifice.**
   4. **Romans 5:6-11 – We are saved from God’s wrath through Jesus’ atoning sacrifice.**
9. He became sin in that He received sin’s wages. **(By which God’s wrath was appeased. Had to be paid, and was paid to Jesus.) (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:21)**
   1. **Isaiah 53:4-6, 10-12 – OUR punishment for OUR sin was laid on Him.**
   2. **Galatians 3:10-14 – Christ became a curse so we didn’t have to be cursed.**
      1. **Not keeping the law, i.e. transgressing/sinning brings a curse upon a person.**
      2. **Because of this, Christ became a curse for us!**
10. Rest and relief at the end of the race.
11. Anticipation of Redemptive Work
    1. **Luke 2:49** – When Jesus’ parents were looking for Him He answered them thus.
       1. His redemptive work was in His mind at a young age.
       2. **The terrible death He would die was the primary purpose of His incarnation.**
    2. **Luke 22:39-44** – Jesus was in great agony in the hours leading up to the cross.
12. Relief of Redemptive Work Finished
    1. **John 19:30** – We can only imagine the relief of Jesus as His pain and anguish came to an end.
    2. **In addition to the suffering, He was certainly relieved by the fact that what man needed for salvation was supplied.**
13. Relief awaits us!
    1. **Hebrews 4:9-10** – Our life is a sacrifice (**cf. Romans 12:1**). It is a life of work for the Father, and when our life is over, “It is finished!”
    2. **2 Timothy 4:6-8** – We have relief ahead of us, but we must finish the race!

**Conclusion**

1. These simple words spoken by Jesus from the cross are heavy with meaning.
2. His suffering was coming to an end, as well as His important redemptive work.
   1. These things He endured that we might live.
   2. We are saved because of Jesus sacrifice!
3. When we are born again, we rise up to walk in newness of life, in works prepared by God for us.
4. **We are not yet finished, but must strive to the finish!**
   1. We must ***“[look] unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2)***.