



Welcome to The Citadel Global Community Church where stars are born and great futures are created. Welcome to the home of consummate and conscientious nation builders whose hearts are open to the plans of the Holy Spirit, and in whose lives all things godly are possible because we choose to win by righteousness.

IT IS FINISHED!

By Pastor *Tunde Bakare*

Introduction

When the Lord Jesus Christ declared "It is finished" after receiving the sour wine on the cross, He was not conceding defeat. He was pronouncing the most consequential victory in human history. He was not a man at the end of His strength; He was God at the completion of His mission. He knew where He came from, He knew why He came, and He knew the precise moment His work was finished. Nothing was accidental. Nothing was left without completion.

This is the declaration that forms the heartbeat of the 2026 Apostolic Summit—a Summit that is neither a convention nor a casual gathering, but a deliberate assembly devoted to the defence and confirmation of the gospel (**Philippians 1:3-7**).

It Is Finished (Tetelestai): The Final Words That Shape Destiny

"After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, 'I thirst!' now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they

filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, 'It is finished!'" (**John 19:28-30**)

This Bible passage reveals that Jesus knew what He was doing. In fact, He knew what the Father had said, what He had proposed, and the reason for which He came (**John 13:1-4**). He knew that the matter was settled. He knew He came from God. He knew He was returning to God. He knew all things had been handed over to Him. He knew it was settled!

From **John 19:28-30**, it is clear that the words "It is finished" were the very last words the Lord Jesus spoke before He bowed His head and gave up His spirit. Jesus' final words carried the weight of all eternity. Those words do not simply describe what happened on a Roman cross two thousand years ago. They define who we are today. They determine what we carry, what we can do, and who we belong to.

For those who understand the

WHO WE ARE

"We are a people sent to the nations, governments and powers of the earth as the voice of reason, possibilities and hope. We are the instrumentality of catalysing change and centralising God in the governance of nations. Our mandate is to enforce the Kingdom of God over the kingdoms of this world that have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ. We are men and women, boys and girls who love God and love people and who serve God and serve people. We always seek to give hope and to be at the forefront of driving change both spiritually and governmentally. We exist, primarily, as a fully functional church and conceptually as a governmental force for change, good governance and leadership."

culture of the kingdom, the last words of a patriarch, a matriarch of faith, and notable servants of God are of great importance.

Jacob spoke his last words to his sons in **Genesis 49:1-7, 8-28**. Although those words were severe, they helped them to re-navigate their lives and write a different story.

Jacob's last words helped to shape the destinies of the twelve tribes of Israel.

In **Deuteronomy 33:1**, Moses did the same, and His words blessed a nation. In **Joshua 24:1, 29**, Joshua's last words commissioned a generation.

A careful study of the word of God shows that the Lord Jesus Christ was not just a goal-setter; He was a formidable go-getter. His vision was clear. His mission was certain. He was not a rabble-rouser trying to strike a deal or make a quick sale. He was not a master of ambiguity. He was plain and very intentional.

The last words Jesus spoke shaped and are shaping the future of everyone who would hear, believe and act on them. So, what was the significance of the last words of the Lord Jesus Christ (the head of the church) to His body

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THE CGCC CREDO

- ➔ Love God, Love People
- ➔ Serve God, Serve People
- * By doing the above, we glorify God individually and corporately.

OUR COMMITMENTS

- ➔ Wholehearted Worship of God
- ➔ Prayer ➔ Ministry of the Word ➔ Evangelism
- ➔ Seeing People Grow Deeper (Discipleship)
- ➔ Helping People Build Vital Relationships with Other Believers
- ➔ Loving God and Loving People
- ➔ Serving God and Serving People

OUR CORE LEADERSHIP VALUES

- ➔ Compassion
- ➔ Intelligence
- ➔ Responsibility
- ➔ Judgement
- ➔ Influence



IT IS FINISHED!

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(the church) and ultimately, to the world?

The Cost and Beauty of Following Christ

If you have come to Christ expecting that Christianity would bring an easy life, then you are mistaken. Christianity does not promise that everything will be perfect or that everything will be easy. It does not promise that everyone will love you or that things will always work out exactly as you had hoped (**Matthew 10:37-39, Luke 14:25-33**). If Jesus' disciples endured hardship for the sake of the cross, we will, too. This is why many of His disciples departed from Him and walked with Him no more (**John 6:66-71**).

However, I do not want you to think that Christianity is all hardship and pain. It is not! It is filled with so much joy and beauty, and any hardship we endure is ultimately meant to lead us to a beautiful future in the presence of God. When we become Christians, we are free from the power of sin (**Romans 6:12-14**). Christianity gives us access to the presence of God and unhindered fellowship with our Creator (**Ephesians 2:11-18; 3:8-12**).

As Christians, we also have a relationship with Christ and belong to a community of fellow believers. The moment you come to Christ, not only do you belong to Christ but also to a community of believers who will stand by you in good and bad times (**Ephesians 2:19-22**).

