

Series: John
Title: Woman, Behold Thy Son!
Text: Jn 19: 25-30
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John 19: 25: Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. 26: When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! 27: Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own *home*. 28 After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. 29 Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put *it* upon hyssop, and put *it* to his mouth. 30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

In verse 30, our Redeemer declares, "It is finished." It was prophesied he would finish the transgression for his people and make us the righteousness of God in him.

The Greek Lexicon shows others ways this word is translated. "*Made an end of*"--Daniel prophesied that he *made* an end of sins, *made* reconciliation for iniquity. "*Performed*"--the Lord Jesus performed everything the law required for his people. "*Accomplished*"--finished is the same word translated in verse 28--"*all things were now accomplished*"--this is the baptism Christ was in a straight over until it be accomplished; in the mount when Christ was transfigured, he spoke of the deace he should accomplish at Jerusalem (Lu 18:31). "*Fulfilled*"--the Lord Jesus came to fulfill the law and the prophets and did. "*Paid*"--the price of redemption was now paid which was the precious blood of the GodMan, Mediator, our Substitute.

It means God is "satisfied!" Think of that, God is satisfied! God who is Holy, God who is Righteous, God who is Perfect, God who is only satisfied with holiness, with righteousness, with perfection says, "I am satisfied in my Son." He is satisfied toward my people in the Son of God.

What does it take to satisfy God? His glory is above the heavens. His power unlimited. His wisdom is infinite. He is all-wise, perfect God. Now, in his Son, God says, "I am satisfied." Christ said, "Father, I have glorified You on the earth, I have finished the work You gave me to do!" He cried "with a loud voice, it is finished!"

Proposition: The Lord Jesus is All to his people--Salvation, Righteousness, Holiness, Redemption, Wisdom. He declared this when he cried, "It is finished." We see our Savior is all to his people in what he did here in providing for his mother.

John 19: 25: Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.

Before the three hours of darkness, there was a small group of five believers standing by the cross. John records only four: the three Mary's and John. "*Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother.*" "*And his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas*", this was her sister-in-law, Joseph's sister. "*And Mary Magdalene*", this is Mary of whom the Lord cast out seven devils. "*The disciple whom Jesus loved*" is John; of the 12 apostles, Judas betrayed the Lord and the other 10 had fled; John is the only one standing by.

John 19: 26: When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! 27: Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own *home*.

"Mary" means bitterness. Luke 2: 35 was fulfilled that day concerning Mary, the mother of our Lord, "(Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,)" We do not exalt Mary as the papacy does. She did not help in our Lord finishing the work of salvation. But Mary carried our Lord in her womb. She raised him from a child. Spiritually, he is her Lord and Savior. But naturally speaking, this was her son. Can you imagine how her very soul was pierced to see her son's visage marred more than any man? Mary was like every child of God, she had a new spirit within her but she was also flesh that is weak. In our flesh, we know how it hurts when someone we love dies, especially a child. But in her new spirit, Christ gave her comfort as her all-providing Redeemer.

OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS

We see in this that Christ is our Righteousness and Holiness.

God commands in the law "Honor thy father and thy mother". That must be performed in perfection from a holy heart. No sinner can do it. That is why God the Father sent his Son. God says of his people in Christ, "I am satisfied!"

What does it take to satisfy God? Even man, with all our sin and total lack of perfection, can detect when something is flawed. We live in a day when if a person sounds one word that is wrong, thousands jumps online to point it. Even we can hear when the musician sounds one wrong note or the artist made one mistake in the line or color he used. If that is so with sinners, who have never done anything in perfection, what about our holy and perfect, all-knowing, all-seeing God?

What does it take to satisfy Perfection but Perfection? For God to be satisfied with a sinner, we have to be as Righteous and Holy as God is, as Perfect as God is. For God to say we have kept the law, we must do so in righteousness--in perfection. Christ alone is Perfection with God for those given faith in him. "Ye are complete in him!"

Here is the Righteousness God requires. This is the perfection of Holiness God requires. Here is the perfect love required to fulfill the law. This is the faithfulness, the grace, the tenderness toward his people by which Christ is Perfection for us with God. Our Lord Jesus had been stripped naked, beaten, spit upon, mocked, led through the street for all to see. He is about to bear in his soul the agony of God forsaking him in justice instead of his people. Yet, in all this, in perfect righteousness and holy love from his perfect heart, he fulfilled the law in providing for his mother. Brethren, behold in this that "It is finished!" He is our Righteousness. Christ formed in the heart is the Holiness of the new man.

