

NOT A MUMBLING WORD

April 18, 2022

JOHN 19:30 NIV - (30) When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

I recall a hymnal called, "He never said a mumbling word", from the 1950's and it went as follows.....

You see how they have done our Lord and He never said not a mumbling word.

They pierced Him in His side and He never said not a mumbling word.

When they crucified my Lord and he never said a mumblin' word.

Folks you know they hanged him on the cross and you know he never said a mumblin' word.

Church you know he hanged his head and he died, He said not a mumbling word.

Not a word, not a word.

Though there was small communication between the above mention events by Christ, the point of the song was He never complained. He was on a mission for you and I. Of the last sayings of Christ on the cross, none is more important or more poignant than, "*It is finished*." Found only in the Gospel of John, the Greek word translated "it is finished" is *tetelestai*, an accounting term that means "paid in full." When Jesus uttered those words, He was declaring the debt owed to His Father was wiped away completely and forever. Not that Jesus wiped away any debt that He owed to the Father; rather, Jesus eliminated the debt owed by mankind—the debt of sin.

Although the redemption of mankind is the most important finished task, many other things were finished at the cross. The sufferings Jesus endured while on the earth, and especially in His last hours, were at last over. God's will for Jesus was accomplished in His perfect obedience to the Father (**John 5:30; 6:38**). Most importantly, the power of sin and Satan was finished. No longer would mankind have to suffer the "flaming arrows of the evil one" (**Ephesians 6:16**). By raising the "shield of faith" in the One who completed the work of redemption and salvation, we can, by faith, live as new creations in Christ. Jesus' finished work on the cross was the beginning of new life for all who were once "dead in trespasses and sins" but who are now made "alive with Christ" (**Ephesians 2:1, 5**). Now that's what I call "Freedom" through eternal living.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 20:1-9

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Without Him, we are simply "Lost!"

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"