

We've Already Got It!

We Got Much More Than Most Think

By B. D. Tate

When Jesus said on the cross, *"It is finished,"* most of us think that He must mean that His life is over and His mission is done. This is true of course however, there is ***much more*** meant by His declaration!

I have asked myself the question: Why didn't God just fix the world from heaven? Why go to the trouble of planning and executing an elaborate plan of prophecy and fulfillment that took thousands of years? Why send Jesus into the world? Why go to all of that effort? God can do anything and nothing is impossible for Him; why then have His only begotten Son come and be rejected, condemned, and brutalized by crucifixion? There must have been an easier way and certainly one without all of the pain and suffering.

Remember that Jesus prayed three times: "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." (Matt. 26:35). God the Father did not let the cup of suffering, pain, and death be taken away from Jesus. That is amazing! If God can do anything then why not do something else?

The Only Answer I Can Find

There is one thing that God cannot do: **He cannot lie!**

Heb 6:18 "that by two immutable things, **in which it is impossible for God to lie...**"

When God gave man dominion and set him up to rule this decision was not made lightly. God didn't suddenly decide to make man and then give him dominion. **God was and is after something there is much more going on in our salvation.** Furthermore, He set up a situation that would *actually limit Himself (our dominion)* and then *subjected His divine glory*

to us. When He gave us our hearts He meant it. When He gave us dominion He wanted it for us maybe even more than we sometimes want it for ourselves.

Gen. 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let **them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; **male and female He created them.**

We know that God *intervened to destroy* the world once before when Noah and seven others were saved through the ark at the worldwide flood (Gen. 6 & 7). Why didn't He destroy everything and start over? Why save a few and provide mankind another chance to repeat the same evil as before? If He had the right to destroy most of us in the flood (obviously He did) then why didn't He destroy all of us? It seems to show us **that God would not give up on His purpose for us.** He planned our salvation from the foundation of the world and kept His promise in Christ roughly two thousand years later. He kept a remnant, He kept a lineage, and He kept a people from complete annihilation and corruption to bring to the world His Savior.

God Is After Something More For Us

God was willing to create man and have them fill the earth by the millions and even billions in order to find *the many* that will accept Him. God saved all; but not all will receive Him.

Tit. 2: 11 **For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,**

12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.**

It is an amazing story; however, if God wanted us as sheep He could have created that way. If God had wanted us as servants there was no need to send His son to provide for that—we already were. If God wanted worshippers there is no need to sacrifice in order to have them either; **however, for us to have much more it required something far more! It required the atonement and it is upon us to seek to understand why.**

What is the atonement? It is God's holiness coming together with His righteousness, justice, and truth. It is His truth coming together with His mercy and love in dealing with sin in human nature. It is God redeeming mankind from rebellion and self centeredness. It is God bringing us into true union with Him. **It is God making sons and daughters possible!**

Psalms 85:10 **Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.**

It is God making the way for us to be one with Him. Only through the precious blood of Jesus (the perfect spotless Lamb of God), do we have an eternal intercessor providing not only peace between us and God, but **complete communion** (Col. 2:10)! The wages of sin is death and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. This is what the scriptures declare and we can grasp how and why there is salvation through the savior, *but ultimately why does He save us?*

We understand that in the cross we are completely forgiven. We are completely made righteous by His gift to us. We have complete access and union with the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit! Jesus' prayer expresses this:

John 17:21 "**that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

John 17:22 "**And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:**

John 17:23 "**I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one**, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, **and have loved them as You have loved Me.**

This Is One Fairy Tale And Fantasy That Is Actually True!

We are being created, directed, and then presented **in the highest possible position**—that we are in God! There is nothing higher than Jesus; He is Lord of all creation and master of all things past, present, and future! We are taken from being fallen from His grace back into the highest place! We are being made one with Jesus.

Col 1:16 **For by Him all things were created** that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things were created through Him and for Him.**

Phil. 2:9 **Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,**
10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, **of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,**
11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Re 4:11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; **For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.**"

Why Are We So Important To God?

Why do we have given to us what no other created being has? We have a place in God through Jesus that makes us *joint heirs* with Christ. We are His bride, His body, and His ministry; we have been given His life, His peace, His joy, His love, and His presence like no other! We are made sons and daughters!

