

Nailed

Today is PALM SUNDAY, one week before Easter Sunday. It is the day of the TRIUMPHAL ENTRY, when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey accompanied by a cheering crowd. How sad that only one week later their cries would turn from “Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord” to “Crucify Him!”

Their worship is short-lived because they are worshipping for the wrong reason – they want Jesus to deliver them from Roman oppression, but what they really need is deliverance from their sins. Before the week is out, they will hand Him over to be crucified!

“He nailed it!” is a modern expression used all the time in sports, and now many other fields. It means that whatever was done, was done absolutely right and ended perfectly!

That’s what we would say today about Jesus. **He nailed it!** Literally, he was nailed to the cross. We know that. But His crucifixion provides the perfect conclusion for our salvation. For as ugly as it is, the cross symbolizes the perfect finish. Jesus had faced down all temptation and opposition, and He did it exactly right. **He nailed it – to the cross!**

Colossians 2:8-15 ⁸ Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. ⁹ For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. ¹⁰ And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: ¹¹ In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: ¹² Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. ¹³ And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; ¹⁴ Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, **nailing it to his cross**; ¹⁵ And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, **triumphing** over them in it.

2 Corinthians 2:14-16a Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to **triumph** in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life.

During the Roman Triumph March (“thriambeuo” – a noisy, joyous victory procession”), as the people celebrated the military success of a general, as the spoils of battle were paraded in the streets, as the Roman priests burned incense in celebration of the victory, and as the enemy captives marched in humiliation and defeat to the coliseum, the general’s sons walked behind him in a place of honor. They didn’t fight the battles, but they shared in the Triumph March because they were related to the General by blood!

I wasn’t at Calvary, but I have a right to the privileges of a Son. As long as I stay in the Triumph March, there is victory. The devil may accuse from his position of defeat at the back of the parade (!), but I don’t need to listen to him – he has been conquered by my Father!

Bumper Sticker: “I may be slow, but I’m ahead of you.”

HE NAILED IT!