

Our devotion today is an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for March 28, 2021.

IT IS FINISHED: JOHN 19:30

Today I would like for us to think about three words out of one verse. In John 19:30 we repeat the words of Christ. Here He looked up into the heavens and said to the Father: **IT IS FINISHED.**

From this saying we must deduct or realize that the work that He was sent here to do was finished.

Jesus had come and He had given us the example to follow in our public worship. He took the church out of the building and put it with the people wherever they were. He showed us that there was more to following God than just coming to CHURCH.

Today let us look at some of the things that He did and told us.

I. Jesus started his work early in life.

At 12 years of age, he stayed behind in Jerusalem and talked with the doctors. Here was a boy asking questions and answering others with great wisdom.

His parents came looking for Him and finally found Him. Like any good parents they wanted to know why he had done them this way. He answers them like this: **How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?** LUKE 2:49

These first words that we have, reveals to us that He knew what he must do. He knew the work that was ahead of Him. DO WE?

It is interesting that the first recorded words of Jesus are when He says: **I must be about my Fathers business,** and the last words are: **It is finished.**

Let us look at some of this business which he was to do.

His public ministry reveals much to us. I would like to deal with it completely, but I cannot, there is not enough time to do this. What then can we say about this man and His business this morning?

II. His ministry reveals to us that he did not want to cause people EMBARRASSMENT.

When he attended the wedding feast, and the wine was running out, he turned the water into wine. (John 2:1-12)

In performing this first miracle, Jesus relieved the embarrassment of his host and displayed his divine power so all might know.

This was not his first miracle, but the first recorded one. Do we embarrass Jesus by the way we live?

III. HE DIDN'T WANT TO SEE PEOPLE SUFFER. He tried to correct this in many ways.

A. He made the blind see.

B. He made the lame walk.

C. He made the lepers clean.

D. He even stopped the issue of blood by a woman touching His garment.

E. He feed the 5000 at the Worship service.

Whenever and wherever he saw the need, he was there to eliminate suffering and pain.

As Christians today, we really do not have a desire to do what Christ wants us to do.

IV. His public ministry reveals something even more important: it reveals that he was not satisfied with the way people were worshiping God, and his business was to correct this.

A. He started in the temple. On His first visit to Jerusalem, after He started His ministry, he went to the Temple and was unhappy with what he found.

In John 2:13-22, we read where the people had turned the temple into a house of merchandise. We also read what Jesus did. ¹⁵ **And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; ¹⁶ And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. JOHN 2:15-16**

The people were so busy buying AND selling that they did not have time for worship.

B. He was not satisfied with the way people were praying: (Luke 20:46-47) ⁴⁶ **Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; ⁴⁷ Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation.**

V. He was willing to forgive sin. It did not matter what the person was, it was what they were willing to be.

A. He ate with the tax collectors.

B. He forgave the woman caught in adultery.

C. He forgave Peter after He had denied him 3 times.

VI. He was willing to die to show the supreme example. By dying on the cross, He became all things to all people. He shed His Blood that we might be cleansed of sin. Without the shedding of blood there is not forgiveness of sin.

If no blood was shed, there could not be any forgiveness for sins.

VII. He expects us to do the same: In Matthew 16:24-26: ²⁴ **Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵ For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. ²⁶ For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the**

whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

How many of us are willing to take up the cross AND follow him?

After doing this AND much more, He could look up from the cross AND say: IT IS FINISHED!

Will we be able to do the same? Will we be able to say at the end of life, IT IS FINISHED?

Christ died for us, what are we doing for HIM?

As we continue to deal with storms in our lives, realizing that this is Passion week, let us not forget to thank the Father and Son for our salvation.

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