

It is Finished

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[0 : 00] Chapter 19 Chapter 19 Reading at verse 16 Then delivered Pilate him therefore unto them to be crucified And they took Jesus and led him away And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull Which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha Where they crucified him And two other with him On either side one And Jesus in the midst Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross And the writing was Jesus of Nazareth The King of the Jews This title then read many of the Jews

For the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city And was written in Hebrew and Greek and Latin Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate Write not the King of the Jews But that he said I am King of the Jews Pilate answered What I have written I have written Then the soldiers when they had crucified Jesus Took his garments and made four parts To every soldier a part And also his coat Now the coat was without seam Woven from the top throughout Then they said therefore among themselves Let us not rend it But cast lots for it Whose it shall be That the scripture might be fulfilled Which said They parted my raiment among them And for my vesture They did cast lots These things therefore The soldiers did Now they stood by the cross of Jesus' mother And his mother's sister Mary The wife of Cleophas and Mary Magdalene When Jesus therefore saw his mother And the disciples standing by Whom he loved He saith unto his mother Woman Behold thy son Then saith he to the disciple Behold thy mother And from that hour That disciple took her And to his own home After this Jesus knowing that all things Were now accomplished That the scripture might be fulfilled Saith I thirst Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar And they filled a sponge with vinegar And put it upon his hip And put it to his mouth When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar He said It is finished And he bowed his head And gave up The ghost May God bless to us That reading From his word Let us turn to consider words You will find in the passage we read John's gospel Chapter 19 Verse 30 John's gospel Chapter 19 Verse 30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar He said It is finished These words It is finished We come now to the sixth And the second Last of the Seven Sayings From the cross It is finished And as you read the

Accounts that we have in Matthew Mark Luke And this Chapter It Becomes Very clear That the Loud Cry That our Lord Uttered On the cross Is a cry Which is Connected With the Both the Fifth The word Or expression Of his It I Thused And this one It is finished And indeed the final one Father into thy hands I commit My spirit It seems As though He cried With the This Loud Voice It is Finished And This in itself Is somewhat Unusual Unusual For someone In the Throes Of death As

[5 : 07] Jesus was Though of course That we shall see The death That Jesus Died Is very Different To the death That you And I Died And the Manner in which He died Was very Different to the Manner in which You and I Will die Though he was In the throes Of death He died As we shall see Triumphantly His death Was an Active one He gave Himself To death We saw Last week That the Thirst That our Lord Experienced On the Cross Was associated With the Deep The intense Physical And spiritual Mental Sufferings And anguish Through which He had Passed On the Cross Particularly

The Sufferings That he Experienced During the Period of Darkness On the Cross But the Darkness Was now Passed And Had Lifted And the Thirst That he gave Expression to Had Physically at least And partially Been met By the Drink that he Was offered The cheap Bitter Wine of The Roman Soldiers And now The With the Full Exhaustion Of the Cush of Sin Born He could Now Summon Death Knowing that All things Necessary To a The salvation Of sinners And knowing That all things That God Required of Him Had been Accomplished He gave Himself

To death When he Cried With the Words of Our text It is Finished Now you may Know that This word In the Greek language Is one One word And That In Self It brings Before us Something Both

of Its Simplicity And of Its Profundity We can Never Ever Exhaust The full Meaning Of This Term There are Depths In it That you And I Can Never Never Have Regions That we Can never Fully Enter Into But we Turn To consider These Well Known And these Wonderful Words It is Finished And in Considering Them I I would Like to Ask Just one Question And try To answer It in Several Ways What was Our Lord Referring To When he Said On the Cross It is Finished Well I think That there Is a Very Real Connection An Inseparable Connection Between the Words It is Finished And the Words I Thused And also The words If you have In verse 28 Jesus Knowing That all Things Were Now Accomplished That the Scripture Might Be Fulfilled Now as We saw A fortune Ago That does Not at All mean That so That the Scripture Will be Fulfilled He said One Thing Or Another But rather I would Consider it In this Light That the Scriptures The Scriptures Of the Old Testament Had Revealed In a Declarative Way In the Written Words For example Of the Prophets And in the Times And in the Figures Of the Ceremonial Law That the Old Testament Had Predicted All that Jesus Was to Suffer In this Word And knowing That all That the Old Testament Scriptures Had predicted In word And in Time Knowing that All that Was now Accomplished Knowing that He had Passed Through it All And experiencing The First That all That Suffering Produced In his Experience Knowing that It was All [10:08] Fulfilled He cried With a Loud Voice It is Finished So the First Answer to The Question What was Finished Is this It is So That all That the Old Testament Had referred To Concerning the Sufferings Of the Lord Jesus Declared By the Prophets And set Forth In The Times And the Sacrifices Of the Old Testament Economy All That Had been Fulfilled Every Single Detail There Was Nothing Predicted Of the Coming Of Jesus Of the Birth Of Jesus Of the Upbringing Of Jesus Of the Teachings Of Jesus The Sufferings Of our Lord From Friend And Foal From the Enemy From the Devil And from The Hand

