

from me, but I lay it down for myself.” The Son of God died at the moment and time He chose to do so. This has never been said of anyone else nor never will. According to **Acts 7:59**, Stephen’s life was taken from him, but not so with Jesus Christ. No one but the Son of God could just die when He chose too. According to **Mark 15:44**, even Pilate marveled that Jesus died when He did, for some lived as long as two or three days after being crucified. The request of the Jews in **John 19:31** shows that they were not expecting the three on the crosses to die soon, so they wanted their legs broken to hasten death but Jesus Christ was already dead because His death was according to His own will.

The Seventh Statement was our Savior’s final words of victory, **John 19:30**, **“It is finished.”** There has never been greater words in all the history of mankind spoken as these. The redemption for all mankind is accomplished here on the Cross. The eternal plan of God is now completed, for it is through His death that all can be forgiven of their sins.

The words, “It is finished” is a single word in the Greek, Tetelesti. Please notice the different ways the root word Teleo is translated in the New Testament:

1. Matthew 11:1 Made an end
2. Matthew 17:24 Pay
3. Luke 2:39 Performed
4. Luke 18:31 Accomplished

Jesus Christ made an end of sins, (**I Corinthians 15:1-4**). He paid the price, (**I Corinthians 6:20**). He performed the job the Father called him to do, (**I Peter 1:18-20**), and he accomplished redemption for all (**Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14; Romans 3:24**). We know today through the “Gospel of Christ” that the Cross was necessary for salvation. In **John 3:14**, Jesus Christ Himself said, *“and as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up.”* The Gospel of Christ according to **Romans 1:16**, is the Power of God into salvation and according to **I Corinthians 15:1-4**, we see clearly that Jesus Christ died for our sins, was buried and raised again the third day, and this wonderful truth is revealed clearly through the ministry of the Apostles. God’s plan of redemption was totally worked out and made know in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ.

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”
Romans 10:13

**Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; Sin had left a crimson stain -
He washed it white as snow.**



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**“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and thou shalt be saved, and thy house”**
Acts 16:31

The Riches

OF GRACE

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“hath appeared to all men.” Titus 2:11

“Seven Statements from the Cross”

+ *by our Lord Jesus Christ* +

The Lord Jesus Christ spoke seven times from the Cross and those seven statements exhibit His perfection as the Lord in death, as well as in life.

In this study we want to show the importance of every word uttered by our Lord as He hang those six painful hours on Calvary’s Cross to die for the sins of the world, (**John 3:16**).

The First Statement spoken from the cross is recorded in **Luke 23:34**, *“Father, forgive them: for they know not what they do.”* Here we find the words of “forgiveness”, for His enemies as He draws His last breath of life. The scriptures are clear in **II Corinthians 5:19** that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them. Not only was Israel and the Romans considered as the enemies of God, but according to this passage all the world needed to be reconciled to God because the world was at enmity with Him. Someone may say, but I wasn’t there when Jesus died on the cross in A.D. 33 and thereby I did not participate in the crucifixion of God’s Son. Oh, but what you must understand is that according to **II Corinthians 5:21**, it was your sins and my sins that placed Him on that cross. Our Lord and Savior had not committed one sin during His entire life, nor did He have a sin nature by birth. So, His death was brought about because of our sin, for He had no sin himself. **Isai-ah 53:54; I John 3:5; I Peter 3:18; Hebrews 9:14-15.**

According to **Romans 5:10** and **Colossians 1:21**, we are said to have been enemies and were reconciled to God by the death of His son on the Cross. So, the forgiveness is not just for those who were there in A.D. 33, but it also extends to all those in this time and age who will believe.

