

## Saturday: Triumph

"It is finished" - John 19:30

### Questions for Reflection

1. Have you ever declared, "It is finished!"? What did it feel like?
2. What does it mean to you to be reconciled to God?
3. How might your life change if you could live fully into the reality that Jesus has made all things new?

"It is finished." Cue huge sigh of relief. I'm sure that in part, Jesus is relieved that his suffering is almost over. Soon he will be free from pain, from suffering, and from torture.

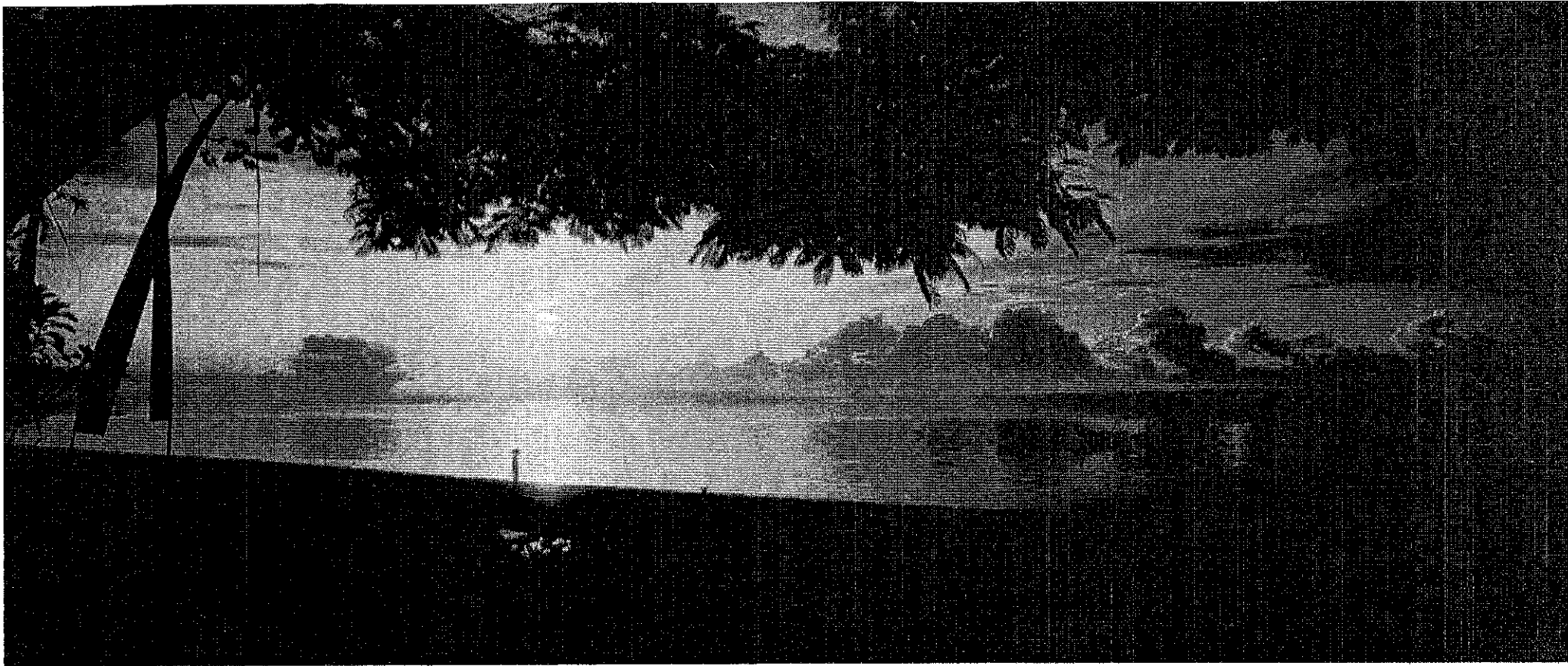
There is much more to Jesus' penultimate declaration. When I would finish my exams I can remember declaring, "It is finished!" When I submitted my thesis and completed my MDiv. degree I shouted it even louder, "IT IS FINISHED."

Jesus is making a bold statement from the cross. The Greek word here is *Τετέλεσται* and it means complete, whole, finished.

In the *Message* Eugene Peterson captures the fullness of this word, "It's done...complete."

Jesus' birth, ministry, life, death, and ultimately resurrection set into motion a new way of being. The Kingdom of God is here. The new is here, the old is gone. We've been reconciled with God. All because Jesus chose to die.

"It is finished," was Jesus' bold declaration that things would never be the same again. The mission of God was complete. Humanity restored into relationship with their creator. Complete.



## Sunday: Reunion

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." —

Surrender is probably one of the hardest things to do in life. It is the ultimate form of giving up control. To surrender means that you are committing your life into the hands of another.

In his final words Jesus commits his spirit into the hands of a Father who knows how to love him best. Jesus trusted God the Father. Completely.

That's God's hope for you as well, that you would commit your life into the hands of a Father *who loves you best*.

If Easter has one message, it is this: Jesus loves you and was desperate enough for you to know that he willingly died on the cross. The Good News is that death was arrested and new life began. Resurrection. New life.

**The hope of Easter is that you might live into the hope of the resurrection; a hope that changes the world and changes your life.**

### Prayer

"I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing: I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven."

Amen. - John Wesley