

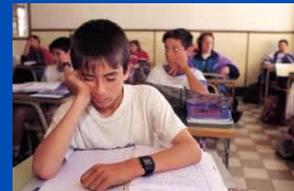


Monday Matters

March 17, 2014

It Is Finished

It's about that time of year when teachers start reminding students that, yes, the end of the school year is near, BUT do not quit yet! They realize that students could ruin a good grade point average in a few week's time by not completing the hard job they set out to do in the beginning of the year. They also realize that students who have not done so well, can improve their final grade by not quitting early. Everyone benefits from a strong finish!



Finishing well is a concept that helps us round out our lives and helps us live life to its fullest. In the scope of life's big picture here are some ideas, by John Stanko of *Chrisma Magazine*, that are worth following to keep on that path to finishing well:

1. Maintain holy living
2. Know your purpose
3. Be true to your purpose
4. Leave some kind of legacy
5. Leave behind a good name

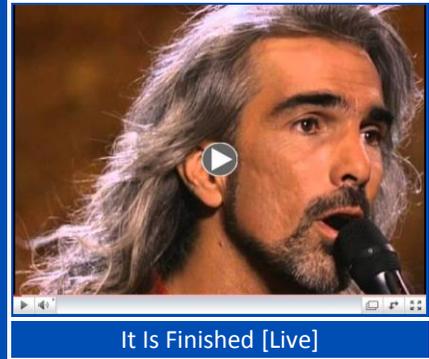
One Sunday we sang a song in worship. The last line was "It is finished." Those words seemed to be fresh and new to me.

"When He had received the drink, Jesus said, 'It is finished.'" John Chapter 19, Verse 30. Those words seem so logical...it is finished...His life was finished. However, Jesus made a powerful

statement here. He was pointing to far more than His life coming to an end. His job on earth was now complete. This job was completed for you and me!

It is finished: (Matthew Henry commentary)

- His sufferings were now fulfilled
- All types and prophesies of the Old Testament were accomplished
- The ceremonial law abolished...the substance has now come bringing righteousness
- His sufferings were now finished
- **The work of man's redemption and salvation is now complete**



It wasn't just the end of His life, His work was complete...completed for me. He finished His job so I, the sinner saved by grace, could become united with Him.

His life was not taken from Him but freely given up. This is an unequalled finish **ever** recorded!

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