LOVE AND PROVISION

We see in this Christ's love for his church and the full provision he has and does provide.

He would not leave his mother without a son to provide all for her--"*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 unto his own home.*" That is exactly what Christ finished on the cross for his elect, his church. In scripture, his church is the mother. Christ Jesus is the Son who provided all for his church, the mother. Christ laid down his life and provided all for us. This one act shows us Christ is our constant provider!

He is our great Prophet who is tender and loving in teaching us spiritual things and providing all for us. He called his mother, "*Woman.*" We see in this our Savior's holy and righteous tenderness to his people. He would not add to her broken heart by addressing her as mother. That is one reason he addressed her as woman. It was to keep her heart from breaking more. Brethren, our Lord will not add to our heartache. He is our Comforter. He commands his preacher, "Comfort my people! Declare to them It is finished!" God's people need to hear this! This is comfort to our souls.

Also, we see in this, our Savior's holy and righteous protection of his church. He protected her by not letting the mob know she was his mother. Christ is our perfect Refuge. He will not permit any to separate his child from him or do us harm.

Again, we see in this our Savior's holy and righteous faithfulness to teach us. By addressing her as woman, he taught her that their natural, fleshly relation was now finished. Their relationship was only spiritual after that. He is not her son now, he is her Lord and Savior. This shows our relationship to him and to our brethren is spiritual. It supersedes all natural ties.

2 Corinthians 5: 16: Henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yet, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we no more"

The 'children of the resurrection' neither marry, nor are given in marriage. She had unbelieving, natural family. But John is there. Her and John were one spirit in the Lord. This spiritual union takes precedence over natural ties! The death on the cross and the new birth made an end of mere natural ties. We have a nearer relationship now. His people are one spirit with our Lord and one with one another.

BELIEVE ON CHRIST

Our Lord Jesus finished the work. He is the Son who provided and provides all for his church. Christ is the righteousness and holiness of those who rest in him. He is our protection and instruction. In him doing this for her we can rest assured he is providing all for us now that he is exalted victorious in glory.

Christ has not left the mother, the church, without sons to provide for her. John carried her home to his house. And John did whatever he could to provide for Mary in temporal things. David said, "I have been young and now am old, I have never seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread." Christ gives his people a heart to provide for one another. This is one of the original reasons the government in this country did not tax the church. The government taxes citizens to provide for those less fortunate. But Christ provides for his people and give us hearts to use his provision to provide for one another.

But the chief way John provided for Mary most was by preaching the gospel of Christ to her. The Lord has provided the church with faithful sons to minister the gospel of Christ to the church. John's mother was also standing there. She was a born-again child of God, too. But now John had more than one mother. Believers have many spiritual mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters in the household of God to whom we minister the gospel of Christ our Righteousness.

Do you see how Christ is our Righteousness, Holiness and Provision in all things? Here he is at the cross fulfilling the law of love. It is finished! He fulfilled the law for his people and made us the righteousness of God in him. He provided all for us on the cross and he provides all for us now.

If our Lord provided for his mother in the midst of all his suffering then know by his suffering on the cross that he has provided all for his church, the mother. And if he did that for her then in his suffering then know that because he suffered for us and it is finished. He shall provide all for us from heaven's glory now. The glory to follow is certain for those Christ represented. Each shall be born-again and sanctified by the Spirit through faith in Christ. Each shall be preserved through this vale of tears by him. Each shall pass through the grave from death to life by him. Each shall have everlasting

communion with him. And he shall bring us to glory with him. When we see him we shall cry, "Lo, this is our God, we have waited for Him!"

Be sure to get this last: Pink pointed out, "The order is indeed striking: Christ bade Mary look to John, before He commanded him to care for her." Mary was to look to John to provide. We are to look to Christ to provide all for us. It is finished! He has and he shall provide.

Romans 8:32: He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

This is why we love and provide for one another. We provide, chiefly, by helping each other have the preaching of the gospel and by exhorting one another to continue worshipping our Redeemer together. Christ is our Strength and motive in all. *Woman, behold Thy Son!*

Amen!