A Child's Faith That Silenced Cancer

I will never forget the testimony of a six-year-old girl at the Baptist Church in 1980. I was teaching them: "These signs shall follow them that believe: they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

Her mother had cancer and had been returned home to rest. The

girl asked to pray. She declared, "Cancer, pack your load and leave my mother alone, in Jesus' name." Healing began. By the fifth day, the mother came into the living room—cancer gone. I was moved to tears and asked myself, "Could I do what she did?" These signs follow those who believe (**Mark 16:17-18**).

The Two Dimensions of the Finished Work of Christ

Jesus' goal was clear to Him before His crucifixion—He knew He was sent; He knew the One who sent Him gave Him works to do; and He knew He must finish that work.

From His encounter in Samaria, where He met the Samaritan woman at the well of Jacob, He made it very clear to His disciples what His preferred food was. His food was to do the will of Him who sent Him and to finish His work. That is goal-setting!

"Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.'"
(**John 4:34**)

In **John 5:36**, the Lord also spoke about a witness greater than John the Baptist's. The emphasis is on the word *finish*. The Father gave Him works to finish.

"But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me."
(**John 5:36**)

Furthermore, in **John 17:1-4**, before going to the cross, He declared that He had finished the work which His Father had given Him to do.

"I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do." (**John 17:4**)

In John 4, He said His food was to do the work of Him who sent Him and to finish it. In John 5, He testified of the work His Father gave Him to finish. In John 17, He declared that He had finished the work which the Father gave Him to do.

OUR 4-DIMENSIONAL OPERATIONAL DYNAMICS

- ➔ Church-in-the-House
- ➔ Church-in-the-Community
- ➔ Church-in-the-City
- ➔ Church-in-the-Cloud.

OUR 4-DIMENSIONAL GROWTH DYNAMICS

- ➔ To grow up.
- ➔ To grow big.
- ➔ To grow very rich.
- ➔ To grow together.

So, if before going to the cross, He had already finished the work which His Father gave Him to do, why did He then say "It is finished" on the cross? Is there a difference between the work He finished as described in **John 17** and His final proclamation, "It is finished" on the cross? Yes, there is!

In **John 17:4-8**, the work Jesus finished was that of manifesting the Father's name to His disciples and reproducing Himself in them, particularly the apostles, into whose hands the Great Commission was first committed (**Matthew 28:16-20**).

The Cup Only Jesus Could Drink

To fully understand Jesus' last words (It is finished) on the cross, we need to examine the surrounding circumstances of the statement. Note that Jesus said, "It is finished" after He received the sour wine. The significance of this detail is better explained by the distinction the Apostle Paul made between the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons.

"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons..."
(**1 Corinthians 10:16, 21**)

In the passage above, we see the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. The cup of blessing which we bless is the cup of the Lord we receive during the communion service (**1 Corinthians 11:23-27**). This cup was instituted by the Lord during the Last Supper. He partook of it alongside His disciples (**Matthew 26:17-19; 26-30**). The cup of demons; they have their own communion, too. That is why you cannot participate in communion everywhere. When you see them dressed in the attire of the Ogboni and they tell you it is communion, no. It is not! That is

the communion of devils. Do not provoke the Lord. Jesus did not take part in communion with devils. So, do not say it is a sense of belonging. We must distinguish the cup of the Lord from the cup of demons.

But there is a third cup—the Lord's cup (**Matthew 26:36–44**). This cup is unique because only the Lord Jesus Christ could drink it.

“... Oh My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.” (**Matthew 26:42**)

Here, Jesus prayed, asking the Father if any other person could take that cup. But no one could take the cup in heaven, on earth, or under the earth. Only He could take it. And so, on the cross, when everything had been accomplished, He said, “I thirst” Only He could drink its contents in order to pay for Adam's sin and the sin of all mankind. This cup is likened to the iniquity of the Amorites that needed to be full before God could transfer their land to the descendants of Abraham (**Genesis 15:12–16**).

“But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again; for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.” (**Genesis 15:16, KJV**)

Why was the iniquity of the Amorites not yet full at that time? Because some of the Amorites were in confederacy with Abraham (**Genesis 14:13**). If there is a righteous man in the midst of the wicked, for the sake of that righteous man, there will be a period of probation.

Jewish tradition holds that Adam lived for thirty-three years before he fell into sin in the garden. So, the last Adam had to come and live for thirty-three years without sin before He could pay the price. That cup was filled with the accumulated debris of human sin from the first Adam to the time the Redeemer came. When the cup was full, He took it.

“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” (**2 Corinthians 5:21**)

When He said, “I thirst,” the cup was present in that bowl, and He took that drink all by Himself and swallowed it. Symbolically, it means there is no sin powerful enough to take man to hell except the sin of unbelief.

He did it as a foreshadowing in the courts of Pharaoh, when the rod became a serpent, and the magicians dropped theirs, but the serpent from the rod of Moses swallowed all the other serpents and became a rod again (**Exodus 7:10–13**). It was the gospel being preached—He took on our sin completely and broke the power of sin over our lives.

Tetelestai: Debt Paid, Battle Won, Judgement Settled

It is important to note that the three-word theme of this Summit, “It Is Finished,” is expressed as a single word in Greek: **Tetelestai**.

