



## It is Finished

Wanting to achieve in life is every man's heart desire. Every person in this world wants to achieve a certain goal or objective in their life (good or bad), so they work to try to obtain it. It could be a father of a family of five working extra hours to give his wife and children a better life; it could be a woman trying to have a healthy body and trying to make it happen at the gym; it could be a college graduate trying to have a successful career by studying long hours.

This is the way man operates. We must work hard in order to achieve goals, in order to meet objectives, and in order to get positive results. It's all about hard work and diligence.

Unfortunately, many believers in Christ approach God and relationship with Him with this same drive and sentiment. They equate more action with more blessing. If **I DO** (self-effort), then **GOD WILL** (expected result).

A great minister of the Gospel, Watchman Nee, says it like this:

- “The Christian faith begins not with a big DO but with a big DONE.”

The New Covenant that Jesus came to establish comes down to receiving the **unmerited** favor of God by entering His rest. Will you attempt to receive **merited** favor by entering in unbelief?

### **John 19:30**

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “**It is finished!**” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Jesus, with His last gasp of air, blasted forth the essence of true Christianity – “IT-IS-FINISHED!” True Christianity is not about another set of requirements, obligations, or sacrificial performance as collateral in exchange for God's free favors. It's about a work that has been finished for you, and all we have to do is believe and rest in God's unmerited favor (Grace). You see, true Christianity is about everything that Jesus the Christ accomplished for us via His death, burial, and resurrection.

### **John 6:28, 29**

They asked, “What must we do in order to accomplish what God requires? Jesus replied, “This is what God requires, that you **believe** in him whom God sent.”

Most religions associated with Christ as Lord and Savior, relate to God proportional to their performance, worth, or obedience to continue to satisfy God's requirements. But according to the verse above, the only requirement of God is for you to believe - believe in Christ and His finished work. There's nothing to DO but one thing to BELIEVE. It's the Lord's good heart for you to take from Him what He freely gives. For God so loved the world that He gave to you grace upon grace. It is a sense of everlasting giving out of the goodness of His heart.

### **John 1:16**

For out of His fullness (abundance) we have all received [all had a share and we were all supplied with] one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and even favor upon favor and gift [heaped] upon gift.

Know that Grace is not a doctrine in the Bible; it is not a subject in our theology, it is not even one of God's virtues; it is not a message, either. No, **Grace is a person, and His name is Jesus Christ.** When you believe in Jesus Christ, you find Grace because that is His fullness. That is the true beauty of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **John 1:17**

For while the Law was given through Moses, grace (unearned, undeserved favor and spiritual blessing) and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Grace and Law are two Biblical opposites. One is not complemented by the other. In fact, mixing them together will spoil both. The Bible says that the **Law** was given through Moses but **Grace** came through the person of Jesus Christ. The Law was given but Grace came personally. Law is about merited favor but Grace is about unmerited favor.

Watchman Nee gives clarity in this subject:

- “Grace means that God does something for me; law means that I do something for God. God has certain holy and righteous demands which he places upon me: that is law. Now if law means that God requires something of me for their fulfillment, then deliverance from law means he no longer requires that from me, but himself provides it.”

The finished work of Christ is about Christ meeting all of God’s demands and freely receiving everything He merited on your behalf.

Where do you find yourself? Are you constantly relying on your performance, obedience, self-effort to receive the favor of God, which are dead works based on the system of the Law **OR** are you resting in Grace, which is based on the truth of the finished work of Jesus Christ for salvation, favor, blessings, and success in life?

Watchman Nee says it uniquely in this manner:

- “The greatest blunder Christians commit upon experiencing victory over sin lies in not using the way of victory to sustain it; instead they try to perpetuate the victory by their works and determination.”

God through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus has given you His unmerited favor freely. It's time to rest in the finished work of Jesus Christ, instead of your work. Receive an abundance of grace and you will see how you won't help it but produce a life worth living, reigning over the flesh, the devil, and the world through one man, Jesus Christ!

By: Joyner Briceño