Of God That the Old Testament Spoke About There Was Absolutely Nothing Left Unfulfilled By our Lord When he Said At that Moment In his Experience Immediately Prior to His Death It is Finished Now you May say But death Itself Had not Been Accomplished Death Itself Had not Been Fulfilled He Still Faced The Prospect Of Death And the Old Testament Certainly Predicted That he Would die At the Hands Of men And as a Result Of obedience To the Revealed Will of God It Pleas'd The Lord To Bruise Him He Hath Put Him To Grief Now Then Surely That Was Left Unfulfilled Well Put it Like this

Surveying The Whole Of The Old Testament Prophecies And Predictions Concerning His Sufferings Unto Death There Was Nothing Left Of Them But The Act Act Of Dying Itself And Seeing All That Was Required And All That Was Necessary That He Might Die Seeing That All That Was Accomplished He Cried It Is Finished And Gave Himself To The Last Act Of Obedience In The State Of His Humiliation And That Was To Death Itself And All That The Old Testament Types Had Predicted Was Fulfilled All That The Brace And Serpent Of Moses Had Typified Was Fulfilled All That The Sacrificial

Ritual Under The Mosaic Economy Had Predicted Was Fulfilled All That All That The The Paschal Had Typified Was Fulfilled In Him All That The Sacrifice On The Day Of Atonement The Sin Offering And The Trespass Offering And The Burnt Offering And The Peace Offering And The Wave Offering All These Offerings None Of Which Fully Exhausted The Meaning And The Extent And The Nature Of The Death Of Christ But All Of Which Had Something To Teach About The Sufferings And The Death Surveying The Whole Of The Old Testament Field And Typical Representation Of His Coming Of His Sufferings And Of His Death And Knowing That There Was Absolutely Nothing Left To Be Fulfilled He Cried It

Is Finished And He Gave Himself To Death Well That's The First Answer To The Question All That The Old Testament Said In A Declarative Or In A Typical Way About The Sufferings The Coming The Sufferings And The Death Of Jesus All That Was Now Accomplished And Then Secondly There Was This Accomplished All Sufferings Appointed By God Had Been Fulfilled Now We Know That Was For This Purpose That Jesus Came Into The World He Came Into The World To Suffer And To Die And The Only Way In Which Our Lord Could Suffer Unto Death Was By Taking To Himself A Nature Such As Yours And Mine In Which He Could Suffer And In Which He Could [15:10] Die Our Death He Was Born For That Purpose He Was Born To Suffer And To Die Now I Know That People Might Very Well Object That If As We Claim He Was If Jesus Was The Son Of God If Jesus Had The Power Of Deity At His Disposed And If Jesus Loved With An Everlasting Love As God Surely The Power That He Possessed As God And The Love That He Expressed As

God Surely These Two Things If They Belong To Would Not Make His Death His Sufferings And His Death Necessary Put It Simply As People Say If Jesus

Was God He Didn't Need To Suffer And If Jesus Loved The World As You Claim He Loved The World Surely His Love Would Not Necessitate His Suffering And The Answer To That Question Quite Simply Is This That It Was Because He Was God And It Was Because He Loved As He Did Love It Was Because Of These Great Facts That He Did Suffer Unto Death If As Someone Put It If He Had Loved Less He Would Not Have Submitted To The Sufferings Unto This Death At All As The New Testament Tells Us It Was Because He Loved To This Extent That He Did Suffer The Love That He Had For Us In Other Words Did Not In Any Way Lessen His Sufferings In A Sense It Only Intensified His Sufferings And The Fact That He Was God In Our Nature Did Not Mean That He Need Not Suffered It Meant That He Was Able To Suffer To The Extent To Which He Did But I Don't Want To Go Into That Really In The Service Just One Thing To Mention Here In Connection To The Same Argument And I Know It's An Argument That Some People Advance From Time To Time It's In Connection With The Temptation Of Jesus In The Wilderness There Are Some People Who Say That If Jesus Was God The Temptation To Which He Was Subjected Was Not Real Now You Know That There's Another Way Of Putting That Another Way Of Putting Is This The

