

Cross Words

VICTORY

Pastor Mark Johnson

March 29, 2015

John 19:30–35 (ESV)

There are seven recorded statements of Jesus on the cross.

It is finished.

John 19:35 (ESV)

Jesus says one Greek word that conveys a great message to us.

“Tetelestai” from the Greek word “Teleo” means “complete.”

Jesus was saying, “I have completed my assignment.”

It means “I won.”

Can you imagine the confusion around the foot of the cross?

One writer says, “This is what people of all time think when they can’t see clearly who Jesus is and what he is doing. They think Christianity is for losers, when really it is all about victory.”

Here Jesus is in what looks to be his biggest moment of defeat, and He is saying, “I win.”

Why? Because Jesus knew his purpose and knew that the way to fulfill it was through service.

Christ conquered sin and all the forces of the world, not with an army but with His sacrifice.

It is finished means that Jesus’ mission was complete.

Hebrews 9:11–12 (ESV)

This continues to this very day.

Jesus did not say, “I am finished.” He said, “It is finished!”

It is finished means that he is done with this part of the work.

“Jesus has finished His great task, but He isn’t done. A new clock starts ticking. He is just moving on to the greater work as King of Kings. He is the Grave Conqueror, Hell Destroyer and Life Giver. Resurrection was coming.”

The cross is important to our victory, but it doesn’t end there for Jesus or for us.

This fallen world is full of challenges.

“There is good news today. Jesus lived the perfect life, taught the perfect truth, and dies the most horrible death. He did all this so that we could go forward in victory in this life and inherit new life beyond our comprehension.”