

It is finished (Context: John Chapter 19:29-30).

Ed Beckles

It is finished. Are these the Words spoken by a dying religious zealot betrayed by his own people, horribly executed by Roman invaders, cursed by being hung on a tree? At the time of the crucifixion all seems lost; his ministry of love and peace destroyed, his disciples scattered and in hiding, his life now at a bitter end.

But for Christians, these words have an entirely different meaning. **It is finished** means Christ's mission has been completed. Jesus, (John Ch. 19 verse 28), at his death knew that "all things were now accomplished, so that the scripture might be fulfilled..." The ancient Hebrew Laws were now satisfied for the Gentiles, the ultimate sacrifice has been made for Men's salvation. This sacrifice was made for all people, not just for Jews, or for rich and powerful men. But for the poor and the downtrodden, and for women, and yes even for tax collectors. Christ's sacrifice applied Universally to all men. St Paul's Epistle to the Romans (Ch. 10 verse 12, 13) states "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved".

It is finished is the Shout of Victory; it is the end of Christ's mission on earth and the beginning of eternal salvation for those you believe in Him.

AMEN