

Series: John

Title: The Accomplishment of Christ's Death

Text: John 12: 29-33

Date: March 17, 2022

Place: SGBC, NJ

After speaking of his soul trouble, the Lord said, "Father glorify thy name." Then the Father spoke from heaven, said, "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again."

John 12: 29: The people therefore, that stood by, and heard *it*, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him.

Some said one thing, some another. Without God making his word effectual, sinner are not of one mind. Only when God blesses his word to our hearts are we of one mind concerning Christ. They said an angel spoke to him, it seems, as though they thought Christ needed an angel to speak to him. But our Lord told them why this voice came.

John 12: 30: Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes.

How was it for their sakes? The word of the Lord always serves this two-fold purpose: to strengthen the faith of his disciples and to remove all excuse from unbelievers. God said like the rain and snow accomplishes his purpose and never returns void, so God's word never returns to him void. It always accomplishes these two things. This is why we value the preaching of the gospel. It is why preaching the gospel is a joy and a weight to preach. Speaking of Christ's ministers who preach the gospel of Christ in truth, Paul said,

2 Corinthians 2: 14: Now thanks *be* unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. 15: For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: 16: To the one *we are* the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who *is* sufficient for these things? 17: For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

Then the Lord Jesus declared three things that he accomplished by his death. In these three things the Father's name is glorified.

1) Judgment—**John 10: 31: Now is the judgment of this world**

2) Christ conquered the devil—**John 10: 31:...now shall the prince of this world be cast out.**

3) Through his death, Christ is calling his people—**John 10: 32: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me. 33: This he said, signifying what death he should die.**

Subject: The Accomplishment of Christ's Death

Proposition: The death Christ accomplished is the gospel—the gospel concerns the person and accomplished work of Christ Jesus. These three things must be declared or the gospel has not been preached.

By God revealing Christ and the work he accomplished in our hearts, he makes his people of one mind.

One, we are of one mind to speak this gospel to one another because we have experienced and know the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every that believes. It is the gospel that the Spirit of God blesses to the heart to work whatever we need. So this is the word we are to speak to one another at all times.

Two, by revealing the finished work of Christ in our hearts, the Lord makes us of one mind to intercede for one another. We see Christ on his throne interceding for us. We have a great High Priest touched with the feeling of our infirmities who is able to sustain and comfort his needy child. So we pray for one another.

Three, by beholding Christ accomplish this work by his death, having experienced his power and ability ourselves, we are of one mind to trust Christ to work in the heart of one another. He is our Master. He shall make his people stand. We know this because we have experienced it ourselves over and over. So we trust the work into his hands.

So let's look at the accomplishments of Christ's death. May God the Holy Spirit make us of one mind.

JUDGMENT

John 10: 31: Now is the judgment of this world:

The Lord Jesus accomplished judgment by his death.

“Now is the judgment of this world.” I preached a message last Sunday on the scriptures use of the words “world” and “all” because our Lord uses the words “world” and “all” in this passage. *“Now is the judgment of this WORLD...And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw ALL unto me.”* He speaks of God's elect. We know that because Christ did not fail.

Matthew 1:21: And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he SHALL save his people from their sins.

In Christ crucified, the judgment of God's elect—the world of his elect Jew and Gentile—was accomplished. Christ did not come to judge the world but to save and he did not fail. He said,

John 3: 17: God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might [shall] be saved.

John 12:47...I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

Luke 9:56: For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save.

Christ did not fail. Christ went to the cross *to be judged* by God in place of his people. Christ on the cross is the one Man being judged by God in place of his people.

The first Adam was created without sin and given one law which he broke, thereby making all who he represented guilty before God—all became guilty. But the last Adam came forth a holy Man without sin. He was willingly made under all the commands of the law. The GodMan was proven holy, spotless, without sin.

The first Adam sinned in a garden. But the last Adam went to a garden and he who knew no sin, was willingly made sin for his people. He bore not only Adam's one transgression but all the sins of all his elect throughout the world in every age.

God will by no means clear the guilty. When the sin of God's elect was made our Substitute's sin, in strict judgment, God “spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all” (Rom 8: 32). The curse of judgment is God justly casting sinners into outer darkness from the glory of his presence and power for eternity (2 Thess 1: 9). For the sinner who meets God without Christ, he first dies physically then suffers the second death in outer darkness. But Christ bore that living death first on the cross in darkness. In judgment, our Substitute was cast out from the glory of God's presence and power on the cross. It is why he cried, “My God, my God why hast thou forsaken me.” He answered, “For thou art holy and I am a worm and no man” (Ps 22).

