

Hey Newsong!

I want to take a moment and welcome our first-time guests and those joining us online...

If you're online, give us a shout out and tell us where you're watching from!

Thanks for joining us on the greatest day in history... the day the grave lost its grip and the debt of humanity was settled forever.

So Good morning NSC, and Happy Resurrection Sunday or for most Happy Easter!

I want to start by being incredibly honest with you: **Today's message is not really intended for the 'seasoned' believer.** If you've been following Jesus for years, I'm glad you're

here—but today, this message is for the person still wrestling in the dark.

It's for the one struggling with a weight of guilt and shame that feels impossible to lift.

It's for the person who finds it hard to believe that everything you've ever done—past, present, and even your future mistakes—was truly nailed to that cross.

This is also for the person who only showed up today to appease a spouse, a mom or dad, a grandmother, a sister or brother, or that co-worker who has been nagging you for months to just come visit this awesome church.

But all jokes aside: **This message is for you.** You might think you're here as a favor to

someone else, but let me just tell you that you are not here by coincidence.

You are here by **divine appointment**.

God sees you and wants you to know that He loves you no matter what you've done and that you are not alone and life in Him is better with Him in it.

Today, you're going to hear when Jesus cried out, *'It is finished,'* He wasn't announcing His defeat—He was announcing yours and my freedom.

He was declaring that the debt of your soul has been stamped **'Paid in Full.'**

The empty tomb we celebrate today is God's 'receipt' that the payment was accepted.

At the end of this service, you will truly have a decision to make. Because one day, we will all stand before the Lord and give an account for our lives.

On that day, the question won't be how 'good' you were. The question will be: **Did you trust the payment Jesus made, or did you decide to take your chances on yourself?"**

And if you decide to choose Him

PRAY

The title of my message today is **"It Is Finished: The Victory of the Lamb"**

This title is found in the Gospel of John chapter 19:28–30

Church, this is not just another Sunday...This is not just another gathering...This is **Resurrection Sunday**—the day that changed everything for humanity.

Today, we celebrate the moment when death was defeated...when the grave was conquered...when hope came alive again.

But before there was an empty tomb...there was a rugged cross.

Before the stone was rolled away...there was a Savior stretched wide.

Before we shout “**He is risen!**” we must first hear Him declare: “**It is finished.**”

In John 19:30, Jesus, hanging on the cross, speaks these final words—not in weakness, but in victory.

Not as someone losing...but as someone completing the greatest work in history.

And can I tell you this morning—

This Glorious day is not just about what happened on Sunday...It’s about what was **finished on Friday** that made Sunday possible.

Because when Jesus said “**It is finished,**”

- Sin was dealt with
- Our debt was paid
- The Lamb has been sacrificed

He was the final Atonement.

And when Jesus got up on Sunday morning...It was proof that the work was complete.

So today, we don't just celebrate a risen Savior—We celebrate a **finished work**.

And if you can just grasp that today I promise your life will never be the same, it will change how you think, how you see yourself and how you live your life.

I came to remind somebody this morning: there is nothing you have to do to earn it just know that...**It's already done for you.**

The Lamb has finished the work.

Now let's go to the cross... and hear His words:

***John 19:28-30***

***Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." 29 A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. 30 When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.***

The phrase "It is finished" (translated from the Greek word *Tetelestai*) carries a profound weight for anyone wrestling with the internal cycle of guilt, shame and "not being enough."

In a historical and spiritual context, it signals a shift from a life of performance to a life of acceptance.

Here is how those words specifically address the burdens of shame and inadequacy:

In the first century, *Tetelestai* was a common term used in businesses. When a person finished paying off a loan, the merchant would write "Tetelestai" across the document, meaning "paid in full."

What if this is the key you are searching for, the freedom you need, what if truly understanding what Jesus did for you...it would change everything in your life because "It is Finished" will never look the same again.

If you feel you owe a "moral debt" because of past mistakes, these words suggest the ledger is closed.

It means you don't have to spend your life trying to pay back a debt that has already been cleared.

Most shame stems from a feeling that we haven't done enough—we aren't kind enough, successful enough, we aren't smart enough or disciplined enough.

**"It is finished"** implies that the work required for your worth and good standing was completed by someone else.

It shifts the focus from your performance (which will always be imperfect) to a finished event.

You are not a "work in progress" regarding your value; that value is already secured.

He found you valuable enough to pay your debt in full.

