

Go For God World.

Sermon No1

It is finished



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Bible Reading John Ch19v30

When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar
He said, **It Is Finished** and He bowed His head
gave up the ghost. Do you get that B&S. Repeat
Today with the help of the Holy Spirit I want to take you
back in time. Back to Calvary, Calvary the place of the
curse. And Calvary the place of blessing. Calvary the place
of the curse for **Jesus** *Cursed is everyman who was
hung on a tree.* But the place of blessing for you and for
me. Calvary where we see man at his worst, yet we see
God at His best. Calvary where the Lamb of God was
slain, where the Son of God gave up His life for you and
me. Calvary where we see the awful depths of human
sin, what they can do. The film The Passion portrayed it
Calvary. But Calvary was much worse than that.
The Bible says He was marred more than any man, we
see the worst in man But we also see the tremendous
heights of Divine Love. Calvary where every man and
every woman must come to if they expect to live eternally
with Jesus Christ in Heaven. So Let us with our ears
opened listen to the words that fell from the lips of our
suffering Saviour. He took all of our guilt all of our shame
He died in our place that day on Calvary's mountain, also
known as Golgotha. He took all of our sins upon
Himself His love for us is so strong He asked His Father to
forgive us. *Father forgive them for they know not what
they do*

And sometimes B&S I wonder today do people know today exactly what they are doing ?When people reject Jesus Christ as their Saviour, it's like being in the crowd that day saying I want nothing to do with Him, away with Him away with Crucify Him, He spoke the word of salvation to a repenting thief.

Today you shall be with Me in Paradise

A thief who was being crucified in the same position, right beside Him. In the last fleeting moments of his life.

A thief who just made it into Heaven by the skin of his teeth. He looked across at Jesus a wracked man, bruised, battered, Jesus was a mess, saturated and covered in blood yet this thief saw a King. But not an ordinary king, he saw the **King of all kings**. I wonder, in your minds eye, do you see a king like that? He spoke a word of anguish, *My God, My God why has thou forsaken Me?*

His own Father couldn't look upon Him because He was covered in sin. The sad part about that is, none of that sin was His. He spoke a word of suffering. ***I Thirst.***

But what was He thirsty for? Was it really water?

It could well have been, but then again it could have been souls. He could have been thirsty for your soul, He could have been thirsty for my soul after all that is why He was hanging there. He spoke the words of Victory,

It Is Finished. What was finished? In John Ch 17v4 You will read He prayed to His Father

I have brought You glory on earth, by completing the work that You sent me to do. Now Father glorify Me with the glory I had with You before the world began. Amen

He finished the work His Father had sent Him to do.

He was the substitute for you and for me.

He was the sacrificial Lamb for us. And He spoke words of contentment. *Father into Thy hands I commend My spirit.*

Back into the hands of His loving Father. You see brothers and sisters He left the golden streets of Heaven to come and to suffer for you and for me, that you may be set free from your sin, from the bondage of sin, His Father sent Him on this mission, He sent Him on this journey and He was only too willing, obliged to go. Father the work that you sent Me to do is now finished.

My body is marred more than any mans, My back is ripped open like a ploughed field, My skull hurts beyond pain, My hands are supporting the weight of my whole body.

I have been interrogated, spit upon, hairs pulled out of My face, and put to shame. There is a whole in My side where a soldier shoved his spear into Me.

I look out at all their faces and all as I can see is anger.

And I wonder **WHY? - Why** do they hate Me so much?

I see My mother there she among the crowd and I feel ashamed, Me hanging here naked, and My mother having to look Me. My good friend John is standing right beside my mother. Oh how I love John. But where are the rest?

Where's the rest of my followers? It's over now Father I have completed the work that you gave Me to do.

It Is Finished

Why all the hatred, I love those people, I healed their sick I raised their dead, I fed them, I was their Shepherd.

Now they are shouting Crucify Him, Crucify Him, Away with Him But Father I have glorified thee on earth.

I have finished the work that You gave me to do.

Brothers and sisters with great reverence let us try to view in detail what Jesus Christ actually finished.

It Is Finished meant that all the prophecies connected with His death and life had been fulfilled. There are many, but I think of and I am sure you think of Isaiah Ch 7v14 Who foretold the Saviours birth. 700 Years before He was born, Isaiah prophesied *Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel **God With Us.***

Wow. 700 Years later God came.

Immanuel God With US. And when I think of Micah Ch 5v2 Who prophesied the place of His birth.

