

## **The Finished Work of The Cross (What was finished? What was the work?) Part 2**

### **1. Extended recap from last meeting; we discussed...**

- a) We talked about what was finished when Christ died on the cross. When he said *"it is finished"* in **Jn. 19:30**, it meant "paid in full". **What was paid in full?** The penalty of sin. Christ took our place. (Propitiation).
- b) **What was finished?** The law as not finished but, the requirement of the law was. - As we discussed in our last meeting. The "law" did not end with Christ, (He fulfilled it), but we who believe are no longer under "requirement of the law". **Rom. 6:14** (NLT) - "Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace." (NKJV) says: "for you are not under law but under grace". (AMPC) says: "not under Law [as slaves], but under grace [as subjects of God's favor and mercy]." – Remember, the "you" in these references is "believers". Fuller context: Rom. 6:18 (NLT). Now for more context, let's read **Rom. 6:14-18** (NLT), (AMP).  
{\* Read **Rom. 6:14** Bibleref commentary & **Rom. 6:14-16** believer's commentary}.  
See commentary below.
- c) **Rom. 7:4-6** (NLT) *"Died to the power of the law when you died with Christ."* When did you die with Christ? When you believed in Christ. *"...now released from the law."*
  - Because of what Christ finished on the cross, we do not have to keep the law to be saved and made right with God (made righteous). The New Covenant is a new way of faith. Made right by faith alone in Christ. **Rom. 3:20-31** (NLT), *"For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are. ...God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law"*. – The new way of faith, New Covenant.
  - **Rom. 5:1** (NLT) - "Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we (believers) have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us." ...not because of anything we did for Him. Not by works, by faith alone.

### **2. The Finished Work of the Cross (Part 2)**

- a) First, let's start with Christ fulfilling the law. – **Mat. 5:17-20** (ESV) "Christ did not come to abolish the law, but to fulfil it."
- b) In Christ's fulfillment of the law, he did the following: **Heb. 10:9** (NKJV) - Christ said: *"Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God."* He takes away the first that He may establish the second." He cancels the first (Old Covenant) in order to put the second (New Covenant) into effect. - For full context, let's read through **Heb. 10:1-18** (NLT) (Christ's Sacrifice, Once for All) - Christ's Death Fulfills God's Will. For full context read all of **Heb. Chapters 9 & 10** with a punch line in **Heb. 10:39**. "But we (believers) are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved." Christ's Sacrifice, Once for All so that all

can be saved. He made a way for all to be saved through faith. To help better understand **Heb. 10:1-18**, you have to back up to **Heb. 9:28 (NLT)** *"so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him."* Note the word "many". Not all are saved. Not all will be saved. Only believers in Christ are saved and will be in Heaven. Also, who are "all who are eagerly waiting for him"? Those are the believers.

c) Some important scriptures that tie into **Heb. 9:28** noted above:

**1 Thess. 4:16-17 (NLT)** *"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died (the dead "in Christ") will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we (believers) who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever."* Wenstrom Bible Ministries commentary: "1 Thess. 4:17" "asserts that those Christians (believers) who are left alive on the earth at the time of the Lord's arrival at the rapture will suddenly be caught up together with the "dead in Christ" in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." And then goes on to summarize further, "Living Believers Will Be Snatched Away Together with the Dead in Christ to Meet the Lord in the Earth's Atmosphere". Christian (alive and dead) will meet the Lord in the air and will then be taken to Heaven." We see this second part in **Jn. 14:2-3** which teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ will receive the resurrected members of the church to Himself and then be escorted by the Lord back to His Father's house in heaven.

d) **1 Cor. 15:23** also ties into **Heb. 9:28** & **1 Thess. 4:16-17**.

**1 Cor. 15:23 (NLT)** *"But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back."* - "belong to Christ" refers to true believers in Christ. – This also begs the question of: "what about those who died before Christ came?" There is a great article on this by Matt Slick found on the Charm.org website. [How were people who died before Christ saved?](#)

e) Believers' commentary on **1 Cor. 15:23**: "The first resurrection does not include all who have ever died, but only those who have died with faith in Christ."

f) See also our resurrected bodies. **1 Cor. 15:53 (NET/ESV)** *"For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality."* - Full context: **The Resurrected Body** **1 Cor. 1:35-58 (NLT)**.

g) The New Covenant is "righteousness based on faith" rather than establishing personal righteousness through law keeping. As noted above in **Rom. 6:14**, We who believe in Christ are no longer under the requirement of the law but are under grace. Even after the cross, those who do not believe in Christ are still under the law. Only

