

Victory

I. Slide1 **Announce:**

- A. Slide2-5 Larry: Sun Night Prayer. Men's Breakfast. Easter Weekend. Employment Opp.
- B. Slide6 Genesis - Wed Night.

II. Slide7 **Intro:** 6th Word From The Cross. Victory.

- A. Slide8 Do you know that Mount Rushmore *is not finished*? Its sculptor *Gutzon Borglum* ran out of money and died. His son *Lincoln* took over...and gave up 4 months later.

1. We can all relate to tasks we've **left incomplete**. We will even all die one day with **unfinished business**. But there is **One** who didn't :)
2. Jesus was only 33, but had **finished** all of His responsibilities. Yes, you can die young & yet fulfill the will of God.
 - a) We were all born with an **expiration date**. And we as believers all desire to **accomplish** what God has given us to **finish**...to fulfill why He has us here.
 - b) But with **Jesus**...He reminds us this morning...*He did it. He accomplished it. He finished it.*

- B. Slide9 John 19:28-30 *After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." 29 A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. 30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

III. Slide10a **FINISHING WELL**

- A. At the foot of **Mount McKinley**/Denali a skeleton was found seated on the root of a tree. Just above was a finger carved in the bark, pointing down to the skeleton. Beside the Slide10b finger were these words: **The end of the trail**. They told the tragic story of one who had set out to climb that high mountain, but his strength had failed. He had died with his purpose **unrealized**.
 1. Slide11a Here hangs **Jesus**. Suspended by just *a few nails*, as He hovers between heaven & earth. For 6 hours no longer possessing a passport to either place.

2. Slide11b *It is finished* sound like *a bloody period on the end of the last sentence of His life*. His dearest dreams & holiest hopes shattered. *The end of the trail*... Or, Is this what He meant?

B. Slide11c Actually it is **not *I am Finished*** - this was **no** cry of despair, **no** moan of resignation

1. Slide11d **But wait**. *Was it Finished???* **No**, in many ways it was *just beginning*.

a) *Resurrection 3 days later. The Great commission. The church birthed forth. The bringing in of the nations was still out into the future.*

b) True this is *not the end* for Him... *He was just getting started*. So we must define the word "**it**" (and we will).

2. Jesus gives here **the most triumphant cry in all of human history**.

3. It was, a cry of **completion**, a cry of **fulfillment**, a cry of **Victory**.

a) **But** it must have been **humorous**, for some at the cross, to hear a man nailed to a cross yelling, *I've completed it! I'm Victorious!*

4. Slide11e Jesus indicated this 2 chapters earlier, *I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do*. Jn.17:4

C. Slide12a *It is finished* is just **1 word** in the Greek. *Tetelestai/Τετέλεσται* = *Finished, Complete, Accomplished, Achieved*. - *To be or become thoroughly or entirely accomplished*. Logos

1. In the *Greek perfect tense* it means, *it is finished & always will be finished*.

2. Slide12b Many follow a religion of **DO**. Ours is a religion of **DONE!** *It is finished*.

D. Slide12c Jesus was a Finisher.

1. **Michelangelo** was a genius. He excelled as *a sculpture, designer, painter, & architect*. His statues of **Moses & David**, to name but a few, are widely recognized & appreciated. What many people do not know is that in Florence, Italy, *an entire hall is filled with his unfinished sculptural works*. As great as this artist was, **he left much unfinished**.

a) Slide12d Jesus Christ left **NO unfinished work** (regarding His 1st advent).

2. Human tendency is to quit. *He finished. He stuck to it. He remained. He set His face like a flint* (Is.50:7). *When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem* (Lk.9:51). [a Hebraism/Heb idiom implying *fixedness of purpose, especially in the prospect of difficulty or danger. He made His decision*]

- a) Are you tired? Are you weary of doing good? Are you close to quitting something? Are you ready to quit your job before you should? Are you discouraged as a parent? Are you ready to quit your marriage? Tired of resisting temptation, ready to give in?

(1) Don't give up. Go 1 more. Finish.

E. Slide12e Archaeologists have repeatedly found *Tetelestai's* Latin equivalent, *consummatum est*, scrawled across *tax receipts* used in those days, indicating it also meant *paid or paid in full*.

1. The purchase was made. No debts outstanding. No further payments were required.

2. With sin's account settled, our debt of guilt was indeed *wiped out*.

- a) Slide12f So, *It is finished* speaks of both the *chronological sense* of *ended* & the *Theological sense* of *achieved*. Jn.19:28

IV. Slide13 WHAT IS FINISHED?

A. What Did Jesus Finish?

1. Slide14a I have Fulfilled all Prophecies concerning My 1st Advent (*Like, 355*)

2. Slide14b I have Completed all My Sufferings

- a) *All earthly sufferings*: Starting as a baby: smelly stable, feeding trough, His nursery mates some cows & donkeys, death threats as a toddler, forced to be a refugee. Despised & rejected by man, almost thrown off a cliff. *Then there's the crucifixion*. He was *a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering*. Every *vein* a channel of *suffering*, every *nerve ending* firing-off *stabbing pain* throughout His body.

