

Outline:

Christ at the Center: John 19:28-30

Main Idea: All works are done through Christ, who fills our thirst.

Introduction: (Note: This is a heavily condensed introduction compared to what I'm saying.)

Good Morning, Church.

I'm glad to be able to share the word of our God with you this morning

- Our text is John 19:28-30
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I'm one of the leaders of the youth group

- And before our July break, we were going through the Gospel of John
 - So I thought it would be a good idea to be a good idea to bring a little bit of the youth group to Sunday Service.

lets get READY to read the word of God with prayer.

John 19:28-30

'Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. '

I. John's Prophetic Focus

Jesus was **convicted** by the Chief Priest and handed away by Pilate to be **crucified**. This is because he claimed to be the **son of God**.

At this moment in verses 28-30, Jesus **lies** at the cross.

- And as we know, the cross is one of the **worst forms** of punishment in human history.
 - The Pain, of the damage the body receives.
 - The Prolonged Agony.
 - The Public Humiliation (Despised, Mocked, Rejected, Betrayed.)
- But even more **abominable** is the fact that the worst punishment is being enacted on a perfect innocent man in JESUS CHRIST!

But... Although all these things are important. The pain and the humiliation of the event.

- John is not very **interested** in telling us much about that...
- John is not too focused on the **physical implications** of the crucifixion.
 - Instead, he is constantly pointing out to his audience the **Fulfillment of Prophecies**.

He does this multiple times throughout the gospel. And in chapter 19, we see him do this **4 times**

Fulfillment	Prophecies
When they divided his clothes and casted lots for his garment (John 19:23,24)	(Psalms 22:18) They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.
When Jesus's bones weren't broken because he was already dead. (John 19:36)	(Exodus 12:46) Do not break any of the bones. (add notes for this part)
When he was pierced on his side. (John 19:37)	(Zechariah 12:10) They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child
When he says "I am thirsty" and is given the sour wine. (John 19:29)	(Psalm 69:21) They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.

John is not entirely **unique** in making prophetic connections.

- Other Gospel authors make similar connections. But they are **implicit** (They expect you to see it)

John **stands out** because he is **explicitly telling you**.

- He tells us multiple times that these things are happening "**so that Scripture would be fulfilled.**"
- He does not want you to miss this.

II. Jesus at the Center

What John is doing (by pointing out the fulfilled prophecies) is putting Jesus at the **Center of everything**.

- Not only of this gospel. But at the center of **all of Scripture**. (It all connects to Jesus)

This is why, when we see Jesus' final words, "**It is finished.**"

- It's not just an indication that this is where he dies.

- But it is the fulfillment of the **divine plan** of the Father. It is the “**finished**” work of the **redemption of men**.
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In that same way, the words “**I am Thirsty**” are not just an indication of his **physical state**.

- Earlier in the Gospel of John, Jesus was at a well in Samaria, and he had a conversation with a Samaritan woman about the living waters.
- And he told her, “**Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again** (The water from the well), **14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.**”
 - What is Jesus talking about here? He is talking about the thirst of our soul.
 - Each one of us has probably experienced this feeling before. The longing of our spirit for something. (Meaning, Purpose, Relationship)
 - And that something is God.
 - **Psalm 42: “As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.”**

So if that is the case, then being **thirsty** means to be away from God.

- Jesus thirsted on the cross physically. But he also thirsted because he took our sin and was forsaken.
 - He thirsted so that we would could drink of the living waters and never **thirst again** (Meaning to be with God).

III. Only Jesus can Finish the Work

But why does it have to be Jesus? (Why was he the one who thirsted?)

- This is answered by one of the **main points** in John’s Gospel
 - And that is the Divinity of Jesus. (That he is God)
 - He establishes this claim at the beginning of the gospel.
 - First Chapter: **‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.**
 - He is telling us Jesus is God.

And because of that...

He is the only one who can be at the **center** of our redemption and beyond.

- When he is the center, or to use other analogies...
 - When he is the **cornerstone**
 - When he is the **Rock**
 - When he is the **main Root**
- All things will “**work together for good**” (Romans 8:28)

IV. Christ Always

In the **Good And Bad Moments**, Christ always has to be the center.

When things are **GOOD** (It's like getting water from the well)

- Essentially is getting those things that we desire in life: Money, A better Job, Car, a Spouse, or having your favorite team win.
 - It will satisfy our thirst for a moment.
 - But eventually, what happens? **We will thirst again.**
 - Only Jesus can give us that which forever will satisfy our souls.
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When things are **BAD**

Especially in those **bad moments**, Jesus can also be the center.

- Sickness = He is the Healer
- Loneliness = He is our Companion
- Folly = He is our Wisdom
- Injustice = He is our Justice
- Hate = He is our Love
- Death = He is the Life & Resurrection
 - Not even Death is a problem to us and our loved ones because Jesus finished the work and gave us life.

Jesus says...

“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.” John 6:35

Application:

1. Am I aware that only God can satisfy my thirst?
 - There are countless stories of people who have gained it all. Yet they were never satisfied and destroyed their lives because of it.
 - That is because there are huge consequences when we are in a **constant state of thirst**. We are not satisfied, and we take more and more...
 - That will lead us to commit grave sins because that desire becomes our God.
 - This is why the first commandment is what? **“You shall have no other Gods before me.”**
 - If you don't get that first thing right, everything else will crumble.
2. Do I believe that Jesus finished all works at the cross?
 - a. There is nothing bad enough that I can do to lose salvation, and there is nothing good enough that I can do to earn salvation

- i. Why? Because it is not up to me.
 - ii. It was decided on the cross for us. ("it is finished" is a declaration of victory)
 1. All we have to do is believe.
3. Is Jesus the center in my life?
 - We mentioned how other things can be the center of our lives. But sometimes I (Myself) can try to become the center.
 - But it's not sustainable.
 - We were not created to be alone and self-sustained.
 - He made us for him "All things were created through him and for him." (Colossians 1:16)