You O Bethlehem though you are small among the clans of Judah. Out of you will come for Me one who will be ruler over Israel. That prophecy was fulfilled in Luke Ch2v11 *Today in the City of David a Saviour has been born to you He is Christ the Lord.* First of all Brothers and sisters who was born for you? A Saviour.

Your Saviour. He says I will save My people from their sins. Jesus Christ is our Saviour. He saves us from the penalty of sin. That is eternal punishment in Hell.

But I want to ask you, do you simply serve Him to keep you out of Hell? No you don't, you don't even think about it, you just love Him, you serve Him because you love Him. You never think that He's keeping you out of hell, you know you are not going there. He finished a work that His Father gave Him to do. And that work B&S was all for our benefit. He was completely sinless. He died for our sins. He came into this world born of a virgin. No communion had ever taken place between Mary and Joseph. God was His Father. He grew up sinless, in Him was light, there was no darkness of any kind in Him, He was the Sacrificial Lamb sent by His father. I am sure you know the story of **Abraham and Isaac**. When the Lord tested Abraham and Isaac, that was hard. I remember away a lot of years ago, the Lord tested me in a lot of areas. My problem was that I couldn't understand Calvary. Well I found out later, It was because I couldn't feel Calvary, not that I couldn't understand it. I was about 5 years saved and I would ask people the question, what was the big deal about Calvary? And everybody told me the same thing, that was the richest thing in Heaven that God gave you.

When God gave you Jesus He gave you Heaven. Couldn't have given you anything more richer in heaven than His only Begotten Son, but that didn't satisfy me B&S.

I knew that. I asked my son, I asked Pastors, I got the same answers. It got me so much I wrote away to Bible Colleague, and I got a lovely letter back saying, to explain Calvary was a big subject and they couldn't do it in a few letters, but suggested a few books. Those books I had read or books something similar and they all explained something the same thing Until one night God gave me a dream and it broke me B&S. I remember it so well, on a Sunday morning I woke up crying and I woke up saying, I'm sorry Lord, I'm sorry now I know, now I know Lord. And this is what the dream was. I had a wee engineering company, It was a prosperous engineering company. 7 men working for me, we did overtime Saturdays and all It was very, very good to me. God came right down into the engineering factory and He said to me Laurence this is your wee business, I said yes Lord it is, He said you love it don't you? I said I do, He said it's a good wee business for you isn't it, I said it is Lord. He said, it's a matter a fact, it's here you spend most of your time, I said yes it is Lord. He said would you give it up for Me? Instantly B&S I said, Lord if You want it You can take it. Now that wee business prospered me. I have a nice home and a car and money in the bank. Instantly the Lord took me straight to my home, right in the middle of my driveway me and Him. He said to me, there's all your material blessings Laurence I said I know Lord You have been good to me there

He said there's your home and there's your car and I know how much money you have got in the bank. I said Lord you have blessed me, my material blessings You have blessed me. He said would give it all up for Me? I said Lord if You want it take it. Instantly I said if You want it take it. Well then He came to me, personally to me Truthfully B&S In this dream I felt a shiver, I felt a shiver, He said to me, what about yourself Laurence? If I was to call you home now would you come? And I suddenly began to think, what about Jean? The kids were young at the time. I was the main provider the main money earner and making sure bills and everything else was all run right, but I knew what I was going to say, for I trusted the Lord for to look after all those things, and I said to Him Lord if you want to take me home now I'll come. Then He said what about your son, will you give me your son? And that is when I started to cry, I said no, He said give Me your son, I said no Lord don't be taking my son off me I couldn't do that. He said what about your daughter Joanne? My daughter Joanne was going through a bad time, she was in hospital, nervous breakdown because her husband had just died, She had lost him and she was mentally disturbed, What about your daughter? I started arguing, I started fighting with Him, that's when I was crying. I was crying and said , no I won't give you my son. He said to me Laurence It cost Me Mine. WOW Did I feel Calvary then?

When He said to me Laurence It cost me mine.

Everything else in life didn't matter to me. It didn't matter about the money, it didn't matter about the material blessings, it didn't matter about my wallet or my business or my friends or even me, I was willing to go myself, but not my son. And that brought Calvary home to me.