Interestingly, if you write the letter “T” in the form of a cross over each syllable **TE-TE-LES-TAI**, you may observe a symbolic picture of three crosses contained within that one word.

Tetelestai carries many layers of meaning. It is not a mere word. Neither are the three English words “It is finished” mere words. They carry the weight of finality. When uttered in the Greek or Roman Empire, it was used in connection with three major contexts: the debt that people owe; war; and judicial pronouncements—circumstances in which every one of us, as sinners, were enmeshed.

- When a debtor's account was fully settled with a creditor, and a receipt was issued, the proclamation was “**Tetelestai**” — meaning, *account is fully settled, paid in full, and records completely cleared.*

- When a Roman general won the battle over a territory, he would ascend to the highest mountain in that territory, plant the Roman flag, stretch out his arms wide, and shout “**Tetelestai**” — meaning, *victory is total, and the territory is fully possessed.*

- In judicial terms, “**Tetelestai**” is a declaration of the victorious outcome of a trial. Jesus was declared not guilty (**John 19:6**). How do we know? Death and the grave could not hold Him captive. Today, He holds the keys of death and of hell (**Revelation 1:17–18**). That is **Tetelestai**.

Ten Powerful and Incontrovertible Truths of Tetelestai (It Is Finished)

Truth #1:

Tetelestai is not a declaration of war. It was a proclamation of victory. It is finished! If the princes of this world had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory (**1 Corinthians 2:8**).

Truth #2:

Tetelestai is not an acknowledgement of debt; it was a full payment of it. Every sin that we could have ever committed has been fully paid for. But that is not a license for us to sin; rather, it is a license for us to operate in grace so that we can live above sin (**Romans 6:1**).

Truth #3:

By the proclamation of Tetelestai, Calvary was not a struggle; it was a power shift. The sinless died so that the sinful might live. The virtuous Saviour paid in full so that the vilest offender and debtor to sin might be free.

Truth #4:

By the proclamation of Tetelestai, the Judge of the whole earth was convicted so that the villain (you and I) might be acquitted. Who can bring any charge against you and me? It is God who justifies (**Romans 5:12–21**).

Truth #5:

Before the proclamation of Tetelestai by Jesus, He was tempted in all ways, as we all are, yet without sin. God does not use an untested vessel. He was perfect on all scores. He was the sinless Lamb, fit for the sacrifice, the purchase of redemption (**John 1:29**).

Truth #6:

By Tetelestai, the Lion became the Lamb so that the Lamb can become the Lion. Jesus as the Lamb shows His tender nature, while Jesus as the Lion demonstrates His tough-mindedness. As believers, we ought to possess both characteristics. We must be meek and gentle (lamb), but when it comes to tough decisions, we must be firm and thorough (lion).

Truth #7:

By the proclamation of Tetelestai, the Jew, the Gentile, and the mixed Samaritan all became one—no longer strangers or foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God (**Ephesians 2:19**).

Truth #8:

By the proclamation of Tetelestai, hell and death received notice of their defeat. Principalities and powers forever became subjugated to the authority of the only name given under heaven, by which all men may be saved (**Colossians 2:15, Acts 4:12**).

Truth #9:

In just one proclamation, "It is finished," Jesus, being the Almighty, did not need the name that is above all names, but we do. Being Omnipotent, He did not need power, but we do. So, He got it all and gave it all to us. Christ in you, the hope of glory. We no longer fight for victory but fight from victory (**Colossians 1:27**).

Truth #10:

In one proclamation of Tetelestai, sin lost its grip, hell lost its claim, death lost its sting, and power changed hands—not because we prayed, but because Christ died (**Acts 2:24**). So today, we can walk in the liberty with which Christ has made us free (**Galatians 5:1**).

Tetelestai—It is finished

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Cash:
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Cheque:
Address to:
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• THE CITADEL GLOBAL COMMUNITY CHURCH DOMINION PARTNERS

Use the POS
at the entrance to the main auditorium.



Online transfer:
See account details



Check the website:
www.thecitadelglobal.org



ACCOUNT DETAILS (FOR FREEWILL OFFERING, TITHES, ETC.)

S/N	THE CITADEL GLOBAL COMMUNITY CHURCH PAYMENT	BANKS	ACCOUNT NUMBERS NAIRA(N)	ACCOUNT NUMBERS U.S.D (\$)	ACCOUNT NUMBERS G.B.P (£)	ACCOUNT NUMBERS EURO (€)
1.	TITHE/OFFERING/FIRSTFRUITS	WEMA	0232412716	0620146559	0620146566	0620146573
2.	TITHE/OFFERING/FIRSTFRUITS	POLARIS	1770072357	1771505959		
3.	TITHE/OFFERING/FIRSTFRUITS	ZENITH	1015446373			
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Make disciples...

I am with you always

Matt 28:19-20

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Courtesy: CGCC CHURCH COUNCIL

The Family Life Centre

For godly guidance and support on marriage and other Family related matters, please visit or call The Family Life Centre today.

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STOP!

Are you in distress?
Are you in trouble?
Are you confused?

DON'T DESPAIR!

Reach out now to any of our 24-hour CGCC Counsellors
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