

John 19:17- 42 (part 2)
25th November 2018 am Hill and Arcadia
The 3 R's of the crucifixion

In the same way that there are 3R's basic to children's education - reading, writing and arithmetic – we can extract 3R's essential **to the saving work of Jesus** evident in this passage *John 19* describing the day Jesus was crucified.

They are:

- Requirements fulfilled
- Redemption accomplished
- Response revealed

Read John 19:17-42

Did you know that if you have run **the comrades** marathon ten times within the allocated time, you then earn the privilege of a green number and go on to enjoy privileges of special treatment at events.

If you **pass matric** with university exemption you can take up the privilege of doing further studies at University.

In an infinitely **more significant way** Jesus, on the cross, finally met all the requirements of God in saving sinful men and women from condemnation. Having fulfilled the requirements benefits followed in that redemption was accomplished

This then brings us to the 2nd of the 3R's **basic and crucial** to the saving work of Jesus.

1 Redemption accomplished

Having exposed us to **multiple references** to Jesus fulfilling specific prophecies; John now records Jesus great words of triumph...

John 19:30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "it is finished", and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Those words "*it is finished*" in the English translation in **not very helpful**, as it suggests defeat. It conveys the cry of a man who has been beaten.

The word used by Jesus is **better rendered**, *it is accomplished*.

Jesus having fulfilled all of God's requirements in the unfolding of His redemption plan **achieved** what God sent Him to do.

- Jesus finished all of the known and the unknown sufferings He came to endure as our **Substitute**.

- Jesus finished the winding up and fulfilment of **the ceremonial law** as the true Sacrifice for sin.
- Jesus finished the fulfilment of every **prophetic detail** in His Fathers orchestrated plan of salvation.

Having finished all that was required He accomplished the great work of redemption. Sin is punished and the wrath of God is satisfied, thus achieving many good things for a sinful world.

What does that **accomplishment** look like?

Zooming away from the immediate context of our passage we can take a glimpse at...

1.1 The big picture of world history

Getting bogged down in the present state of world affairs can so easily **drive you to despair**. Is there any possible hope for relief in the chaos and lunacy that confronts us every day?

With respect to the world we live in we see and experience: destruction like the fires in Knysna and California, Drought, poverty and famine as in Somalia, floods, life threatening volcanic activity, hurricanes leaving trails of devastation, pestilence, global warming...

This is the condition **of the world** as we know it and experience it and how Paul describes it in *Romans 8:20 For the creation was subjected to futility...*

Futility is the order of the day but not **the final outcome** because of redemption accomplished... *Romans 8:21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.*

God who is deliberate in action and precise in His timing with bring about what He gave to John in a vision

Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first earth has passed away...

The destiny of the earth's condition is not in the hands of North Korea or China or the USA; it is firmly and completely in the hands of God.

With respect to people we see and experience: wars and rumours of war, lies and deception, greed, corruption, injustice, disease, anarchy, immorality, defiance of God

Rebellion against God is the order of the day but not the final outcome because of redemption accomplished...

God saves the **worst of people** from their sin.

1 Corinthians 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

He saves people for an indescribable **eternal future** on this new heaven and new earth...

Revelation 21:1 ... the dwelling place of God is with man, He will dwell with them, and they will be His people... He will wipe away every tear from their eyes and death will be no more...

Because of redemption accomplished **the destiny** of the nations is not in the hands of Satan or even their own foolish rebellion but firmly and completely in the hands of God.

Revelation 7:9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

But we also need to ask what that accomplishment looked like **zooming back** into the context of John and that world.

1.2 The detail of what followed the crucifixion

After the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, God **dramatically begins to establish** the church.

While it is great to see **all 120 disciples** gathered in *Acts 1:15* looking to replace Judas as one of the Apostles; it is so much greater to see the church mushrooming after the coming of the Holy Spirit.

We see the Holy Spirit at work **applying** the work of redemption in the lives of people.

In *Acts 2:41* in response to Peter's **confrontational sermon** ...*there were added that day about three thousand souls.*

In *Acts 2:47* as the church continues to **live out their faith** in practical Christianity ...*the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

By the time you get to Acts 28 God has **established the church** way beyond Jerusalem and beyond Judea and beyond Samaria to the beginnings of the ends of the earth.

People are being gathered **from the nations**.

Redemption accomplished is now being applied. **Salvation secured** is now salvation received by underserving recipients like Paul opposed to the cause of Christ radically converted or like Philippian jailer convinced of the truth of the gospel...

But we must **look further to see** that it is not only forgiveness and adoption and reconciliation and acceptance of sinful people...

Redemption accomplished by Jesus includes **help for struggling** Christians all the way through to glory and the new heaven and the new earth.

Under persecution we see **Stephen**, being stoned to death by an angry mob in *Acts 7:54ff* experienced the help and presence of God through the horrific ordeal.

The same extraordinary help and presence of God given to **the Apostles** in their difficult circumstances of being flogged, imprisoned and even martyred.

Even when God refuses to remove **the thorn** in Paul's flesh God provides coping grace to and for Paul.

Redemption accomplished leads to the privilege of every person who loves God and called according His purpose to know that *all things work together for their good*.

When faced with **the death of a loved one** redemption accomplished enables those who have loved and grieve to do so with hope.

At times when we believers **are weak** and do not know what to pray the Spirit helps us in our weakness... as He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

All this and I have hardly scratched the surface. There is **so much more**... blessed by God in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

The redemption accomplished by Jesus on the day of His crucifixion is an unimaginably **great gift** that Jesus accomplished on behalf of repenting sinful people.

2 Implications

Why is redemption accomplished **so basic and crucial** to the saving work of Jesus and its impact on you?

2.1 It is God's provision for your salvation

Having accomplished redemption for helpless sinners places you and everyone else in the world **dependant on Him** for escape from the curse of God. Jesus alone can provide and guarantee rescue from condemnation and provide favour with God.

You and I need to "rest our souls" on **the finished** work of Jesus. That done we need not fear that either sin or Satan or, or law can condemn us on the last day.

We can lean back on the thought, that **we have a Saviour** who did all, paid all, accomplished all, performed all that is necessary for our salvation.

We can say with the **Apostle Paul**

Romans 8:34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died--more than that, who was raised--who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

2.2 It is God's provision for meaningful living

Since we have been made by God for God **any pathway** independent of God and His provision through Jesus has no eternal value. It is a wasted life.

In the same way that it is such a waste **to use a trumpet** as a funnel to top up the oil of your car's engine; so it is waste for a person made in the image of God to know and love God to give their lives to nothing.

Where the redemption Jesus accomplished has been applied **a fruitful pathway** unfolds. Paul explains

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Conclusion

Today we **dedicated** a baby. It is the prayer of the parents that their daughter gets to personally experience the redemption Jesus accomplished.

We are also about to **baptize a believer** who rests his soul in the finished work of Jesus. In his baptism he telling you that he has experienced the application of the finished work of Jesus.

Where do you stand in this matter of **redemption accomplished** today?