

The Death and Burial of Jesus

John 19:28-42

October 8, 2023

1. It Is Finished (28-30)

- a. All things were now accomplished (tetelestai); Jesus knew that all things that His Father sent Him to do were completed (tetelestai); Jesus' work also completes (teleiatha) the Scriptures.
- b. Jesus' thirst fulfills Psalm 69:21, "They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink."
 - i. The vinegar offered to Jesus was a form of torture.
 - ii. The hyssop was a small bushy plant used by the priests in sprinkling; and was used to sprinkle the blood of the Passover lamb on the doorposts (Exodus 12:22).
 - iii. In drinking from the hyssop, Jesus symbolically drank the cup of suffering that was given to Him by the Father.
 - iv. Jesus became thirsty to quench our thirst eternally – "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst" (John 4:13-14).
- c. Jesus makes the final declaration, "It is finished (tetelestai)" (30).
 - i. Jesus completed the work of redemption.
 1. Hebrews 10:10-14 "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."
 2. Jesus completed the Scripture to the last tiny detail (Matthew 5:17-18).
 - ii. Jesus bowed His head and gave up His spirit.
 1. John 10:17-18 "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father."
 2. Jesus offered Himself willingly on our behalf.

2. Testimony to the Perfect Sacrifice (31-37)

- a. The Jews wanted the body of Christ removed from the cross before Passover to preserve their ritualistic purity, not realizing that the body of Jesus perfectly fulfilled the Passover feast and was the only means of true purity before God (31).
- b. Jesus' legs were not broken as the others were fulfilling the Scriptural requirements for the Passover Lamb (32, 33, 36, cf. Exodus 12:46; Numbers 9:12).
- c. From Jesus' side flowed blood and water (34, 37).
 - i. Blood flowed picturing the blood sacrifice made for our sins (Hebrews 9:22).
 - ii. Water flowed picturing the Spirit Who is living water for all who receive Him (cf. 7:37-38).
 - iii. "The mixture of blood and water forcefully unites the purification of the blood with the power of the Spirit, creating a universal and eternal atonement for the sins of the world" (Ed Klink).
- d. The narrator was an eyewitness to Jesus' perfect sacrifice (35).
 - i. John saw it; John's record is true; John knows what he says is true.
 - ii. John bears witness so that you may believe it to be true also!
- e. Jesus was the fulfillment of the Passover Lamb (36-37)
 - i. In fulfillment of the Passover lamb, none of Jesus' bones were broken (36; cf. Numbers 9:12)
 - ii. Look on the One you have pierced and be saved (37; cf. Zechariah 12:10)!

3. Buried in a Garden and a New Tomb (38-42)

- a. Two secret disciples, Joseph and Nicodemus, become public disciples (38-41).
 - i. Joseph provided the tomb, a burying place fit for a king (38).
 1. Joseph was formerly a secret disciple.

2. In this moment, Joseph became a public disciple by begging the body of Jesus.
 - ii. Nicodemus provided 100 pounds of myrrh and aloe, an extravagant offering (39-40).
 1. Since Mary's pound of ointment cost a year's wages, Nicodemus's 100 pounds of ointment would have been the equivalent of 100 years wages.
 2. Jesus received the burial of a king!
 - b. The story of redemption begins and ends in a garden; what the first Adam lost in the Garden of Eden, the Second Adam regained in a garden (41-42).
 - i. In the place where Jesus was crucified was a garden (41).
 1. In this garden was a tomb, which belonged to Joseph.
 2. This tomb was new and had never been used.
 3. This tomb would be the place where the body of Jesus would be transformed and glorified!
 - ii. After embalming the body, Joseph and Nicodemus placed Jesus in the tomb (42).
 1. Jesus was "planted" in the earth to bring forth abundant fruit (cf. 12:24).
 2. Jesus is both the Gardener and the Seed that dies to produce the fruit of the church!

Conclusion:

1. Is the payment for your sins complete? Are you still trying to pay off an infinite debt? Are you resting in Christ's completed work?
2. Whose sacrifice are you trusting? Your own? Or the perfect Lamb of God?
3. What is Jesus worth to you? Is Jesus worth your life lived for Him?
4. For the Christian the tomb is transformed from the place of death, to the place of glorification (1 Corinthians 15:55)!