The Second Statement in **Luke 23:42-43** was words of "salvation" to the dying thief, *"Today thou shalt be with me in Paradise."* As one malefactor railed on Christ in unbelief, the other recognized Jesus as Savior and said unto Him, Lord, remember me when thou cometh into thy Kingdom. We see here the salvation of a man who puts complete confidence in Jesus as his Savior. May we understand that there is no other name under Heaven whereby man can be saved besides Jesus Christ. **Acts 4:12; John 14:6, 3:17**. This man had no time to straighten out his life, or to turn over a new leaf, or to be baptized. Please understand that salvation is in a Person, for in **I John 5:12** we read, *"He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."*

The Third Statement was words of compassion and affections to and for His mother, **John 19:25-26**, *"woman, behold thy Son"* and according to **verse 27**, *"Behold thy mother."* He addresses His mother as woman and John records it this way because the **book of John** shows the deity of Jesus Christ. No disrespect was intended in this term as you see in **John 20:13**. The words spoken by Simeon in **Luke 2:34-35**, now become a reality to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, which says *"a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also."* Jesus had always honored His mother in boyhood (**Luke 2:52**) and He still honored her on the cross and showed His tender compassion to spare her from His cry and agony that followed in His death. So according to **verse 27**, He said to John His disciple, *"Behold thy mother."* He is telling John to regard His mother (Mary) as his own mother, that is, take care of her as if she is your mother.

The Fourth Statement is words of anguish to God, **Matthew 27:46**, *"My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?"* At this moment we find Jesus Christ totally forsaken by God the Father. The question often comes up at this point as to what is really going on and why did God forsake His only begotten Son? Well, the answer of course lies in the fact that God Almighty is a righteous and Holy God and thereby cannot look upon sin nor allow it to go unpunished, (**Habakkuk 1:13**). God judged our sins in the flesh of Jesus Christ in that our sins were placed on Him as He hung on the Cross, **Romans 8:3; II Corinthians**

5:21; Isaiah 53; Psalms 22. According to **Galatians 3:13**, Jesus Christ literally became a curse that day in my behalf. He took my place as a sinner and became my substitute and died for me. He took my Hell on that cross. **Psalm 22:6** says, *"But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people."* A worm in many places in the scriptures describes a person burning in Hell or the Lake of Fire, **Isaiah 6:22-24; mark 9:43-48; Matthew 18:8-9**. So, as Jesus Christ cries out from the Cross, we understand from **Psalm 22:1-6** that He recognizes that God is Holy, and He was considered as sinful in that our sins are placed on Him. The reason again is that He is carrying the sins of the world on His shoulders as He dies. God Almighty as He forsook and turned His back upon His Son at that moment, poured out on Him the wrath that every sinner deserves. Can you imagine this terrible punishment He bore so we could have eternal life? He hang there alone as a sinner in Hell forsaken by God. Up to this point and time, the Father had never left His Son alone, **John 8:29**. For the first time, He used the words, *"My God"*, as a lost sinner would. Before this, He always uses the words, *"My Father"*. Don't you see dear friend, that the relationship between the Father and Son is temporally broken as Jesus pays for our sins at Calvary, and takes the punishment and wrath we deserved? If not, my God reveal this to you before it is too late.

The Fifth Statement was word of suffering. **John 19:28**, *"I thirst"*. This follows the statement *"My God, My God, why has thou forsaken Me?"* For the eternal wrath of God is burned out on Christ in that He suffered my hell. His thirst on the Cross gives me assurance that I will never thirst if I will drink of the water of life that was spoken of in **John 4**. According to the following scriptures Jesus Christ drank of the cup of God's wrath. **Matthew 26:39; John 18:11, Jeremiah 25:15, Psalm 75:8; Isaiah 51:17**. Our Lord tasted death for every man according to **Hebrews 2:9**. We must not forget that in **Luke 16:10-31**, the rich man in hell also cried these same word, *"I thirst"* as he suffered in the flames of fire. Again, please understand that Jesus Christ took our Hell for us and everyone who has Him as their Lord and Savior will never go to this place of torment because He took it for us.

The Sixth Statement was words of contentment to the Father, **Luke 23:46**, *"Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."* He knew at this point that he had finished the Father's Will on earth which had been ordained before the foundation of the world (**I Peter 1:18-20**). Here, after the sufferings are over, the relationship between the Father and Son is recognized again. Notice that he gave up the ghost and died. No one took His life from Him, for in **John 10:18**, He said, *"No man taketh it*