Christ can justify, and not by law but by his finished work and promise of the Holy Spirit **received by faith**. The Bible does not teach universal salvation. One must believe in Christ to “receive” His finished work. Those who “believe in Christ” are saved. Saved from what? From judgment, from Hell. Hell is real and the unbelieving and faithless are going there. The punishment for rejecting Christ: **Mat. 13:41,50; Rev. 20:11-15; 21:8 (AMPC)**. A note on justification from a CARM.org article:

*“Salvation includes justification. Justification is a legal standing before God where we are declared righteous before God regarding his holy law. This is possible because Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross (1 Pet. 2:24). When we trust in Christ by faith, His righteousness is reckoned to our account (Phil. 3:9). So, we are justified by faith (Rom. 5:1).”*

h) **Continuing “what was finished on the cross”.**

*The end of the law for righteousness*. **Rom. 10:4 (NKJV), Rom. 10:3-5,9 (AMPC) –**

**Then read through Rom. 10:1-15 (NLT) {\*Read Rom. 10:4 Believer’s Bible commentary – see below}**. **Rom. 10:6-8** is referencing **Duet. 30:11-14** about law but Paul is also tying it into New Covenant faith. Let’s read **Duet. 30:11-17 (NLT)**. {\*Read **Duet. 30: 11-14 Believer’s Bible commentary – see below}**.

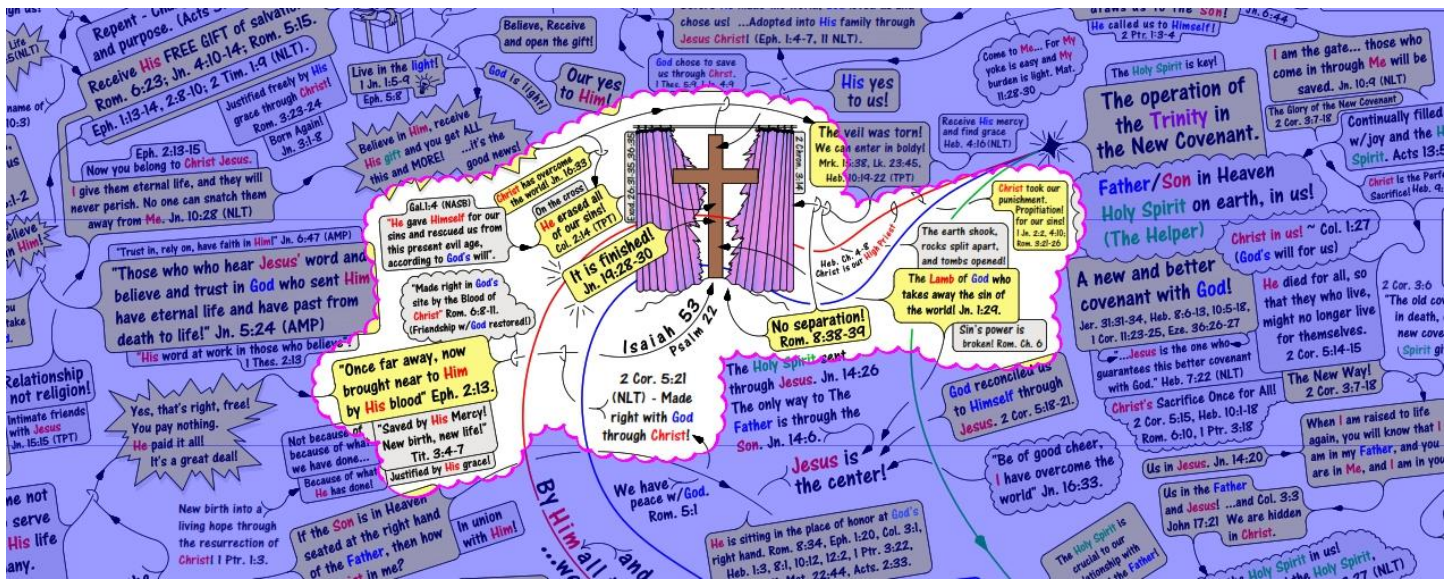
- i) *Through Christ, God did what the law could not do.* - **Rom. 8:3 (NKJV)** - “What the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh,” – Let’s dive into this: Let’s read **Rom. 8:3 in (NKJV), (AMPC) and (AMP)**. In fuller context: **Rom. 8:1-11 (NKJV)**. **Vs. 11** is 🔥 !
- j) **Gal. 3:23–25 (NLT)** “Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law until the way of faith was revealed. ... now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.”
- k) **Gal. 2:16 (NLT)** “we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law.” – Again, back to **Rom. 6:14** “We (new Covenant believers) are no longer under the requirement of the law but are under grace.
- l) **Phil. 3:8-9 (NLT)** “...no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ.”