It Is No Idle Thing To Realize That God Has Birth Into Us His Nature And Divine Presence. It Is God's Doing And It Is Marvelous In Our Eyes; But Why?

If we are in Christ, which is the mystery of the gospel (Col. 1:27), what greater place, position, power, or authority is there? If we married the most important, most powerful, and most influential person on earth what does that make us? We are now **Mrs. Most Powerful Person**, right?

We truly have been saved by a prince! We have been taken from bondage, slavery, and poverty to His liberty, kingdom, and riches (II Cor. 8:9). We have been born into a new kingdom taking us out from the kingdom of darkness!

Col 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and **conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,**

We are one with Christ and have authority to use His name! We are new creations standing in new wine, in newness of life, in the glory of Christ, and in the power of His resurrection (Phil. 3:10)! We've been appointed, commissioned, chosen, elevated, gifted, privileged, bestowed, and made His beloved! There is nothing that has a right to hold us in bondage to fear, anxiety, worry, or stress because there is nothing that is impossible with God in us.

Gal. 3: 13 **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law,** having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), {#De 21:23 }

Col. 2: 12 buried with Him in baptism, **in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God,** who raised Him from the dead.

13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,**

14 **having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.**

15 **Having disarmed principalities and powers,** He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

None of this could have happened if Jesus didn't come and provide it. Our value and purpose is nothing without Him **and everything with Him!** If Jesus doesn't become the God/man and our intercessor and mediator we remain lost, outside, disconnected, subjects, servants, and slaves (Heb. 7:25). We are ruined and missing the mark of God's creative purpose for us.

When We Received Jesus We Received All There Is!

When we received the Spirit of Christ, that is the Holy Spirit, what didn't we receive? The love of God has been poured out into our hearts (Rom. 5:5)! The gifts and graces of the Spirit are in us (I Cor. 12:6). The divine nature is birthed into our spirit (II Pet. 1:4). We have the gift of righteousness and peace (Rom. 5:17). The Spirit will never leave us nor forsake us. We have the name of Jesus! We've been given His glory (John 17:22)!

As we realize what the gospel is our sense of being, faith, and confidence in the truth will swell establishing us in a position of grace. We stand in His grace! We stand in His truth. We stand in His way. We stand in His life (John 14:6)!

As Amazing As This All Is There Is Still The Question: Why?

We are made His sons and daughters that is the reason; **however, there is more!** He could have made us from the beginning sons and daughters in Christ that would never fall—but He didn't. Now, through redemption in Christ we are born of *incorruptible seed* (I Pet. 1:23)! We will never fall away or lose our place in God—ever! Why this huge world event

where we had the choice to fall? Why set this up so that only Jesus' sacrifice brings atonement?

It can't just be that we are redeemed and then set on God's mantel for display. It can't just be that we'll forever be in His presence to worship and obey. I can't believe that we'll be some kind of trophy "wife" for Jesus. **There must be more for such a great salvation, for such a great effort, and for such a great offering as God's only begotten Son!**

I Believe There Is More And It Has To Do With What Being Sons And Daughters Actually Means!

When we consider God coming into our life through Jesus we often have the *wrong idea of what this looks like and how it works*. As sons and daughters many of us see this fulfilled in heaven for eternity and that is certainly true; however, what about now in this life? What does being a son or daughter actually mean now?

The Wrong Way To Look At It

First, **we often look at this truth through the eyes of flesh**. This is the wrong way to look at it—we won't see it. We are trying to feel it, touch it, see it with our natural eyes, or even hear it through natural means. We want to hear a voice, see a physical sign, or have some sense way of detecting these things. **This is where our faith in His grace must win our hearts**. We must stop being sense dependent and become spiritually minded. We must stop being naturally bound and become supernaturally driven. We stop looking through the eyes of the flesh to see what **can only be perceived through the Spirit**. **It is revelation knowledge established! It is the by-product of knowing Jesus and being transformed by the Holy Spirit (II Cor. 3:18)!**

I Cor. 2: 14 **But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God**, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, **because they are spiritually discerned**.