3. Slide14c I have Reached the **Goal** of My Incarnation

- a) He came to *seek & save that which was lost* (Lk.19:10). To *save sinners* (1 Tim.1:15). To *redeem them that were under the law* (Gal.4:4). *To take away our sins* (1 Jn.3:5).
- b) His work on earth was finished: Jn.17:4 *I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.*

4. Slide14d I have Accomplished My Sacrifice & My Atonement

- a) **Priests** were never allowed to sit down while they were working. Which pointed to the fact *their work was never done*. [there was an endless stream of sacrifices]
- (1) In contrast, Jesus as our High Priest, says *He is finished w/His work*.
- b) **Atonement** = to make amends, to make things right. To make amends of a debt.
- (1)***He** didn't just make **a down payment** and then expect **me** to *keep up the installments*.
- (2) Spurgeon said, *There is no mortgage on the saints*.
- (3) So why do we **live & act** this way?

5. Slide14e I have Dealt with all of your Sins

- a) Our sins were *transferred* to the Savior.
- (1) Is.53:6 *the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all*. So, if they were laid on **Him**, **they're** no longer on **me**.
- b) *Sin* still dwells **in** me, **but** not **on** me.
- (1) *Example*: If one receives Christ they are no longer *under* condemnation.
Sin is no longer **on** him...it's **on our Scapegoat**.
- (2) **Therefore**, The **cross** of Christ is the **grave** of our sins.
- c) **Others**, born to *live*, **but** sinless Jesus born to *die*.
- (1) Born to be *capable* of dying. Death on Calvary His *Supreme Purpose*.
- (2) Jesus, the only one who had *no need to die* (sinless/perfect. sin brings death)
- (3) **Amazing**, the eternal God **could** die. More amazing, that He **would**.

6. Slide14f I have Fulfilled all of the Laws Requirements

- a) Our sins have been blotted out. We've been acquitted...*completely...forever*.
- b) Mt.5:17 *Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill*.
- c) Gal. 3:13 *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law*.
- d) Rom.10:4 *For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes*.

e) Rom.10:14 *For **sin** shall not have dominion over you, for **you are not under law but under grace.***

(1) Spurgeon *We can **stand w/confidence** despite the **thunder of the law** & the **lightening flash of justice**, for we are **safe beneath the cross.***

7. Slide14g I have Disarmed Satan's Power

a) Jn.12:31 *Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.* [the sentence was passed, *though not* executed yet]

(1) *εκβαλλο* - *Cast out* future passive.

b) *Like when King Saul* was stripped of his title as king, yet pursued David for 10 more yrs...*so Satan* pursues us, though he has been toppled by *One greater than he.*

c) *Like Lightning & thunder* strike at the same time, *but* we *see* the **lighting** before we *hear* the **rumble.**

d) *Like the gun at a track meet:* you see the smoke before you hear the gun shot.

(1) *So*, from God's standpoint both the **victory** & the **judgment** of the devil already took place *on the cross.*

e) Col.2:15 *And having **disarmed** the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, **triumphing** over them by the cross.*

(1) Believers, yes we fight Satan & his minions today, *but...*psst...*the fight is fixed.*
The outcome is *not* in doubt.

V. Slide15a **FINISHED...DON'T TRY TO ADD TO IT**

A. Please don't *cheapen* the price He paid!

1. Slide15b There is nothing left for **God** to do, *It is finished.*

There is nothing left for **you** to do, *It is finished.*

2. *What can you add to what He's done?* Can you imagine a master painter showing you His work (still wet) and you look at it & whip a 29¢ brush from your *paint by # set* & put a finishing touch...*there!*

3. Are you going to put on your *dirty sweatshirt* over the **fine linen** of Jesus's righteousness? Are you going to add one of your *filthy dollar-bill* to the **costly ransom** Jesus paid?

4. Salvation is **not** something to be earned, **but** a **gift** to be **received**.

a) Just as I am without one plea, **but** that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come. (Hymn, *Just as I Am*)

5. **Slide15c** He doesn't want our **worthiness** **but** our willingness to accept Christ's payment on our behalf. *Erwin Lutzer, pg.136*

B. If you desire to stand before God on ***your good works***, it will be like standing within 100 yards of the Sun. You will be blinded by the holiness of God. And there will *hang a sign* **Slide16** over the door of hell that reads, ***It is not finished...Never will be.***

C. **Communion Homework:**

D. Put ***your individual sins*** in 1 column on your *Excel spreadsheet*. **And then** write in the next column next to it, ***Paid in Full***.

1. **Slide17** An abortion: Paid In Full
2. Fornication: Paid In Full
3. Cheating: Paid In Full
4. Greed: Paid In Full
5. Abandoning responsibilities: Paid In Full
6. Criminal Behavior: Paid In Full
7. Selfishness: Paid In Full
8. _____: Paid In Full

E. **Slide18a** Heb.10:12,14 ***But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God...14 For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.***

1. **Slide18b** ***Lifted up was He to die, It is finished! was his cry;***
Now in heaven exalted high: Hallelujah, what a Savior! Philip P. Bliss

F. **Communion:**