Next study: **What was accomplish on the cross?** Propitiation, Atonement and Reconciliation.

“Finding Treasure in the Word” RiverLife Fellowship Life Link – Meeting 13 - 04/18/23

All studies with full notes in PDF format are available here:

<https://christinyoustudymap.com/finding-treasure-in-the-word-bible-studies/>



Commentaries referenced in study above:

Bibleref.com commentary on Rom. 6:14

**6:14** - "The context of this passage is the spiritual condition of those who are saved. Paul's remarks here are about those who have expressed saving faith in Christ, not to the entire human race (**Rom. 5:1**). Paul concludes his commands to not allow sin to tell us what to do. He again reminds the reader that sin has no authority in our lives any longer. Those without Christ, standing on their own merits apart from God, are compelled to sin. As we once were, they are slaves to sin. Because Christ rescued us, that's not who we are any more. Sin is not the boss of us. Now Paul adds a surprising thought. We are not under sin's authority because we are not under the law. In some sense, being under the law revealed how powerless we were against our own desires to sin. Instead, Paul writes, we are under grace. Because of God's grace, we are no longer compelled to sin."

Believer's Bible Commentary on Rom. 6:14-16

**6:14** - "Now another reason is given why **sin shall not have dominion over** us as believers. The first reason was that our old man was crucified with Christ (6:6) The second reason is that we are **not under law but under grace**. Sin does have the upper hand over a person who is under law. Why? Because the law tells him what to do but doesn't give him the power to do it. And the law stirs up dormant desires in fallen human nature to do what is forbidden. It's the old story that "forbidden fruit is sweet." **Sin** does **not have dominion over** the person who is under grace. The believer has died to sin. He has received the indwelling Holy Spirit as the power for holy living. And he is motivated by love for the Savior, not by fear of punishment. **Grace** is the only thing that really produces holiness.

**6:15** - Those who are afraid of **grace** insist that it gives license for sinning. Paul meets this error head-on by asking te questions, then flatly denying it. We are free from the law, but not lawless. **Grace** means freedom to serve the Lord, not sin against Him. In 6:1 the question was, "Shall we continue to sin? Here the question is, "**Shall we sin** just a little?" The answer in both cases is a horrified "**Certainly not!**". God cannot condone any sin at all.

**6:16** - It is a simple fact of life that when we submit our selves to someone as our master, we become that person's slave. Likewise, if we sell out to sin, we become **slaves** of sin, and eternal **death** lies waiting at the end of that road. If, on the other hand, we choose to obey God the result is a holy life. Sin's slaves are bound by guilt, fear, and misery, but God's servants are free to do what the new nature loves. So why be a slave when you can be free?

Believer's Bible Commentary on Rom. 10:4,6

**10:4** - If they had only believed on **Christ**, they would have seen that He is **the end of the law for**



**righteousness.** The purpose of the law is to reveal sin, to convict and condemn transgressors. It can never impart righteousness. The penalty of a broken law is death. In His death, Christ paid the penalty of the law which men had broken. When a sinner received the Lord Jesus Christ as his savior, the law has nothing more to say to him. Through the death of his substitute, he has died to the law. He is through with the law and with the futile attempt to achieve righteousness through it.

**10:6** - In order to show that the language of faith is quite different from that of the law, Paul first quotes from Duet. 30:12-13, which states: "It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' 13 Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'" The interesting thing is that, in their setting in Deuteronomy, these verses are not referring to faith and the Gospel at all. They are speaking about the law, and specifically the commandment to "turn to the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul". (Duet. 30:10b) God is saying that the law is not hidden, distant, or inaccessible. A man does not have to go up to **Heaven** or cross the sea to find it. It is near at hand and waiting to be obeyed.

Believer's Bible Commentary on **Duet. 30:11-14** which ties in with **Rom. 10:4,6** noted above.

**30:11-14**— Moses reminded the people that the covenant was not too hard for them to understand (mysterious), nor was it far off (inaccessible). They were not required to do the impossible to find it. The Lord had brought it to them, and their responsibility was to obey it. These verses are used by Paul in **Rom. 10:5-8** (see commentary above) and are applied to Christ and the Gospel. The covenant was not easy to keep, but God had made provisions in case of failure. The people were then required to repent and to bring the appointed sacrifices. Since the sacrifices were types of Christ, the lesson is that those who sin should repent and put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.