More Godly A Person Is In The World The Less The Reality Of Temptation Is But That's A Nonsense It's The Exact Opposite The More Godly A Person Is The More He Suffers As A Result Of Temptation Temptation To Sin Is Repugnant To A Person Who Is Godly Or Who Is Near The Lord And The Same Way And In In In More So For Jesus Who Was God For It To Be Suggested To Him That He Should Do Something Contrary To The Will And To The Mind Of God Was Repugnant In The Extreme Similarly Because He Was God And Because He Loved So Much Did Not In Any Way Make The Sufferings Less Or Real He

Suffered Intensively In Our Nature As But Now His Sufferings Are At An End The Lord Jesus Was Going To Suffer No More The Only Act Of Suffering That Awaited Him Was The Act Of Dying And Because All His Sufferings Were Accomplished He Could Now Give Himself To The Very Last And The Last One Was The Act Of Physical Death Now You May Ask Is There Suffering In The Act Act Of Dying Physically Well Who Present Here Can Answer That Question Can The Doctors Who Are Here I Don't Believe They Can Those Are The Nursing Profession I Don't

[20 : 13] Believe They Can I Know That It Is Possible And It Is A Fact That People Suffer As They Die And As We Saw A Four Ago Medical Science Has Advanced To Such An Extent Now That Sedatives Can Be Administered To People A That Will Alleviate Providentially For Those Who Are Waiting And Watching With Them As For Themselves Alleviate The Sufferings That Are Associated With The Process Of Dying But When You Come To The Act It It Which However You May Define It Clinically Is Spiritually Theologically The Severance Of Soul From Body At Whatever Stage That Takes Place There

Must In Some Degree Be A Suffering Associate With The Act Act Of Dying You You Know The Word That Is Often Used For The Severance Of Soul From Body And Death Is This It Is The Tearing Apart Or The Tearing Asunder Of The Spirit From From The Body Now That's What Sin Brought Into This World It Was Never Meant To Be In The Order Of Things And At Whatever Stage A Person Dies At Whatever Moment This Act This Act Takes Place What Happens Is That The Soul Is Severed From The Body In Death There Is A Tearing Apart From What God Of What God Has Brought And Joined Together Soul And Spirit Constituting The Total Personality Of The Individual Now Then Our Lord Hath Reached The Point When He Could Give Himself To That Act Of Death Death Comes Upon You And Upon Me And Though We Struggle Against Us As Many Do And As Many Do Longer Than People Expect Them To Do When It Comes In Actuality The Struggle Is Over But You See It Was No Such Struggle For The Lord Don't Ever Think In Terms Of The Lord Being Taken By Death On The Cross Don't Ever Think In Terms Of Death Invading That Holy Territory And Winning A Triumph In His Experience He Gave Himself To Death Or As Isaiah Tells Us He Poured Out His Soul Unto Death But Now All The Sufferings Necessary And Culminating In That One Great Act Were Now Accomplished And He Could Cry With Reference To The Lord It Is Finished For Him It Was A Blessed Release A Blessed Release There's One Thing I Want To Say And Some People May Say That This May Be A Fine Point And A Fine Point Of Theological Distinction And Really As I Said A Thought Ago On A Sabbath Evening Speaking About A Text Like This I Don't Know Why It Is But I Wouldn't Want To Lose Your Attention

On

This Great Great Thing And I'm Sure There Are People Here Tonight I Know It Myself Because We've All Been In This We've All Experienced It Perhaps You Young People Here Tonight Who Aren't Interested At All In The Death And The Sufferings Of Jesus I Wish You Were I Wish You Were Because Here Is A Feast For Your Soul If You Had An Interest In This But I Know Myself What It Is To To Sit And Listen To This Kind Of Thing And To Feel A So Just Going Over My Head I Have No Interest In At All Maybe That's The Way You're Feeling Here Tonight Well Just Try For A Moment You Never Know What The Lord May Bless To Your Heart And You Never Know How Precious He May Make To You As He Has Made To Many People Here Night Who Have Felt Exactly As You Feel About These Things He Has Now Made These Things So Precious To Them They're Their Meat And Their Drink

