

It Is Finished

Isa 40:1 "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God." I have been hearing these words in my head for several days now. They even woke me up about 3:30 this morning. On the Grace Alone internet radio program they often sing a song that has these words.

The exact phrase "***it is finished***" is only used twice in scripture. Here is one of the places:

- **Jas 1:15 "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."**

We are reminded in this New Testament text; "**sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.**" Just as, in the beginning; God told Adam in the Garden of Eden; if you break my commandment and eat of the forbidden fruit, of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall surely die. God gave the commandment and the consequence; but Adam chose to disregard God, and live out exactly what this verse in James tells us. We know this was a spiritual death because Adam and Eve continued to live naturally and from them the earth was replenished. We also know; this sin destroyed the communion that God had with man in the Garden of Eden.

Sin, ultimately, is the cause of our natural death, as seen in: ***Ro 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*** This scripture teaches us that sin brings death; but Jesus Christ gives eternal life. We can see the picture of sin bringing forth natural death in Jesus incarnate.

Because of the spiritual death of mankind, by our inherit sin nature and by sinning; there is the necessity of the dead spirit of man to be resurrected, whereby; man can be restored to the state of communion with God and Christ. Just as; a person who is already dead cannot resurrect themselves to life; neither can the spiritually dead cause themselves to be born again. There is the necessity of one, who is empowered of God, to do both. This was accomplished in the incarnation of Jesus.

Now consider; "***sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.***" and think about Jesus, in the body of flesh, who never committed a single sin. Because of his sinlessness; Jesus had communion with God and had no need to die a natural death, except our sins were laid upon him, to fulfill the will of God the Father, as seen in: ***2Co 5:14-21; 14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: 15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. 16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. 17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.***"

Paul tells us plainly here; though Christ knew no sin, yet our sin was laid upon his fleshy body that he might die for us. This then is the manifest purpose of the incarnation of Christ Jesus, seen in: ***Joh 15:13 "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."*** Thus, we see

again; "***sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.***" Why? Because God the Father was in God the Son reconciling to himself, each one that God the Father gave to God the Son to save eternally, seen in: ***Joh 6:37-39; 37 "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.***" Aren't you glad; Jesus didn't stay dead? Jesus raised himself from the dead; and raised us up with himself? Seen in: ***Joh 10:18 "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.***" Hallelujah!

The other scripture (which actually comes first in the bible) that contains the exact phrase is:

- ***Joh 19:30 "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."***

When Jesus said these words; "***It is finished:***" what did it mean? Simply put, it meant; all the sin of everyone that God the Father gave to Christ to save was forgiven; all the work of eternal life and salvation, which God the Father gave him to do, in his body of flesh, was finished.

Consider the setting of these words of Jesus on the cross. He is no longer in the courtroom. He has already been sentenced to death, and that death sentence is being carried out. Thus, men might say of this phrase "***It is finished:***" that this is not admissible evidence that Jesus was the Christ, or that he accomplished the will of God the Father in saving all those given unto him.

Mankind often goes to the court of law to establish whether a person is guilty or innocent of any charges laid against them. However, the court of law has certain standards by which they operate, and all evidence presented in court must be admissible and usable by the court. One thing that is not admissible evidence in court is hearsay.

Something I learned from Elder Chris McCool, who is an attorney at law and a minister of Jesus Christ. Casual conversation that is spoken outside of the courtroom is not admissible in the court of law, since it is considered to be hearsay. There is one exception to this rule, which is: If the words are the words of a person who is dying they are admissible evidence. A dying declaration is a type of hearsay. However, unlike regular hearsay, a dying declaration is admissible in court. As such, a dying declaration is as an exception to the hearsay rule. The dying declaration may be used in civil law cases and criminal law cases.

With these thoughts in mind, I want to tell you that the dying testimony of Jesus incarnate "***It is finished***" is admissible evidence in the highest court, the judgment hall of God. When God the Father heard the dying testimony of his Beloved Son on the cross; God the Father was immediately reconciled to each and every sinner, which he gave to Christ Jesus to save. Thus we see; the first "***It is finished***" given in John 19:30, is the fix for the second "***It is finished***" given in James 1:15.

With this knowledge, and the complete testimony of Christ given in the King James Bible, you have all the evidence you need to be assured of your eternal life and salvation. Wherefore, be ye comforted by this belief: The dying declaration of Jesus "***It is finished***" is sufficient proof of the security of every born again sinner. Praise God! nothing can change the dying testimony of our Saviour. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! "***It is finished!***"