

# FINISHED—PERFECT—COMPLETE

How would you like to be perfect and complete? Carefully note three verses of Scripture:

1. “When Jesus therefore received the vinegar, He said, IT IS FINISHED; and He bowed His head and gave up the ghost.” John 19:30.
2. “By one offering HE HATH PERFECTED for ever them that are sanctified.” Hebrews 10:14.
3. “And YE ARE COMPLETE in Him, Which is the Head of all principality and power.” Colossians 2:10.

Note:

1. “IT IS FINISHED”
2. “HE HATH PERFECTED”
3. “YE ARE COMPLETE”

“It”—“He”—“Ye”—“Finished”—“Perfect”—“Complete”.

In John 1:1 and 1:14, we read that Christ was God and became flesh. He was both Divine and human; altogether perfect. Christ lived for more than thirty years on this earth. His was the perfect life. All of His works were works of perfection.

Christ died on the cross as the Lamb of God without spot or blemish. I Peter 1:19. He was holy, harmless, undefiled. He was made flesh for the specific purpose of offering Himself in sacrifice on the cross without spot unto God to put away sin. Hebrews 2:9, Hebrews 9:10 to 14, and Hebrews 9:26. After His death, Christ abolished death. II Timothy 1:10. Christ’s work of redemption was a perfect work. His cry was “finished.” God accepted the finished work of Christ as payment for all of the sins of every sinner who will accept the perfect Christ and His perfect sacrifice. “It is finished.”

Now hear the good news of Hebrews 10:10—Hebrews 10:12—Hebrews 10:14:

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” Hebrews 10:10.

“But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.” Hebrews 10:12.

“For by one offering, He had perfected for ever them that are sanctified.” Hebrews 10:14.

The same truth is told in Hebrews 9:12: “Neither by the blood of goats and calves but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.”

“By one offering.” Believers are sanctified. Believers are perfected. By the one offering of the perfect Christ and by His one entrance into heaven after His death and resurrection. He hath perfected forever believing sinners. Do you want to be made perfect? God wants to do this very thing for you. Christ’s work is God’s way. Take God’s way. Let God save you in His way. Let the perfect God by His grace, make you perfect in His sight in His way. Christ hath obtained for us eternal redemption. Believe this very good news and receive Christ.

The law made nothing perfect. The bringing in of the better hope did. Hebrews 7:19. “Christ is the END of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.” Romans 10:4.

The words “end,” “finish,” “perfect,” and the word “uttermost” in Hebrews 7:25 and the word “perform” in Philippians 1:6, are all from the same Greek word.

Christ, in Hebrews 12:2, is called the “Author and Finisher” of our faith. Christ being made “perfect” became the “Author” of eternal life. Hebrews 5:9. The word “Author” in Hebrews 12:2 is the same Greek word as “Captain” in Hebrews 5:9—The Captain of our salvation was made “perfect” through suffering. Jesus Christ, the Righteous, being Deity, was ever perfect. But His redemptive work in behalf of imperfect humanity, was a work of suffering. He said, “My meat is to do the will of God and “finish” or “end” or “perfect” the work which He gave me to do. Then He said, “I have finished.” He did a perfect work. God was altogether satisfied with “the finished work of Christ.” “For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.” I Peter 3:18. On the cross Christ cried, “It is finished” or “finished.”

Note what God can do and does do for the believing sinner because of the perfect work, the finished work, of Christ.

“Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God: To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just and the justifier of Him which believeth in Jesus.” Romans 3:25.

God is perfect and is satisfied with nothing less than a perfect work. The law, of the Lord is perfect. God gave that perfect law to man, a perfect work to do. The law made nothing perfect. Hebrews 7:19. Imperfect man could not perfectly keep God’s perfect law. But God sent from heaven the Man Who did perfectly keep that perfect law. Christ was perfect in being; perfect in conduct, perfect in all the will of God. He came down from heaven not to do His own will, but the will of Him that sent Him. John 6:38. God was satisfied completely with the perfect work of Christ. On the grounds of that perfect work of death and resurrection, God can be just and the justifier of every one who believes in Jesus. When the believing sinner is forgiven all of his sins by the just and merciful God, it is for Christ’s sake. Ephesians 4:32.

After, the resurrection of Christ, God sent from heaven the Holy Spirit to witness concerning the perfect redemptive work of Christ which the Father accepted. The Father, by His grace and His Spirit, makes the believing sinner to be “accepted in the Beloved.” Ephesians 1:6. To prove to the believer that he is “accepted in the Beloved,” God sent His Holy Spirit in the believer whereby he is sealed unto the day of redemption. The indwelling Holy Spirit is the earnest of the believer’s inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession. Ephesians 1:14. “. . . Christ having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the END.” John 13:1.

Every believer should read time and again the wonderful prayer of Christ in the seventeenth chapter of John. Note John 17:23, “I in them and Thou in Me, that they may be made PERFECT in One; and that the world may know that thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me.”

Then ponder in your heart this glorious truth: “For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And YE ARE COMPLETE in Him, which is the Head of all principality and power.” Colossians 2:9 and 10.

So many sinners hesitate to accept Christ, God’s free gift of eternal life, because they fear they cannot hold out. No believing sinner can hold out any more than he can save himself. By the Tri-une God he is saved unto the “uttermost,” that is, all the way to the end. “He will perform it unto the day of Jesus Christ.” “Uttermost” and “perform” and “Finisher” are all from

the same Greek word. From first to last, all the way, salvation is of the Lord and altogether by the grace of God. It is a perfect work.