[25 : 15] They Feed On These Things Bear With Me Just While I Say This Though The Sufferings Of Jesus Were Accomplished On The Cross His Humiliation Was Not Accomplished His Humiliation Was Not Finished You See As You You Short That Condition Into Which Jesus Came When He Took Our Nature When It Was Conceived Was In The Woman Of The Virgin Mary When He Was Born In Bethlehem When He Lived In This World Suffered In This World And Died In This World And Was Buried In This World There Was Still Some Acts That People Did To Him In The State Of Humiliation But This Is The Point I Want To Make He Didn't Suffer As For His Things To Begin One Or Two For Example After He Was After He Died A Soldier Thrust A Spear Into His Side That Was Part Of His Humiliation

But It Wasn't Part Of His Sufferings He Was Beyond The Sufferings Then His Soul Was Already In The Presence Of His Father In Heaven And His Being Placed In The Grave The Placing Of The Body In The Grave Was Part Of That State Of Humiliation But It Wasn't Part Of The Sufferings He Was Beyond That You See The Soul Was In Heaven So When He Cried It Is Finished The Sufferings Were At An End Now Thirdly There Were Several Strands To These Sufferings What Do we Mean When we Speak About The Sufferings Of Our Lord Well You Remember This That Jesus Was In This World In Which He Suffered I've Told You Already What That A Great American Theologian B.B.

Warfield Said About The Text In First Timothy Chapter 1 Verse 15 This A Faith Was Saying And Worthy Of All Acceptation That Christ Jesus Came Into The World The World The Fear The Area The Environment Of Evil And Of Darkness Sin And Of Unbelief It Was In That Kind Of Environment That The Son Of God Lived He Didn't Come Into A Good World He Came Into An Evil World And While He Was In This World He Was As The Bible Tells Us A Man Of Sorrows And Acquainted With Grief There Are People Tells That Our Lord Enjoyed Being In This World There Are People Who Maintain That Our Lord That Our Lord Almost Laughed His Way Through His Period In This World There Is Something In The Bible To Tell Us We Know That He Rejoiced In His Spirit But We Also Know That He Was A Man Of Sorrows And Acquainted With Grief He Was In The World That Hated Him He Was In A World That Was Unlike Him In A World That Didn't Want Him In A World That Rejected Him In A World That Crucified Him In A World That Poured Its Contempt And Its Scorn Upon Him And Don't You Be One Bit Surprised When You Come Across That Spirit Directed Towards Yourself If You Are A Christian Tonight

Don't Be A Bit Surprised When You Hear That Kind Of Spirit Directed Towards The Things Of God And The Cause Of The Lord Jesus Christ The World That's The Way It Was For The Lord And That's The Way It Will Always Be Because The World Is Getting In In Bended The World Is Getting Washed And Washed And Washed That's What The Bible Tells The World Is More Evil Today Than It Was In The Days Of Jesus Far More Evil Than It Was Then And Of Necessity Understandably Now He Suffered In The World Do You Know What Dr.

[29 : 51] Kennedy Said The Minister Who Was Once In The Conneigation Of Dangle Last Sent I Quote This Already I Know Do You And I Said That Our Lord Had Ears And Eyes And A Memory Through Which All The Filth And The Darkness And The Evil Of This World Poured Itself Like a River Into His Mind And He Was Whole Oh How That Must Have Pain And Grieved Our Lord But Now All That Was At An End He Was Going Home It Was Finished It Was Finished And That Same Answers Never Again Would The World Be Able To Approach

Our Lord In His Human Nature And Do You Realize That It Didn't Do You Know That After His Resurrection As Far As We Can Gather From The Scripture Our Lord Was Only Known To Be Nick Yeah No Friend Jesus Christ See you I Don't?

Teh understand from the Bible no enemy of Jesus Christ saw after his resurrection it was finished his contact with that evil world the contact that the evil world has with Jesus tonight is through his people through his people and the world will do anything anything to destroy their faith to discredit their witness and to undermine their belief anything what the world is doing is what Jesus said to Saul of Tarsus Saul Saul why persecute thou me his sufferings from the hand of the world were at an end his sufferings at the hands of his friends were at an end ah yes there's a very real part of the sufferings of Jesus in the world and if you're a Christian it'll probably be a very real part of your sufferings as well

