

EASTER: STUDENT

THE FULFILLED WORD

John 19:30

“It is finished!”

INTRODUCTION

“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” (*LSB* 447:16–18):

Jesus, all our ransom paid,
All Your Father’s will obeyed;
By Your sufferings perfect made:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

Save us in our soul’s distress;
Be our help to cheer and bless
While we grow in holiness:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

Brighten all our heav’nward way
With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

THE WORD

Read John 4:31–38 and answer the following:

1. What did the disciples urge Jesus to do?
2. How did He answer them?
3. Why are they confused and what kind of food did they think He meant?
4. What is the “food” of our Lord according to v. 34?
5. How far away was the harvest in the eyes of the disciples?
6. What harvest was Jesus referring to? See v. 30.
7. Jesus is concerned to gather “fruit” for what?
8. Who were the ones who were laboring in the planting and sowing?
9. How do the disciples enter into that labor?

Read John 19:30–37 and answer the following:

1. What did Jesus cry after receiving the sour wine?
2. How does that word from the cross keep us from ever trying to run our own works into salvation?
3. Why did the Jews not want the bodies to remain upon the crosses?
4. Why did the soldiers not break our Lord's legs?
5. What came out from Jesus' side when the spear opened it?
6. How has the Church regarded these as a signs that show how the finished work of the Lord is delivered to us?
7. What are the implications of "not one of His bones will be broken"? Look up Exodus 12:43–46.
8. What goes with looking on the pierced one? Look up Zechariah 12:10; 13:1.

CONCLUSION

Our Lord was a man with a mission. He knew that mission involved suffering and death in order to forgive the world's sin and to bring death's reign to an end in order that through His passion and resurrection the kingdom of the future age might begin to make its appearance in this world. Thus our Lord always regarded His cross as part of the work His Father had given Him to do, and when that work was completed (on the sixth day, just as the work of creation was completed on the sixth day), He announces its completion with His triumphant cry: "It is finished." That word from the cross keeps us from ever attempting to bring our works to bear on salvation. No, the salvation that we are privileged to "work out" is given us whole and entire in Jesus. He has suffered in the flesh for our sin and the shedding of His blood alone blots out the charges against us and gives us the promise and hope of sharing in the Kingdom of the age to come. This hope He triumphantly delivers to His people through the sacraments of Eucharist and Baptism, prefigured in the blood and water that pour forth from His side.