

At the time of the first Passover, God set his people free from slavery in Egypt. What slavery does Jesus' death set us free from?

3. Complete for All Time

In our key passage, John tells us after Jesus declared, "tetelestai", He bowed his head. His work was done and now He voluntarily gave up His life. Similarly, God rested when He completed the work of creation. But our perfect relationship with God was shattered when sin entered Eden. God's intent was always to reconcile us to that perfect relationship once again. And our reconciliation was only possible through the finished work of Jesus on the cross.

Colossians 1:20 NLT - 20 and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

The debt of sin was paid, the prophecies were fulfilled, the requirements of the law fully met as Jesus declared "It is finished!" What remains for us to do to be saved?

John 1:12 NLT - 12 But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 6:40 NLT - 40 For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day."

WRAP-UP

Jesus "finished" His work on the cross when He conquered sin and death, redeemed the lost, fulfilled prophecy and met the requirements of the law. There is nothing more that is needed, except that we trust His finished work. There is nothing we can add or do or improve on that effects our salvation. The debt we owed was completely delt with, and our sins removed as far as east is from west. It is finished!

MEMORY VERSE

When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and released his spirit. - John 19:30 NLT

PRAYER (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life.

Challenge- Attend the Good Friday experience this Friday April 2 anytime between 1pm and 4pm on the Prayer Walk at New Life Pismo.

"It is Finished!"

7: A Lenten Series #6

INTRODUCTION

As Jesus prepared to take His final breath, He shouted a victorious declaration "Tetelestai"- "It is finished!". He had been faithful to His purpose on earth, and the time had come for Jesus to depart this world. At that moment, everything changed.

Ice Breaker

What is one thing in your life you would love to see finished, completed, or paid in full?

Key Passage

John 19:28-30 NLT - 28 Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and to fulfill Scripture he said, "I am thirsty." 29 A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips. 30 When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and released his spirit.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Finished, Complete, Paid in Full

When we hear Jesus' victorious claim that "It is finished" we have to ask ourselves, "What was finished?" Certainly, Jesus' life and suffering were finished, but from God's perspective, many things set in motion long ago reached their conclusion.

Hebrews 9:26b NLT - 26b ...But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice.

What does Hebrews 9:26 tell us was removed when Jesus died as our sacrifice? How had the Jews been attempting to remove sin up until at time?

Did you know, each year on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) the high priest would enter the temple and make a special sacrifice for the sins of the people of Israel? After the lamb was killed, the priest would emerge from the place of sacrifice and declare to the waiting crowd “tetelestai!”

Hebrews 10:2-5 NLT - 2 If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. 3 But instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year. 4 For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. 5 That is why, when Christ came into the world, he said to God, "You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But you have given me a body to offer.

Hebrews 10 explains that animal sacrifice was inadequate to remove sin. What does it tell us was the purpose of animal sacrifice? Would animal sacrifice continue to be necessary for those whose sin was covered by Jesus’ sacrifice?

*Hebrews 9:22 ESV - 22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.
Romans 6:23 NLT - 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.*

In light of Hebrews 9:22 and Romans 6:23 how did Jesus’ death pay in full the debt we all owe?

Jesus’ life had a purpose which was fulfilled at Calvary. In Luke 19:10 what did Jesus say was the reason He came?

Luke 19:10 NLT - 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

2. Passover Fulfilled

The timing and circumstances of Jesus death were no accident. Jerusalem was swollen with pilgrims (possibly hundreds of thousands) celebrating the Passover that day. This festival was initiated when God set His people free from slavery in Egypt. For generations the Israelites had followed the requirements of observing the Passover, which had pointed them toward this very event.

In Egypt, the Israelites took the lamb, sacrificed it, placed the blood of the sacrifice on the doorposts of their homes using a hyssop branch, and then ate the lamb as their main course. At the first Passover, the angel of death “passed over” the homes marked by the blood of the lamb during the final plague.

*John 1:29 NLT - 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
1 Corinthians 5:7b NLT – 7b...Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.*

Both John the Baptist and Paul identified Jesus as the Passover lamb who takes away the sin of the world. In the passages below, how did Christ’s sacrifice fulfilled what the Passover lamb foreshadowed?

<i>Exodus 12:5 NLT - 5 The animal you select must be a one-year-old male, either a sheep or a goat, with no defects.</i>	<i>1 Peter 1:19 NIV - 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.</i>
<i>Exodus 12:6 NLT - 6 "Take special care of this chosen animal until the evening of the fourteenth day of this first month. Then the whole assembly of the community of Israel must slaughter their lamb or young goat at twilight.</i>	<i>Mark 15:42 NLT - 42 This all happened on Friday, the day of preparation, the day before the Sabbath. As evening approached,</i>
<i>Exodus 12:46 NLT - 46 Each Passover lamb must be eaten in one house. Do not carry any of its meat outside, and do not break any of its bones.</i>	<i>John 19:33 NLT - 33 But when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they didn't break his legs.</i>
<i>Exodus 12:13 NLT - 13 But the blood on your doorposts will serve as a sign, marking the houses where you are staying. When I see the blood, I will pass over you. This plague of death will not touch you when I strike the land of Egypt.</i>	<i>Romans 5:9 NLT - 9 And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation.</i>