I was wounded he says in the house of my friends those who loved him most dearly in the world tried to stand between him and the cross they couldn't understand the purpose they couldn't understand the necessity of his death and just before he died Peter said to him Lord you're not going to die I won't allow you to die standing between them and the fulfillment of the very purpose for which he came into the world but all that was now at an end in his friend the sufferings he experienced at the hand of his enemies were at an end from the very beginning they had tried to discredit him from the moment from even before his birth and at the time he was born Herod tried to get rid of him and all through his life they tried to get rid of him they treated him as a man oh yes he was found in fashion as a man and that's exactly what he said about him do we not know this man do we not know his brothers do we not know Joseph his father but they went beyond that they treated him as less than a man as for me

I am no man I am treated like a worm that's the way that the world treated our Lord every opportunity they got to get rid of him they took but all that was now at an end and there was also this the sufferings the hand of the powers of darkness I don't know if any of you saw a program on television last week I believe it was a I can't remember the name of it at the moment where a various for the public public have an opportunity to a comment on and to criticize as they so wish programs which are presented produced and presented on BBC television and one of the such programs which came in for criticism was one which was produced unfortunately by a person who used to be a minister in the national church and who some months ago stood in this church and produced as a producer of a program that was televised and I believe misused by the BBC he was being questioned and criticized for a program that had given airspace to a a people who dabbled in in satanism and you know who can ever understand fully the awful powers at the disposal of the powers of darkness they had to say dabbled rather in witchcraft sorry in witchcraft who can understand the awful powers of darkness abroad in the world someone on that program that night mentioned about the lives which had been destroyed because of their contact with the occult the powers of darkness and you realize this that when

[36 : 25] Jesus was in this world he himself said the period of his life culminating in his death he himself referred to that period in the world's history as the opportunity that the powers of darkness had and took and part of the sufferings of Jesus leading up to the cross the sufferings in death on the cross part of these sufferings was the hand and the power of evil abroad in the world it reached such a pitch to his public ministry that people were moved to accuse him of satanism that he was casting out devils in the name of Beelzebub that's the pitch preached during his ministry while he was locked in conflict in death within the veil of that darkness that covered the face of the earth and that certainly covered the cross who will ever know what conflict was waged between the son of light and the prince of darkness what we do know from the epistle to the colossians is this that when

Jesus died triumphant beyond the cross the devil the prince of the power of the air retreated from that cross defeated he made a show of these powers opening at the cross on the cross and through the cross the sufferings with the power of darkness were now at an end it is finished finally this his sufferings at the hand of God were at an end you know when we speak about the sufferings and the death of Jesus we tend to think of what he suffered at the hands of men what he suffered at the hands of the devil what he suffered at the hands of his friends the hands of his enemies from this evil wicked world and the one essential element at the very heart of the atoning work of Jesus Christ we tend to miss out and forget namely that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself don't ever forget that at the heart of his redeeming work was his obedience to the will of God it pleased the Lord to bruise him he hath put to grief he laid on him the iniquity of us all and when he laid on him the iniquity of us all he then of necessity had to lay on him on our behalf the sufferings that he had to endure as the sin bearer the penalty which the Lord demanded of the sin that he took in order to this it was in connection with this that Martin Luther used words which

people believed were far too intense far too extreme and with which he went too far altogether when he said that on the cross our Lord became a sinner because we understand what he meant that there

God dealt with him as though he were a sinner he bore our sins in his own body to the tree and all the sufferings I've gone into that already in the past two weeks connection with why has thou forsaken me and I thirst I don't want to overlap again and to bring that into this sermon but just to close it with this to end this section with this all that the father demanded of them for the work of atonement and for the work of redemption was now accomplished it was demanded of him that he obey unto death and that was the ground upon which God could now draw near to the lost sinner and save him because Jesus had suffered for him unto death even the death of the cross involving the spiritual and the eternal and now the physical death that he came to die and having accomplished it all he had fulfilled the work that the father gave him to do and now he could cry to God I have finished the work which thou gave us me to do days before this he had said this the night before it should I say he had said this in his high priestly prayer in John 17 father I have glorified thee on earth I have finished the work which thou gave us me to do he was saying that in anticipation of us fulfilling it and here it is now actually fulfilled it is finished and he gave himself to death I have to end on this note it was a cry of triumph a cry of victory a cry of satisfaction a cry of work accomplished some of you have heard the words of Dr.

