

## *Tetelestai*

“When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, **“It is finished,”** and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” (John 19:30). The Greek word “*tetelestai*” is the last word that Jesus spoke before he died on the cross of Calvary. That one word spoke volumes concerning what Christ had actually done. *Tetelestai* is defined as, “to bring to a close, complete, fulfill”, but was also used during this time to mean something else. In the marketplace this word was used to say that you had “paid in full”. Christ died knowing that He had fulfilled the work the Father had sent Him to do and that the debt for our sins was paid. Paul made the statement that he was a “debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.” (Rom 1:14). Do you wake up each morning feeling the debt that you owe to Christ? Is the commission (Matt 28:18-20) that Christ gave us all a favor your doing or is it who you are and what you owe?

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(Newsweek, March 23, 1992, p. 24-31; Thayers Greek Definitions; ESV of the Bible)