Abraham. He tested Abraham Give us your only begotten son. The Bible stresses the fact the son that you Love your only son Abraham whom you love. In my minds eye, I can see Abraham taking that boy Isaac up that mountain up Mount Moriah and I can see that knife shaking and I can see tears pouring out of him, and I can see his nerves away as he was about to plunge that knife into his son

Wow, No Abraham I don't want your son, I am going to give you mine. I'm going to give you mine. Abraham will you give Me your son? Yes Lord, I'll give You my Isaac I'll give you my life, I'll give You my everything.

But I don't want your son Abraham, It was you I wanted, It was always you I wanted. The world is going to repent through My Son. Was it the finished work of your old life?

The old to the new The before and the after. Let a man examine himself and what does he see? Remember your life before you committed it to **Jesus**. Do you see a new person,? Yes you do. Has your mentality and your thinking your mind-set has it all changed? Yes it is, do people see a change in your life since you came to Christ?

Yes they do. People notice the change. Amen

What about His personal walk on the earth going round with His disciples healing the sick. Performing all sorts of miracles, all that stopped that day. **It Is Finished**

Is that what stopped that day? There are many things B&S that stopped that day and Calvary covers them all. For the people at that time to be able to see Him, to be able to touch Him and feel Him, to be able to listen to His audible voice, to be able to see His lips move and hear those words of comfort coming from His mouth, those words of encouragement. Do you remember when Caiaphas the high priest tried to arrest Him?

Before he eventually did get Him, Caiaphas sent out soldiers to arrest Him, because He was accused of starting a riot as He spoke to the multitudes.

Those soldiers B&S were under orders to arrest Him.

They came back to Caiaphas the high priest without Him Caiaphas the high priest asked, where is He?

The words that the soldiers said to Caiaphas were.

Never a Man spake like this Man. What did they do?

They were under orders to arrest Him They listened.

He was preaching to the multitude, and they were under orders to go and arrest Him, and to bring Him back, but they couldn't, because they listened to Him, His voice and His voice was hypnotic. They couldn't arrest Him, and they said to Caiaphas *Never a man spake like this Man.*

Those things all finished that day at Calvary.

But what Jesus meant that day when He cried **It Is Finished** was this, it was mans ability to approach God. You see that day a new dispensation broke into being. Everyone then was living under the law, **Jesus** was born under the law, Moses the law giver, and people were living under those rules , under those laws.

In Matthew Ch 20v50 You will read that when Jesus cried those words **It Is Finished**, that the curtain in the temple split in two from top to bottom. And that curtain represented the law B&S. It sealed off the Holy of Holies. No one was allowed into the Holy of Holies except the high priest. And that was only once a year. It was Like a confession chamber for the children of Israel.

God split that curtain down the middle in two, giving direct access to God the Father. No more killing of bulls and Goats for a blood offering, no more confessing to a priest for the forgiveness of your sins. The old law was finished. The blood of Jesus Christ covers us all from our sins. It was time for a change. The old dispensation of the law is now finished. And this is what Jesus meant in those words **It Is Finished**.

The death of Jesus Christ brought us in the dispensation of Grace, His love for us now makes it possible to be set free from our sins, free from the bondage of sin that sin that we were born unto. And by acknowledging Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and Calvary, and the Cross and the Blood and the Resurrection. Hallelujah.

When you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your Saviour and you acknowledge Him as the Son of God.

And then you begin to realise that I'm a sinner, and you repent of that sin, then begins the making of a new person, **It Is Finished**. The old life, behold the new.

Then you begin to see Jesus as that thief saw Him Not a wracked man, not a mess, not a criminal, not someone saturated in blood, but you look beyond all of that and all of His wounds and you don't notice the mocked crown OF thorns on His head, you don't see the hole in His side, you don't notice the agony that is on His face. You look beyond all of that and you see a **King**.

And you see His beauty, and you see His kindness, and His Love and you just want to be with Him, so you cry out, Remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

B&S really and truly it won't be long now. All suffering will end, if you are having a bad day, a bad week, a bad month. All suffering, all sorrow. all heartbreak, what ever makes life hard for you at the moment will soon end.

It Is Finished He finished all of those things for you.

You know for you He opened up the Red Sea, He stopped the river Jordan from flowing, He stopped the sun from shining for a day, what does that tell me? Tells me that there is nothing to hard for Him, performing all of those miracles, He did it all for you.

It is Finished. But what is finished? Is it His death? No that is only His beginning, and He wants to begin yours.

He wants to start a new life for you.

When the breath of life leaves your body B&S

do you not want to go to be with Him?

You would be a fool if you didn't, **It Is Finished**

END

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Thank You **Pastor Laurence Edgar.**

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