

WHISPER “HE DIED” BEFORE YOU SHOUT “HE’S ALIVE”

April 6, 2025

SCRIPTURE

[John 19:14–30](#); [Romans 6:3–11](#); [Colossians 2:13–14](#); [Hebrews 10:10–14](#)

KEY POINTS

- You can't have a resurrection without death. It's important to reflect on Christ's death before celebrating His resurrection.
- The death of Jesus was prophesied in detail in the Old Testament, demonstrating God's sovereign plan.
- Jesus' death satisfies God's justice and demonstrates His love simultaneously.
- When Jesus said, "It is finished," He meant the debt of sin was paid in full (τετέλεσται).
- Believers are united with Christ in His death and resurrection.
- The tearing of the temple curtain symbolizes direct access to God. The power of sin is broken, and we have direct access to God through Jesus' sacrifice.
- The mission of Christ was accomplished through His death.

DISCUSSION

- Discuss the paradox of God's love and justice being displayed at the cross. How does this shape your understanding of God's character?
- It is important to "die with Christ" before experiencing resurrection life. What does this mean to you practically in your daily walk with God?
- How does understanding that the debt of sin is "paid in full" affect your approach to guilt, shame, and striving for God's approval?
- The sermon used the analogy of an open birdcage. In what areas of your life do you still feel "caged" by sin, despite the door being open? How can you step into the freedom Christ offers?
- Reflect on the tearing of the temple curtain. How does having direct access to God impact your prayer life and relationship with Him?

APPLICATION

- Take time this week to read Isaiah 53 and reflect on how it points to Jesus' sacrifice.
- Identify an area where you've been trying to "earn" God's favor. Practice resting in Christ's finished work instead.
- If you're struggling with a particular sin, meditate on Romans 6:6-7. Ask God to help you live in the reality of sin's broken power.
- Share the gospel with someone this week, emphasizing both the gravity of sin and the sufficiency of Christ's death.
- As you face challenges this week, practice viewing them through the lens of 2 Corinthians 4:7-10, remembering the power of Christ in you.