Remember the good news recorded in John 13:1: "Having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end."

Note the good news recorded in Hebrews 7:25: "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the UTTERMOST that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them."

Note the good news recorded in Philippians 1:6: "Being confident of this very thing, that He Which hath begun a good work in you will PERFORM it unto the day of Jesus Christ."

Note this good news in John 10:28:

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand."

Note the good news in Romans 4:6 to 8:

"The blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered."

"BLESSED IS THE MAN TO WHOM THE LORD WILL NOT IMPUTE SIN."

Happy is this man. Are you that happy person? If not, why not? If not, whose fault is it?

When the believing sinner comes to God in God's way and that believing sinner is made accepted in the Beloved, in Christ, his standing is PERFECT and COMPLETE. He is guaranteed a perfect body when Christ comes. Until that day the believer is kept secure by Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

But note God's will concerning the believer's walk and conversation while he is waiting to go to heaven "THAT YE MAY STAND PERFECT AND COMPLETE IN ALL THE WILL OF GOD." Colossians 4:12.

You say it is not possible for a human being to be perfect. When Jesus Christ was here on earth He said to His disciples: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father Which is in Heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:48.

In up-to-date language we must admit that this was a big order. Surely all should be agreed that by no human reformation scheme, by no ethical philosophy of man can any imperfect human creature be made as perfect as the perfect Creator. But the question is: can the perfect Creator make the imperfect creature perfect, if that human creature is willing to be worked upon by God?

What meaneth the language of Colossians 1:28: "That we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus?" "Perfect in Christ Jesus." "In Christ Jesus." According to the Bible, man can undergo a transformation that will change him from an imperfect creature to a perfect creature: that is, the new creature is perfect. Concerning such transformed creatures, note what one of them was directed by God's perfect Spirit to write:

"For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Corinthians 5:17.

Only "in Christ Jesus" can any human being be presented perfect. Christ Jesus spent about thirty-three years on this earth as a perfect man. "The Second Man is from heaven." Human creatures must be recreated. They must be God's workmanship. God must place them in Christ Jesus. If God declares that He can present a man perfect in Christ Jesus, God means exactly what He says and your denial of this Divine fact will in no way alter the fact.

Why not seriously and carefully look into this matter? There is nothing else that you will ever have the opportunity to consider that can begin to compare with the importance of this glorious truth.

If man must be absolutely perfect in behavior to receive God's approval and benediction, then we say in despair, "what's the use?" Impossible. But if the work is to be the work of the omnipotent God, with Whom all things are possible, and if we are to be worked upon by the perfect God, and God emphatically declares that He can make the imperfect man perfect, then let's turn the impossibility over to God and let's see how He makes it possible.

Concerning this "perfect" remember the negative and positive in Hebrews 7:19: "The law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God."

The negative, "the law." The positive, "the better hope." No perfection by "the law." Perfection by "the better hope." "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." By Moses, "the law—nothing perfect (except the law). By Jesus Christ, "the better hope"—perfection accomplished.

But now the question: How can the perfect doings of another counteract our imperfect doings? Our first answer is "by grace." God's Word is, "the bringing in of the better hope did." The perfect Christ and His perfect work is the better hope.

In Revelation 1:8 Christ calls Himself "the Beginning and the Ending." This word "ending" is from the same Greek word translated "perfect." Christ was perfect when He was in the form of God. He was the perfect Man in incarnation. As the Captain (Author) of our salvation He was made perfect through sufferings. Hebrews 2:10.

"And being made perfect He became the Author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him." Hebrews 5:9.

Here is a most interesting and significant statement. "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." Romans 10:4. Christ is the END of the law. This word "END" is the same Greek word as the word "PERFECT." Unrighteous sinners, unable to keep God's law, are declared righteous when they believe on Jesus Christ. He is called Jesus Christ, The Righteous. I John 2:1.

"And by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." Acts 13:39.

We learn in Hebrews 12:2 that Jesus Christ is the Author and Finisher of our faith. This word "Finisher" is the same Greek word as "perfect." Perfect work cannot be done by man, but by the Tri-une God. Note God's truth in Romans 4:4 and 5. "Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to Him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, His faith is counted for righteousness.

Thus we have learned that in the matter of being made perfect:

1. We are God's workmanship;
2. It is by believing in Christ and relying on His perfect work;
3. We are to be presented perfect in Christ Jesus.

We have observed that the words "end" and "finish" are the same Greek word as "perfect." Now let us note these statements of Christ, all found in John's Record:

"Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work." John 4:34.

“But I have greater witness than that of John for the works which the Father hath given Me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of Me, that the Father hath sent Me.” John 5:36.

“I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do.” John 17:4.

“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, He said, It is finished: and He bowed His head and gave up the ghost.” John 19:30.

The Father gave His Son something to do. He did it. That Son was perfect. He finished His work. He did a perfect work. God accepted it as such. “By His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us: Hebrews 9:12.

Before that perfect Son finished His work, He thus prayed for His disciples: “That they may be made perfect.” John 17:23. Do you suppose that the Father would permit the prayer of His Son to go unanswered? There will yet be a realization of Ephesians 4:13; “Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.”

As children of God we must study hundreds of verses of Scripture to know God’s will and then remember that the same grace of God that saved us from the penalty of sin abounds and is sufficient for every task, trial and test, and the same power that raised Christ from the dead is to usward who are on redemption and resurrection ground by faith in the crucified and resurrected Christ. II Corinthians 9:8 and Ephesians 1:19 to 22.