[42 : 43] Hugh Martin nothing ever became oh lord better than that between his last sip and his last breath to announce his victory his last sip I thrust and then his last breath into thy hands I commit my spirit and in between the two the cry of victory it is finished nothing he says ever became better than to announce his victory it wasn't a cry of hopelessness of despair of defeat of weakness of failure it wasn't the cry of the martyr well I've gone so far lord I can do no more it was a cry of the one who had gone to the ultimate there was nothing more to do and so he could cry in triumph it wasn't helpless nor in despair you know a Christian lady nursed her very ill mother and in the last days of her life her mother was rocked with excruciating pain in the throes of death she died the minister came to visit the daughter to comfort her when she opened the door from her first words to him with ease oh she said it is finished it is finished but that's not the way that I would have wanted it myself there was an element of almost of defeat and of regret in her voice that things had been like that but they were finished there is no such note in the voice of the Lord

Jesus it was to be like that and he fulfilled exactly what God had told him to I told you already I quote already the great the words of the great Rabbi Duncan he was born to die and here now you have this note of triumph of fulfillment of satisfaction and of accomplishment one could say of Jesus on that moment in that hour well done thou good and faithful servant no person in the history of the world ever accomplished more and that's why I believe that these words are written in Philippians chapter 2 God gave him a name that is above every name there are many people in the world tonight who have a name and rightly so for work that they have done especially in the interest of their fellows but no person in the history of this world ever acquired a name like this because no one ever accomplished what he did he did it all he did it all he fulfilled he paid the price he laid the foundation of our salvation he accomplished what God gave him to do and he cried it is finished he triumphed over death he took away all sin and taking away all sin he took the sting from death and he has now made death over to his people all things are huge including death the Christian tonight in

Jesus the believer of the Lord though death takes him as it takes every single individual yet he can go into it with the knowledge that no one else has that this death is his in Christ he died triumphantly he triumphed over death triumphed over sin triumphed anticipatory over the grave and triumphed over the devil oh well as we leave it does it have anything to say to you here tonight of course it does and I just want to make four very simple and very brief applications first of all there is this that there is here a ground of hope for all those who need mercy in the presence of God tonight the ground of hope is this and the ground of assurance is this that Jesus

Christ has accomplished the work of atonement has satisfied the demands of God's justice and has brought in by his obedience unto death a perfect righteousness he has done it all all things are right and that's why the gospel speaks like this come and receive the reconciliation do you know my friend that if you tried to save yourself you couldn't do you realize that this at the heart of the gospel Jesus died to save sinners all you have to do is to come and receive what he has done for a simple that's the first point the second point of application is this that here is ground of hope and assurance

for all those who have already received mercy and forgiveness from God because he who provided the ground of your salvation has also provided the ground upon which that salvation will be completed in your experience so that with him you too will be able to say one day it is finished here thirdly is a ground of hope and assurance for anyone present here tonight who wants deliverance who wants deliverance from the power of Satan do you know that

Satan's kingdom has been destroyed if I were going to ask you this question Satan tonight has a kingdom what is the foundation of his kingdom do you know what it is the foundation of Satan's kingdom is sin that's this foundation stone that he laid and upon which the whole edifice is built but Jesus came into this world he took out sins upon himself and he took our sins away and Satan's foundation has gone the edifice is a shaking as a matter of fact it's a ruin and if you tonight are living in these ruins and you want to get away here's the one who can save you the one who took the sins of the world upon himself and carried them away on his death and by his death on the cross he bids you come finally there's this here is hope and assurance for those who cannot suffer in the world according to the will of

[50 : 48] God he accomplished all that God gave him to do and he cried at the end of the journey it is finished he left it all behind he came into the world to take it and having taken it he could now lay the burden down it is finished never again would he take that burden upon himself so it is for those who are in the world tonight are his followers and who because they are in his followers of necessity must suffer in this world as he suffered in the hands of men and from the enemy of the cross to the devil himself you two one day will leave all these sufferings behind you two will finish the work that he has given you to do and you two will cry with relief as with victory he cried it is finished you two will enter into the satisfying rest that is set before him for the joy that was set before him and drew the cross and you look forward to entering into the glory of God the Father what a relief what a release it must have been for the

Lord to cry on the cross it is finished can you look forward to your exit from this world like that do you think that you will be able to say with him at the end of your journey at the accomplishment of your task Lord it is finished do you have that hope and that assurance as you live tonight in the light of eternity let us pray oh may the Lord have mercy upon us do thou bless us in thy presence this night thank thee for the word of thy grace and all that it brings before us concerning the grave and death of our Lord and Redeemer Jesus Christ bless to our hearts the testimony of thy word and that take for us and continue with us and forgive our sins for Jesus sake amen we don't think you