

Saying: No 6

Scripture: John 19 v 30

30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

During the past five Bible readings, we have considered five of the sayings of Jesus from the cross. We are going to observe now the sixth saying, which is **‘It is Finished’**.

William Burkitt’s notes on the N.T.

1. It is finished; that is, now is my Father's eternal counsel concerning me accomplished, and now is the promise that he made of my becoming a sacrifice for sin fulfilled; both my Father's purpose and my Father's promise are now receiving their final accomplishment.

2. It is finished; that is, the scriptures are now fulfilled; all the types that did prefigure me, all the prophetic predictions that were made of me, all the Jewish sacrifices that pointed at me, have now received their final accomplishment in me, and are abolished in my death.

3. It is finished; that is, my sufferings are now ended, my race is run, my work is done, I am now putting my last hand to it, my death is before me, I have finished the work, the whole work, which I came into the world for, doing as well as dying; all is upon the matter completed, it is just finishing, it will be instantly finished.

Further, 4. It is finished: that is, the fury and malice, the rage and revenge of my enemies, is now ended, they have done their worst; the chief priests and soldiers, the judges and witnesses, the executioners and tormentors, have all tired out themselves with the exercise of their own malice; but now their spite and spleen, their envy and enmity, is ended, and the Son of God is at rest.

5. It is finished: that is, the glorious work of man's redemption and salvation is perfected and performed, consummated, and completed, the price is paid, satisfaction is given, redemption is purchased, and salvation insured to a miserable world.

These comments express clearly the meaning behind the words ‘It is Finished’ To give further emphasis to this saying I want us to consider certain other things relating to it.

This was. **A Triumphant Accomplishment.** ‘It is Finished’ The question can be asked, ‘What is Finished’?

1. The Victorious Life He was sent to Live. Heb 2 v 14 to 17

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death that is, the devil.

15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants.

17 For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high

priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted

Jesus was sent to live a victorious life over Satan and sin. He was challenged during His life by Satan who attempted to get Him to submit to his suggestions. The devil tried his hardest to get a foothold in Jesus’ life.

He knew that if he could get Jesus to do what he wanted, the battle over the will of Jesus would have been won, and the mission of Jesus failed. However, it tells us in **Heb 7 v 15**, *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

Only Jesus could have lived a victorious life over Satan and sin. The reason He was able to do it was because he was in the first place born sinless, and because of this He was able to live a life without committing a single sin or misdemeanour. He lived a blameless and perfect life.

It is finished the Victorious life He was sent to live.

It is finished. What is finished?

2. The Way back to God He was sent to Make.

There is a chorus of a song that says, ‘There’s a way back God from the dark paths of sin, a door has been opened that you may go in at Calvary’s cross is where you begin when you came as a sinner to Jesus.

No matter how far down the path of sin you have gone, no matter how many years you have journeyed down that path, you have not gone too far to turn back. You may think there is no way back because you have gone too far. There is a way back.

This week a British soldier was awarded the George Cross for his bravery in rescuing an army officer from a mine field. The way he did it was to clear a path through the mine field, laying down a line as he went to rescue his fellow soldier. On his return from the battle field with the rescued officer He followed the path he had made, other soldiers could also follow the way out he had made.

Jesus made a way back to God when there was no way; to rescue man from the field of sin Jesus had to make a way of escape. At Calvary He did it. He has cleared the danger out of the way so there is no need for anyone to remain in sin any longer.

The way out of the problems you have been plagued by for so long because you did not know there was a way of escape, you don't need to be plagued by them any more. Jesus has made path way out. It is finished the way back to God He was sent to make.

It is finished

3. The Task He was sent to Complete.

John 3 v 8, says *For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.*

Burkitt's says

We were in captivity, shut and locked up in the prison-house; we were under the dominion of sin, and power of Satan, but the Son of God came to rescue us, to knock off our fetters, and to set us at liberty.

In old times when a crime had been committed people were put into a stock, they were locked in until someone removed the lock and set them free, they were incapable of releasing themselves, it took someone else to set them free.

Since the sin of Adam mankind has been locked into sin by Satan. The nature of man had been tied into sin.

The task of Jesus was to destroy the locks on the stocks and set people free from the devil's power.

It has been said of certain people on occasions when offered something different, I can't do it because I am locked into it. Do you feel locked into something? Locked into a situation that you would love to be free from, a situation brought on by an addiction to one thing or another.

Listen, Jesus has finished the task He was sent to complete. The task was to destroy the works of the devil, which kept you locked in the stocks.

The task of Jesus was to dissolve the power, influence of sin and cut of its connection from man.

If you want to disconnect the power supply to a light you have to break the circuit, the task of Jesus was to break the circuit of sin and connect us to the circuit and supply of righteousness.

When Jesus said the words 'It is Finished' He was referring to

The Victorious Life He was sent to Live.

The Way back to God He was sent to Make.

The Task He was sent to Complete.