***Roman 5:8***

***But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.***

That is a powerful and profound sentiment. It speaks to a sense of ultimate worth and a clean slate, emphasizing a grace that isn't earned but freely given.

It suggests that no matter the past, the future is wide open.

In a traditional sense, these words coincided with the tearing of the temple curtain, which symbolized the removal of the barrier between the "imperfect" person and the Divine.

According to the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 27:51, Mark 15:38, Luke 23:45), the tearing of the veil occurred immediately after Jesus died, accompanied by an earthquake.

The veil separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies, a space where only the High Priest could enter once a year.

But now we have **Direct Access**, which signifies that the separation between God and humans caused by sin was now removed.

The **Finished Work of Christ**, represented that Jesus' sacrifice was sufficient payment for our sins, allowing all people—not just high priests—to enter God's presence.

The tearing of the veil marked the end of the Old Testament temple system and initiating a new covenant.

Shame makes us want to hide or stay in the shadows because we feel flawed...But, this declaration suggests there is no longer a need to hide.

The barrier is gone, the curtain was torn, and you are invited in, exactly as you are, without having to fix yourself first.

This means that He will work in your heart, it means that burdens of insufficiency are now His, He takes on responsibility for your heart because:

***...he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:6)***

So are we getting it?

Let's look back again:

Jesus is hanging on the cross...His body is broken.

His hands are pierced...His side is wounded.

The crowd is watching...The soldiers are gambling.

And now the sky has grown dark...And in the middle of that suffering...

Jesus speaks...Not many words....Not a long sermon.

Just one powerful declaration in history: **“It is finished.”**

Now don't miss this...Jesus did not say, **“I am finished.”** He said, **“It is finished.”**

That means something was completed.

Just imagine...the heavens were waiting with anticipation...the vision of Jacob's ladder into heaven had come to pass...the bridge was finally going to be restored.

Something was being fulfilled...Something was being paid for...And what was finished on that cross is the very thing that gives us life today.

Jesus did not come to earth randomly...He came with a mission.

From the very beginning, His life pointed toward the cross.

When He was born, it wasn't just a baby in a manger—it was a Savior on assignment.

The Bible tells us in John 1:29:

***“Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”***

That means from day one, Jesus was identified as **the Lamb**.

Everything He did led to this moment.

- Every miracle
- Every teaching
- Every confrontation
- Every step toward Jerusalem

John 4:34, Jesus said:

***“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work.”***

See, Jesus lived with the cross in view...And I need somebody to hear this:

***The cross was not a tragedy—it was a mission.***

This was not plan B...This was God’s plan from the very beginning.

The prophet declared in Isaiah 53:5:

***“He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities...”***

So when Jesus cried out, “**It is finished,**”

He was saying:

- The assignment is complete
- The prophecies have been fulfilled
- The mission is accomplished

Everything the Father sent Him to do...He did it.

And here's the good news: **Jesus didn't quit.**

I don't know how many of you need to hear that...I know some of you have had people quit on you.

But He didn't...He stayed there...for you...for me...for our sins past, present, and future...He knew what He was getting into and He still chose you.

**Matthew 18:12-14 (NIV)**

**12 “What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? 13 And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. 14 In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.**

He was declaring:

**“I finished what I came to do.”**

Sin created a debt that you and I could never pay.

The Bible says in Romans 6:23:

***“The wages of sin is death.”***

Every sin adds to the account.

Every lie.

Every mistake.

Every failure.

**And here’s the problem:** We didn’t and don’t have the ability to pay it back.

No amount of good work could erase it.

No amount of effort could cancel it.

But when Jesus went to the cross...He took our place.

So when Jesus said “**It is finished,**” He was making a declaration over your life:

Your sins—paid in full.

Your guilt—paid in full.

Your shame—paid in full.

You’re not on a spiritual installment plan...**The balance is zero.**

That means:

- You don’t have to live in guilt
- You don’t have to live in shame
- You don’t have to live in condemnation

Because Jesus already handled it.

Colossians 2:14 says:

***He canceled the record of debt...  
nailing it to the cross.***

When Abraham lifted the knife on Isaac—God provided a sacrifice.

When Israel was in bondage—God provided the blood of a lamb to protect them against death.

When sin filled the world—God provided a Lamb to be slain for all of our sins!

And when that Lamb hung on the cross...

He didn't say, "Try harder."

He didn't say, "Do better."

He said:

**“It is finished!”**

He canceled everything that was against you.

**Now here’s where it all connects to the Lamb.**

In the Old Testament, sin required a sacrifice...And not just any sacrifice—a spotless lamb without blemish.

