

Grace & Truth Bible Church

Virginia, Minnesota

February 2020

*So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!"
And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. John 19:30*

Finished or Not?

The Greek reveals that **Jesus cried out in triumph but one word:**

τ ε τ έ λ ε σ τ α ι (tetelestai) - ***Finished!*** By this He signified that the work of salvation was done and that the penalty for man's sin had been fully paid by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. All that the guilty sinner must do is to receive salvation as a gift by faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9).

To add religious rites or obligations to the cross of Christ is to diminish His sacrifice for it would indicate that Jesus did not do enough to save us from sin and judgment. In Galatians 2:21 Paul addressed that problem: *I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.* If salvation could be attained by works, then there would be no need for the sufferings of Jesus Christ.

Furthermore, a perfect and complete work (Hebrews 10:10-12) cannot be improved upon. God's plan of salvation is perfect but when man tries to "fix it" by adding religious duties and works, it ceases to be the gospel of grace. See Galatians 1:6-9.

The "good news" of the gospel is this: our debt of sin has been paid for in full and we are cleansed from every stain when we put our trust in Christ, resting in His finished work (Acts 13:38-39).

Have your sins been forgiven and cleansed? Have you consciously placed your faith in Jesus Christ for salvation? If not, do it today before it is eternally too late! *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.* (Acts 16:31)

*"Not the labor of our hands can fulfill the laws commands;
Could my zeal no respite know; Could my tears forever flow;
These for sin could not atone; Thou must save and Thou alone!"*

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins,

according to the riches of His grace. Ephesians 1:7

February Evening Services

February 2	Communion – Evan Johnson
February 9	Pastor DeMarte
February 16	Pastor DeMarte
February 23	Potluck after morning service – no evening service
March 1	Annual Meeting

We survived January without too much trouble, but the groundhog probably saw his shadow today, and we are in for six more weeks of winter. (That is good news in Minnesota!) Anyway, may we use our time and efforts to honor the Lord throughout the month of February. I pray that each of us will have the opportunity to share the good news with someone this month.

Parenting classes will begin on February 7 at 6:30 PM and go for six weeks. Parents with children at home are encouraged to come. Everyone is welcome to some or all the sessions. **We are asking for help** with watching the children of the attendees. There is a signup sheet in the foyer.

Congratulations to Erik & Abby Lacksonen on the birth of Naomi Marie on January 10th at 10:26 PM. Naomi weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. and was 20 inches long.

Congratulations also to Mack & Rebecca Paine on the birth of Maverick Joseph on January 21st. Maverick weighed 6.8 lbs. and was 19.5 inches long.

There will be a baby shower for Abby and Naomi Lacksonen at 2 PM on February 22, at the church. All ladies are invited. More info on the bulletin board.

Pray for those with special needs and for the annual meeting on March 1.

January Offerings

- General - \$10,770.62
- Missionary - \$2896.00
- 2B Free - \$200.00

Memory Verses for February - Galatians 2:16, 19-21

(Galatians 2:16) knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

(Galatians 2:19) For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

(Galatians 2:20) I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

(Galatians 2:21) I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."