

Christ's Twofold Estate

Lesson 14: A Shout of Completion, Jn 19.30

- I. The nature of Christ's work
 - A. It was a *necessary* work.
 1. On the Father's account, Acts 4.28. Having determined in His eternal counsel to save a people by His Son, Christ's work became necessary.
 2. On the Son's account, Lk 22.22. Christ had made a covenant with the Father to redeem His elect and it was necessary for Him to do it, Ps 89.3-4.
 3. On our account, Jn 3.14-15. If Christ had not completed His work, none would be saved, Eph 1.7; Col 1.13-14.
 - B. It was a *difficult* work. It cost Christ many cries, groans, and tears, Mt 26.36-42. "All the angels in heaven could never lift that burden one inch from the ground, and Christ had to carry the whole of it on His shoulders."
 - C. It was a *precious* work. It was finished in a few hours, but it will be the matter of praise of angels and men for all eternity, Rev 5.9-14; 14.1-3.
- II. The manner of Christ's work
 - A. He *obediently* finished it, Phil 2.8; Isa 50.5.
 - B. He *freely* finished it, Jn 10.17-18; Heb 10.7.
 - C. He *diligently* finished it, Acts 10.38; Jn 5.17, 36.
 - D. He *completely* finished it, Heb 10.11-14. Whatever the law demanded was perfectly paid, and whatever a sinner needs was perfectly obtained. Nothing can be and nothing need be added to what Christ has done for us.
- III. The evidence that His work is finished
 - A. His *resurrection*, Acts 2.24; 1Tim 3.16.
 - B. His *ascension*, Jn 20.17; Lk 24.50-51; 1Tim 3.16.
 - C. His *session* at the Father's right hand, Heb 1.3-4; 10.11-14.
 - D. Also: the salvation of sinners, the cleansing of consciences, and the giving of rest to the weary, Rom 10.9-10; Heb 9.14; Mt 11.28.
- IV. Application
 - A. Christ has completely finished all His work for us, Heb 7.25. What a sweet relief and comfort! All our works are defective and incomplete; but Christ has finished all His work for us. From us the Father looks only for works of gratitude, because all the works of merit have already been rendered by Christ, Ps 89.19; Rom 10.4. Christ's complete obedience is imputed to us, making us complete before God, Col 2.10; 2Cor 5.21. One act of faith in Christ pleases God more than an entire life spent in trying to obey the Law, Rom 10.1-4.
 - B. Christ finished His work with His own hands. Therefore it is dangerous and dishonorable to add anything to the righteousness of Christ in search of justification before God, Rom 10.1-4. Christ will be everything or nothing in our justification, Phil 3.8-9; Gal 3.1-3; Lk 13.34.
 - C. Since Christ finished His work *for* us, there's no doubt that He'll finish His work *in* us, Phil 1.6; Heb 12.2; 7.25; Jude 24-25; Isa 53.11. Don't be discouraged at the defects and imperfections you see in yourself; but instead keep pressing in, trusting in the One who promised to complete that work of *sanctification* in you for which He completed that work of *justification* for you, Jn 14.1-2.
 - D. Christ's work is complete and finished. This makes the way of faith exceedingly comfortable because it's that way which brings a sinner a complete and perfect righteousness before God, Phil 3.8-9; Rom 5.1; 8.1, 39; 1Cor 15.55-57.