That was the just Judge executing justice on all his people in all the world on Christ in place of his people. For his elect, God paid the Lord Jesus the *“wages of sin which is death.”* On the cross the Lord Jesus suffered the second death. In Christ's death all his people died and justice was satisfied. Then he yielded up his spirit and died physically, declaring, “It is finished!” He justified his people making us the righteousness of God in him.

Final judgment will be God declaring that his elect were judged in Christ on the cross. Christ will separate the sheep from the goats. Then God shall declare that Christ accomplished the judgment of this world on the cross. God will declare Christ is the Righteousness of his people. He justified us by his death on the cross. Then all who refused to believe on Christ alone for Righteousness shall be made to bow and confess Christ to be Lord to the glory of God. Then God shall cast them out to suffer that second death for eternity.

But this is the good news that God blesses to the heart to settle his people at Christ's feet first hour to last. "The gospel is the power of God unto salvation for therein is THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD REVEALED from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith" (Rom 1:17) Justice cannot execute more than what God executed upon Christ. God settled the judgment of his people for all time in Christ crucified. God accepts his people because Christ made us the righteousness of God in him.

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Slip into his robe of righteousness by faith. And thou shalt be saved.

THE DEVIL CONQUERED

John 10: 31:...now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

By Christ's death the devil was conquered and cast out. It is obvious that after Christ arose and poured out the Spirit on his church, the power of the devil was broken. The gospel began to spread into all nations beginning at Pentecost. How has Christ cast out the devil? Two ways: before God and in the hearts of his people.

Revelation 12: 10: And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

That is the first way the devil is cast out: it is before God. It concerns judgement being settled. The sins of God's elect were put away by Christ. Christ made us righteous so that the devil has nothing with which to accuse us before God.

The second way Christ cast out the devil is in the hearts of his people by which he brings us to believe on Christ and confess Christ is all our salvation—and this is through the preaching of the gospel which is the word of our testimony. Then we love not our lives unto the death. By Christ's power and grace working in our hearts we lay down our lives. We forsake all our works and our sins we loved and we trust Christ. By Christ's power and grace we do so even when it means death from persecutors.

Revelation 12: 11: And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

When we have experienced Christ's power in our heart, we stop usurping Christ's authority. We bow and trust Christ to work this in the hearts of his people. We lay down our lives trusting Christ to work in the heart through the gospel. This is the love of Christ worked in the heart. Many have been killed by Pharisee's because they refused to renounce Christ. But they overcame by the blood of the Lamb. By the word of their testimony—the confession of Christ and the preaching of the gospel by which we are saved—we are brought to lose our lives for Christ's sake.

Before God, by the blood of the Lamb, by Christ's intercession on our behalf, Christ defends his people from the devil's accusations. Since Christ settled judgment and fulfilled the law for his people and put away our sin and made us the righteousness of God in him, the devil has nothing wherewith to accuse us before God. This is illustrated when the devil accused Joshua the high priest before God.

Jude 1:9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

Christ is Michael the archangel. The devil used the law to accuse Joshua to God due to Joshua's sin. But Christ did not bring a railing accusation against the devil. He said, "The Lord rebuke thee." Christ made intercession for Joshua before God. It was because Christ was Joshua's righteousness. Joshua had no sin to condemn. He was sinless in Christ. So the devil's accusations were of no avail before God. So God the

Father rebuked the devil because Christ made intercession for Joshua. Be sure to get this: Christ made intercession and trusted the Father to honor him by rebuking the devil for his sake. Let's see this in Zechariah 3.

Zechariah 3: 1: And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. 2: And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: *is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?*

The second way the Lord casts out the devil is in our own hearts. We overcome by the blood of the Lamb by Christ making us experience his power personally. He breaks our hearts. He grants repentance. He makes us mortify the flesh and persevere trusting Christ. It is through the preaching of this gospel, the word of our testimony. When we have experienced Christ's power through the gospel then we use this with one gospel with one another instead of the whip of the law. The devil's desire is to make us become legalists again. But it is Christ love for us, despite our sin, that makes us love not our lives unto death. *It* makes us lay down our lives so as not to usurp Christ's authority by using our own means. As Christ interceded for Joshua before the Father so Christ teaches us to make intercession before Christ and trust Christ to work in the hearts of brethren. This too is illustrated in Joshua. After Christ interceded for Joshua with God then Christ dealt with Joshua. So Joshua experienced this personally. By the Lord continuing to teach him in grace and mercy, Joshua went on being used of the Lord.

