

## It Is Finished

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Joseph Carty / General; Kids

Communion / John 19:28–30

Was it really finished? If so, what are we still doing here?

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### Last Piece of Puzzle

#### **John 19:28–30 ESV**

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.

- I love this verse.
- This powerful phrase:

## "It Is Finished."

- I really wanted to preach about the beautiful meaning of this passage.
- Then I realized something.
- I'm not 100% sure what it means.
- The statement says,

- "It Is Finished."
- At the risk of
- Confusing what is plain...
- My question is:
- What is finished?
- Possible answers:
- Satan
- Sin
- Great Controversy
- The problem is:
- Those things are not
- completely finished!
- If they were
- We would be in heaven!

- So I ask again,
- What is finish
- What is "it"
- The finished thing?
  
- It must have some
- Connection to the above things:
- Satan
- Sin
- Great Controversy
- But how?
  
- Is it possible to say,
- Something was finished,
- But something else is
- not finished...
  
- Communion is all about

- Celebrating what Jesus
- Accomplished on the cross
- Today I want to celebrate
- But I ask again...
- What exactly was accomplished?
- So I can celebrate!
- Let's look at another text:

**John 12:31-33 ESV**

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

- Jesus said,
- Speaking of his death
- That it would be a judgement
- Against Satan
- And he would be
- cast out

- I want to draw this
- point out further.
- Satan will be judged
- How?
- The word judgement
- Can me many things
- There are multiple
- phases to judgment
- In our courts
- Phases

## **Arraignment**

- Charges are heard
- Plea made

- Guilty or Not Guilty
- Perhaps potential criminal sentence for conviction.
- Set Bail

## **Preliminary Hearing**

- Only prosecutors present evidence
  - Probable Cause
    - To indict defendant
  - Enough evident to have trial

## **Trial**

- Evidence
  - From investigation
- Decides Guilty or Not

## **Sentencing**

- Decides Punishment

# **Appeal**

- Opportunity to appeal judgment

# **Execution**

- Fulfilling the punishment
- How do we know
- what phase this is?
- One thing is sure
- Not executive
- Otherwise,
- We would be in heaven!
- Perhaps we need to go
- Back through Bible
- Examine

- **What steps have**
- **Already been taken**
- **In judgment process**

**Isaiah 14:12-14 ESV**

“How you are fallen from heaven,

O Day Star, son of Dawn!

How you are cut down to the ground,

you who laid the nations low!

You said in your heart,

‘I will ascend to heaven;

above the stars of God

I will set my throne on high;

I will sit on the mount of assembly

in the far reaches of the north;

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;

I will make myself like the Most High.’

- What is happening here?



- Charges are being brought.
- What Phase?

## **Arraignment**

- Charges Heard
- Plea Made
- Potential Criminal Sentence
- Set Bail

## **Charges:**

- Insurrection
- Rebellion
- Mutiny

### **Isaiah 14:15 ESV**

But you are brought down to Sheol,  
to the far reaches of the pit.

## **Potential Sentence**

- You are going down to the pit.
- (Reference to Millennium Time-out)

## **Bail Set?**

- You are not getting out!

## **Plea Made?**

### **Revelation 12:7–9 ESV**

Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

- Satan fights against charges
- Pleads not guilty
- Thrown into jail

- with no bail

## **Preliminary Hearing**

- Prosecutors Present Evidence
- Probable Cause?
- Indict Defendant
- Enough Evident For Trial?

[Ezekiel 28:13-17](#) (ESV)

You were in Eden, the garden of God;  
every precious stone was your covering,  
sardius, topaz, and diamond,  
beryl, onyx, and jasper,  
sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle;  
and crafted in gold were your settings  
and your engravings.  
On the day that you were created  
they were prepared.

You were an anointed guardian cherub.

I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God;

in the midst of the stones of fire you walked.

You were blameless in your ways

from the day you were created,

till unrighteousness was found in you.

In the abundance of your trade

you were filled with violence in your midst, and you sinned;

so I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God,

and I destroyed you, O guardian cherub,

from the midst of the stones of fire.

Your heart was proud because of your beauty;

you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor.

## **Prosecutors Present Evidence**

- You were made perfect

- You were jealous of God
- You wanted to be God
- You rebelled against creator
- You traded these ideas with others
- Created doubt in other's minds

## **Probable Cause?**

- Indict Defendant
- Enough Evident For Trial?

## **Possible Sentence?**

### **Ezekiel 28:17-19 ESV**

Your heart was proud because of your beauty;

you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor.

I cast you to the ground;

I exposed you before kings,

to feast their eyes on you.

By the multitude of your iniquities,

in the unrighteousness of your trade

you profaned your sanctuaries;  
so I brought fire out from your midst;  
it consumed you,  
and I turned you to ashes on the earth  
in the sight of all who saw you.  
All who know you among the peoples  
are appalled at you;  
you have come to a dreadful end  
and shall be no more forever.”

## **Possible Sentence?**

- Death
- Destruction
- Non-existence

## **Judgment So Far...**

- **Arraignment**
- **Preliminary Hearing**

- Satan was accused
- Charges were brought
- He pleaded
- Not guilty

Yet....

- And his Defense
- So convincing
- 1/3 Angels believe him

Next Phase?

## Trial

- Evidence Brought Forth
- Jury Organized

- Eventual Decision of Guilt

- Every day...

- Universe watches

- Universe watches on

- Angels

#### **1 Corinthians 4:9 ESV**

For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men.

- Satan accuses God
- Not fair
- Unnecessary law
- Impossible law
- Justice - condemn all
- Mercy - mercy on all

## **Evidence**



- True Character of Satan
- True Character of God

## The Cross

- Satan led people to
  - Attack and kill
    - Jesus
- Character seen
- Like never before

### **What happened at the cross?**

- Satan was found guilty
- Universe saw
- His evil

Jesus' victory means:

- Satan is condemned
- Sin is condemn
- His death sentence is ratified
- Salvation is assured

### › Back to Beginning

- Jesus Words:

## It Is Finished

- Something was finished
  - But
- Something was not finished
- Theologians call this:

## **The already but the not yet...**

- The universe is hanging in
- a state of legislative limbo
-

- Jesus purchased salvation
- For the saint
- It is so sure
- It is stated as if
- It has already happened

**John 11:25-26 ESV**

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

- Salvation is spoken of
- As a present reality
- Even though
- it has not happened
- The English phrase
  - "It is finished."
- Is only one word

- In the Greek.

## tetelestai

- What is so interesting
  - About this word
  - Common use.
    - Greek business.
- Archeologists found
- This word on my documents
  - Receipts
  - At the bottom
  - They say
  - tetelestai
  - "It is finished"
- What it means is:
  - "Paid in full"

- "Payment Received"
- "Purchase Complete"

- By faith,
- We have eternal life
- right now.

**John 3:36 ESV**

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

- We are not in heaven yet
- But according to Jesus
- It is finished!
- All of the provision has
- Already be provided for us
- Satan is condemned

- The only thing
  - That stands between us
  - And life eternal
  - Is our own faith
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- Today,
  - I invite you
  - Celebrate with me
  - Satan is a vanquished foe
  - Christ has triumphed
  - Eternal life is free for the taking

## IT IS FINISHED