

# John 19 — Finished, and Freely Given

John 19:30 (with 19:28 · 19:11 · John 10:17–18) · For posting on YouTube & Facebook. Use the overview for the description; add the prompt and links wherever they fit.

## VIDEO OVERVIEW (post-ready)

In John 19, at the very end of the crucifixion, Jesus says one word in Greek — **“It is finished”** — *tetelestai*. It’s not a cry of defeat. It’s a word of completion — it’s been found written on ancient receipts, meaning “paid in full.” And then look at what John says next: he bowed his head and **gave up his spirit**. Nobody took his life. Jesus said back in John 10, “No one takes it from me — I lay it down of my own accord,” and John has been proving it all the way through: soldiers flat on the ground at his word, Pilate told he’d have no authority unless it were given from above, Jesus carrying his own cross. Even his dying is something he does, not something done to him. The work is finished because he finished it, and the life was given because he gave it — willingly, deliberately, for sinners. A finished work can’t be added to. It can only be received.

## GO DEEPER — STUDY PROMPT FOR VIEWERS

Read **John 10:17–18**, then read chapters **18 and 19** straight through, and underline every place Jesus is directing events instead of suffering them — the arrest, the trial, the cross, the last breath. Then compare **John 19:28** with **19:30**: Jesus knows the work is finished before he announces it. Trace “the work” through the Gospel — **John 4:34, 5:36, 17:4** — and watch him talk about finishing it from beginning to end. Finally, ask the question the text presses on you: if nobody took his life, why did he give it? **John 10:11** answers that too.

## KEY PASSAGES REFERENCED

**Elsewhere in John:** 19:28 · 19:11 · 10:17–18 · 18:4–6 · 17:4 · 4:34

**Other Gospels:** Matthew 27:50 · Luke 23:46 · Mark 15:44–45

**Rest of Scripture:** Psalm 69:21 · Isaiah 53:12 · Hebrews 10:11–14

## RESOURCES & FURTHER READING

### Christ’s Finished Work

C.H. Spurgeon — Christian Classics Ethereal Library

<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/spurgeon/sermons07.xxx.html>

*Spurgeon on John 19:30 — the whole of redemption accomplished at the cross, resting faith on Christ’s finished atonement rather than our works.*

### Redemption Accomplished

Tabletalk — Ligonier Ministries

<https://learn.ligonier.org/devotionals/redemption-accomplished>

*Short study of John 19:28–30 — “I thirst” fulfilling Scripture, the meaning of “It is finished,” and Jesus voluntarily surrendering his spirit.*

### Expository Thoughts on John — Chapter 19

J.C. Ryle — GraceGems

<https://www.gracegems.org/Ryle/j19.htm>

*Ryle on the finishing of “the great work of man’s redemption” — and why believers can rest their whole souls on a finished work.*