Joshua 3: 3: Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. 4: And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. 5: And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by. 6: And the angel of the LORD protested unto Joshua, saying, 7: Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

The Lord took the filthy garments off Joshua. Christ caused his iniquity to pass from him and clothed him with Christ's righteousness. The Lord put a crown on his head—he has made us kings and priests unto God. He spoke into Joshua's heart revealing his grace and mercy and love. And God's mercy for Christ's sake broke Joshua's heart. Joshua experienced God's mercy for Christ's sake in the face of his sin.

So Joshua overcame by the blood of the Lamb. This is how he was corrected and humbled to go on serving Christ. Experiencing Christ's power to work this in his own heart is how Joshua was made to use only the gospel. By Christ's love he was made to lay down his life in love to his brethren. He was made to pray to Christ as Christ had interceded for him. Joshua was made willing to wait on Christ to work in the hearts of brethren because he saw how only Christ can do so. This is Christ's glory to work in his people.

The devil appeals to sinful man's self-righteous pride. He would tempt us to not trust Christ's blood. He would tempt us to love our lives: to usurp Christ's authority, to use the law, to condemn. He would tempt us to renounce the word of our testimony—to not use the gospel that declares that Christ settled judgment. The devil's desire is to make us legalists who trust in our own ability rather than Christ.

The devil succeeded with Cain because Cain was the devil's child. Love not as Cain. One, Cain abode not in the truth because he was proud of his works. He came with the fruit of the cursed earth, his cursed flesh. Two, he did not love his brother. We perceive Christ's love for us in that he laid down his life for us and we ought to lay down our lives for our brethren. But Cain would not do so. Cain was an accuser like his father, the devil, because he thought himself righteous by his works and he thought his brother a sinner. Cain did to Abel what the Pharisee's did to Christ. When God rejected Cain and received Abel, Cain murdered his brother. Truth is, it was Cain's works that were evil and his brothers righteous (1 John 3)

So by making God's elect righteous, Christ casts out the devil before God and in the hearts of his people.

DRAWING ALL

John 10: 32: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me.

By his death Christ has arisen to draw all his redeemed to himself.

When the people standing by heard God speak from heaven they disagreed on what he was and what it was for. It is an example of why Christ must do the calling. He must make the word effectual in the heart. They all heard but God did not make them all hear effectually in the heart so they were not of one mind. Therefore they disagreed. Another time the Lord said,

John 8: 43: Why do ye not understand my speech? Even because ye cannot hear my word.

But Christ was lifted up on the cross and accomplished these things so now he is at God's right hand and it is Christ who does the calling—"I will draw all unto me." Christ is the only one who can say, "I will!" The "all" are those he redeemed. It is "the world" for whom he settled judgment. He "draws" in power like Peter drew his sword—irresistibly. He compared the Spirit to the wind in that it cannot be resisted. He said that no man can come to him except the Father draw him. Here he says, "I will draw all unto me." It is because Christ and the Father are one. Christ never stops calling us to him. Therefore, we never stop coming to Christ.

Brethren, this work was the "the joy that was set before him" for which Christ endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at God's right hand. Christ had just said his soul was troubled. Then he declared these three things. This was his joy. This is the joy God sets before his people when we are weary and faint in our minds. He makes us consider Christ and these things he accomplished. After Peter was sifted, he was converted all over again. He experienced this work of Christ. He said the only way to resist the devil is by faith in Christ. And he declared Christ never fails.

1 Peter 5:10: But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

From conversion until the day we must cross the river of death, it is this good news of what Christ accomplished that God blesses to make us perfect, stablish, strengthen and settle his child no matter our need.

Brethren, we only overcome by the blood of the Lamb; he settled judgment for his people. God is satisfied and in our hearts he makes us satisfied. He casts the devil out; and the power he uses is the word of our testimony, this gospel. It is Christ calling us and continuing to call, making this good news effectual in our hearts that saves us.

When we experience his power in calling us when we would have went away like Peter did, beholding Christ's satisfied justice for worms like us and beholding how for his sake God is merciful and forgives us, it breaks the heart and makes us love Christ and lay down our lives. It makes us use the gospel toward one another. It makes us pray to Christ and wait on him to work. We rejoice in mercy due to his mercy toward us. And the devil flees away because Christ casts him out. All this is due to the death Christ accomplished.

Amen!