



SERIES: John Believe
SPEAKER: DAN COKE
Thursday, May 11, 2023
Scripture: John 19:28–30
TITLE: Paid In Full

John 19:28-30

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

If you ever paid off a debt before, you know it is an incredible relief. It has led some people to throw a party in celebration. Hopefully, not an expensive one!

Anyway, Jesus, right before taking His last breath on the cross announced the end of a debt. It is finished! It is done! The task has been completed! He has won! Now, from a natural perspective, it seems odd to judge a man dying on the cross and consider that man as being victorious. And yet, Jesus is. Right at that moment. The plan was for Him to redeem God’s people and secure forever a way for them to commune with God. He did it!

And guess what? It was expensive! It was the sinless and precious life of God’s own Son that paid our sin debt. A debt that only He could pay. And He didn’t partially pay it. He didn’t commit to a payment plan. Nor did He need to take out a loan from someone else to pay. No. He paid it Himself. And He paid it in full.

To be in Christ, is to know as the Gospel hymn declares: “My sin, not in part but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, o my soul! It is well.”

If you live this Christian life as if Jesus only paid half of your debt and think you have to pay the rest, then you do not understand the Gospel. Repent and believe is not a call to do penance. It is a summons to walk away from your sin and walk towards your glorious Savior. And when you stumble along the way, remember that He didn’t make a partial payment for some of your sins, but all of your sin. So, get back up and keep walking with Him and towards Him.

Today, make two resolutions for me. 1. Resolve to never forget that blessed Day when your Savior said it was finished, securing your salvation forever. 2. Resolve to be finished with making your sin your master. Amen!