I believe this is why most of us as Christians see our life here on earth in Christ as weak, powerless, and *waiting for God to do something*. We can't perceive what it means to be sons and daughters through our flesh; therefore, we figure it is primarily for heaven after this life. We know the scriptures testify that we are sons and daughters but it is like a promise for the future because we can't sense any real difference now. Many of us interpret our Christian position from experience—that is natural or carnal minded. **We are simply missing so much because we are not seeing spiritually *what God has done*.**

How do I see spiritually? I see by acknowledging, recognizing, asserting what the Word of God says about me! I take the Word of God and His promises and agree with them. **I give God's word supremacy in my life so that I line up with it.** **I give the Spirit the opportunity to confirm and transform my heart into the image of His Son.** I become supernaturally minded, Jesus conscious, and see with my spiritual eyes, and hear with my spiritual ears! I know this is what God wants but He is waiting for me to desire it so that the Holy Spirit can make it happen.

The First Thing I Do Is Realize I'm A New Creation And Begin To Understand All That The Scriptures Teach About What That Means.

How does this work? How does the kingdom of God work in my life? When I acknowledge and assert what God's word says the Holy Spirit takes the truth and manifests it in my life (Philemon 1:6). I expect and appreciate the work of the Spirit to make the Word of God real to my heart. I expect miracles and the supernatural life of the Spirit to reveal Jesus to me (John 16:14). When I see Jesus in me I'm seeing the supernatural way of God in me.

It's All About That Dominion Thing!

I think it is utterly amazing that God saved us in Jesus. If that were all He did we'd spend eternity thanking and worshipping Him for it, but there is more! He saved us **without violating, changing, or altering His**

original mandate to us—I give you dominion! He wants something for us that many of us have not seen!

We still have dominion! It is paradoxical but true that **Jesus is Lord but has subjected the divine nature to us!** The Spirit of the prophets is subject to us (I Cor. 14:32)! God is able to do abundantly beyond all we could think or ask according to the power the works in us (Eph. 3:20)! As Jesus said, “Be it unto you according to your faith!” These scriptures and more present an amazing truth! **God is waiting on us to take our place as His sons and daughters! He saved us yes and amen; however, there is more to this salvation than being pretty pictures on a wall!**

We have often been led to believe that we must wait on God! We have been led to believe that God is requiring of us, desiring us to serve Him, bring offerings, sacrifices, and worship. We are the created to serve the creator. **This consciousness was the result of the fall.** Our sin nature skewed our understanding of God and bound us in our desire to serve self.

We were fearful of God’s wrath. We were lost in trespasses and sins. We thought God was distant and judging our every move. The law brought upon us condemnation and guilt. We tried to do the right things: make restitution, offer prayers of repentance, and offer praise and worship that are due Him. All of that was true under the Old Testament but in the New Testament **God’s true purpose towards us is restored!** We were servants under the law and oppressed by sin. Under the New Testament **we are sons and daughters under grace and made victors over sin (Rom. 6:4).**

Consider this passage with an emphasis on what the **“much more”** refers to:

Ro 5:17 For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, **much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)**

What is the “**much more?**” I keep saying “there is more to this whole thing...” **The much more is God waiting on us to exercise power and authority in Jesus’ name!** It is His sons and daughters standing in the grace of God to “reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ!” God is waiting for us to take up our place in Christ (and believe Him); He has restored dominion again in Jesus in us. Many of us may have heard this but may not have the right idea on how this works.

The Wrong Idea Of How This Works

What does this look like? I’m going to share examples of how this is suppose to work. I’ve had the opportunity to invite people to help me in construction projects at my house. I needed help expertise, and the proper tools to get the job done right. As I describe these people and their approach to helping me I’m going to label them “contractor A” and “contractor B.”

When it comes to understanding how God works in our life we often have *the wrong idea*. We think that God is going to take over to dictate, demand, or command this or that (After all, the Ten Commandments are God’s commands!). We may feel that God is going to overpower our will somehow and the Spirit will just move us. We may think that God is going to come into our heart and we will lose our soul, our will, and our identity. All of this comes from a sin conscious view of God.

This reminds of me of what it is like when we invited “contractor A” to help us do one of our projects. When “contractor A” came there was a strong presence. He took control of what was going to be done and how. We watched as the planning took place, the purchasing, and then the construction itself. All the while we were more or less on the side, watching and being the “go for” person. The job got done right but we actually did very little of it ourselves. The contractor took over and practically did the job for us. This is fine if the job needs to be done and you don’t want to be involved. There is no real partnership involved here.