But here’s the issue, that sacrifice had to be repeated.

Over...and over...and over again.

Because those lambs were temporary...They were pointing forward to a better sacrifice.

And now...On this cross...

**The Lamb of God has come to finish what every other lamb could only point to.**

A perfect sacrifice...And that sacrifice was Jesus.

That's why He is called **the Lamb of God**.

When Jesus went to the cross, He became the final sacrifice.

**Hebrews 10:10** says:

***“We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”***

So when Jesus cried out:

**“It is finished”**

He meant:

- His atonement was final
- No more sacrifices.
- No more offerings.
- No more repeated rituals.

The Lamb has done it all...and because the sacrifice is finished...Salvation is secure.

That’s why in the Gospel of John 1:29 it doesn’t say “covers” sin—

It says: **“takes away the sin of the world.”**

He wasn't covering sin anymore...**He was removing it.**

From Genesis to Revelation, the story is about the Lamb.

- In Exodus we see — the Passover lamb
- In John we see — the Lamb of God
- In Revelation 5:12 — worship to the Lamb

***“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain...”***

When Jesus said **“It is finished,”** The Lamb completed the work of redemption.

Jesus didn't just come to start something new...He came to **complete what God had already started.**

Every lamb in the Old Testament was a preview...Every sacrifice was a shadow.

But shadows don't save—they point to something greater.

At Passover in the Book of Exodus, the people were not saved by their effort...They were saved by the blood of the lamb.

And God said in Exodus 12:13:

***“When I see the blood, I will pass over you.”***

Now watch this—On the cross, Jesus becomes that Lamb.

So when God sees the blood of Jesus...Judgment passes over you.

Wrath passes over you...condemnation passes over you.

So when Jesus said **“It is finished,”** He was saying: **“The blood has been applied once and for all.”**

He was declaring: **“Everything those lambs pointed to...I have now fulfilled.”**

Now church...Let me bring this home.

When Jesus declared **“It is finished”**

- Sin lost its power.
- Death lost its sting.
- The grave lost its victory.

The enemy thought Friday was the end...But he didn't know Sunday was coming.

Early Sunday morning...Jesus got up...With all power in His hands.

And because He lives—

- We are forgiven.
- We are redeemed.
- We are free.

That's why we praise Him...That's why we worship Him...That's why we lift our hands and give Him glory—

## **BECAUSE THE WORK IS FINISHED!**

### **The Divine Transaction:**

In a legal sense, a debt doesn't just "disappear" it must be settled.

If you owe a million dollars and cannot pay, the debt remains until the bank forecloses or someone else writes a check.

- In this context, the debt is the accumulation of our mistakes, our "missed marks," and the shame of our "negative labels."

- The "payment" was Jesus' life. By taking on the human experience and its consequences, He essentially stepped up to the teller window and settled the account for everyone else.

### **"Paid in Full" (*Tetelestai*)**

As I mentioned before, when Jesus said "It is finished," he used a term found on ancient tax receipts.

### **Past, Present, and Future**

The payment covers the mistakes you haven't even made yet. This is the hardest part for the human mind to accept—that grace is ahead of us, not just behind us.

It means when the "Bank of Heaven" looks at your account, it doesn't see your bankruptcy; it sees His infinite wealth.

**The Exchange of Identity:** isn't just about clearing a balance; it's about an **exchange of assets.**

## **ILLUSTRATION**

In exchange, you are given His "status." In theological terms, this means "imputed righteousness."

**See so many of us live our lives believing the lies that either satan planted in your mind or those being used by the satan have spoken over your life.**

But understand that He took the "Negative Labels" (*Failure, Worthless, Broken, Ugly, Addict, Stupid, Outcast, Not Good Enough, Murderer* and the list goes on...He not only did He wear them, He nailed them to the cross.

And not only did He nail them to the cross He replaced them, with new Labels (*Victorious, Worthy, Restored, Beautiful, Fearfully and wonderfully made, His master peace, Overcomer, Wise, God's Beloved, Accepted, Sufficient, Chosen, Forgiven*)

He shut the door on the old system...And opened the door to grace.

## **Worship Team**

If Jesus finished the work...Why are you still carrying what He already paid for?

Today is the day Church to:

- Let go of guilt
- Let go of shame
- And to step into freedom

The Lamb is calling you to:

- Come receive forgiveness
- Come receive freedom
- Come receive new life He offers each of us

Because the work...**Is already finished.**

**Closing Prayer**