God however, is not like this! God could do anything He wanted without us **but this is point: He wants to do everything with us!** God’s purpose

for us is to be one with Him, joined in Spirit, abiding, fellowship, sharing, and being as He is in Christ (I John 4:17)! God is jealous for us to have everything God has done for us in Jesus. He is looking for us to partner with Him.

“Contractor A” came to help but in essence put us on the sidelines and did the job for us. Salvation is also a work that God has done for us completely; however, the end result is not to put us on the sideline but to put us in the *position of ruling and reigning with Christ*. Salvation’s work is finished and its purpose is to save us and then authorize us to have dominion again!

God is not coming like “contractor A” to take over putting us aside quite to the contrary He is coming into our life to empower us! He is empowering us to be what He created us to be, His partners!

Let me share about “contractor B.” This contractor came to help with a completely different strategy. This contractor said, “I’m here to help **you** do the job!” This contractor then encouraged us to plan, to purchase, and begin construction all the while providing what we needed in advice and experience. The job got done maybe slower, with more mistakes, and some waste; however, the contractor was there to provide the expertise we needed, to correct the mistakes, and help keep the waste materials to a minimum. All the while, this contractor was helping **us** make the cuts, helping **us** carry the materials, and helping **us** hammer the nails in. When the project was done it was done right but we learned, we experienced, and we came away feeling like **we actually did the project** with help! We were empowered to do the project for ourselves with help.

This is more like what God is doing with Christ in us! He comes into our heart but does not take over. He remains always available and willing but waits on our initiative, or invite or seeking of help. God’s power is available, ready, and willing **but it is waiting on our agreement and our commands**. Jesus said, “You speak to the mountain...(Mark 11:23,24)” He didn’t say, “I’ll speak to the mountain for you.” God has subjected His power and authority in Jesus’ name to our use (John 15:16). He will never leave us nor forsake us and will not override our will in doing it.

Therefore, as with “contractor B” God’s Spirit is meek and lowly, longsuffering, patient, kind, respectful, and always the gentlemen. God doesn’t come in and take over. God’s desire from the beginning was for us to still be in charge with His back up. This is an amazing truth: God has made us His sons and daughters and **then empowered us with His divine nature, His Holy Spirit**, and Jesus as our eternal intercessor who always helps us hit the mark of God’s glory! Jesus came as Lord to become our servant leading us into the divine nature of God. We too become like Him, serving the divine plan by exercising His will, command, and power.

Mt 20:28 "**just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve**, and to give His life a ransom for many."

The Conclusion Of This Matter

We’ve already got all that God has given us in Jesus. We are already blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph. 1:3). His grace is multiplied in us in the knowledge of His Son (II Pet. 1:2). It is manifested in our life as we assert it, command God’s will, and speak in Jesus’ name by the power of the Spirit. God is waiting on His sons and daughters to act in the “much more” aspect of His grace on our behalf.

We must act or God’s power remains dormant inside of us. God commissioned us to go in His name and do what He’d do (John 14:12). **When we act in His name His Spirit is right there to back it up!** We are His workmanship created to do good works (Eph. 2:10). We are His partners, His ambassadors, His body, His bride, His hands, His feet, and His mouth piece in this world. God’s desire is for us to act just as Jesus would with the confidence of Jesus because as He is so are we in this world (I John 4:17).

God’s work is us is to confirm His word from our lips! **God is working with us**, not for us as in taking our place:

Mr 16:20 And **they went out** and preached everywhere, **the Lord working with them** and **confirming the word through the accompanying signs**. Amen.

God wants us to have great confidence in His will in this matter. He wants us to understand and be established (certain) in the truth that the much more of scripture means: heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, and cast out demons, freely you have received, freely give. **We do it by His commission; He backs it up by our command!** God is working with us, in us, as we believe and act upon His grace. Amen.

The more we understand that God's game plan is for us to command in His name and trust He'll back up His word on our lips, **the more God increases in our life**. When we live life for God or trying our best to be like Jesus, God is not increased in our life. It is when we are walking in God, trusting His Word, and move by His Spirit's leading that God is increased! I must decrease and He must increase. The more I expect, depend, assert, and take of His confidence, glory, and power to work the works of Christ the more He increases in me and in the world around me.

The "much more" of we got it all when Jesus became our savior means, we act as a partner of the divine nature! We act as sons and daughters doing the very works that Jesus said we'd do (John 14:12). Amen.