

The Complete Sufficiency of the Cross

When something seems too good to be true, we might find ourselves raising an eyebrow, reading the fine print, and asking “what’s the catch?” But when it comes to salvation, there really is no catch and beyond having faith there is nothing else we *need* to do. When Christ died on the cross, he paid our debts in full. There is absolutely nothing we can add to his work to ensure our salvation. And yet, sometimes we subconsciously begin to believe that our actions matter for our salvation. During Lent, we pause to remember the truth of Christ’s work on the cross. We’ll study scriptures that help us remember why Christ’s sacrifice is completely sufficient to satisfy God’s wrath, and we’ll discuss how we can keep our fears at bay and keep the right perspective about our salvation and our deeds.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we’ll cover in the episode.

- What does the word sufficient mean?
- In your own words, what does it mean to be saved by faith alone?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [The Complete Sufficiency of the Cross](#)

READ [Isaiah 53:6](#), [Galatians 3:1-3 & 24-27](#), [Galatians 2:20-21](#), [Romans 5:9-11](#), [Romans 6:1-4](#), [Galatians 6:14-15](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Consider the lyrics of the 3 songs hosts Scott Hoezee and Darrell Delaney mentioned in the program (“[Jesus Paid it All](#),” “[In Christ Alone](#),” and “[When I Survey the Wondrous Cross](#)”). Can you identify any additional hymns or songs whose lyrics articulate the completeness of Christ’s sacrifice for securing our salvation? Consider the lyrics. Which line(s) are the most powerful to you? Why?
- While reflecting on our human tendency to take pride in our good deeds, Scott notes, “if our good deeds are to our credit, then our bad deeds are to our debit.” Think back on your life thus far, recalling both your good deeds and your sin. Which do you think would come out ahead? Read [Romans 6:23](#) and [Galatians 2:19-21](#). Describe how these verses make you feel.
- At the end of segment 2, Scott and Darrell discuss how Paul’s reference to God’s law as “a guardian” in [Galatians 3:24](#) could also be understood as “a babysitter” or “a schoolmaster.” How do these additional descriptions give you a more nuanced understanding of the purpose of God’s law and why God gave it to his people knowing full well that humanity could not fulfill his law without help?
- How can remembering your baptism help you maintain perspective on the complete sufficiency of Christ’s work on the cross for your salvation? How can it also help you understand why your behavior and actions matter?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Hebrews 10:1-18](#), [Isaiah 53](#), [2 Corinthians 4:18](#), [James 2:14-26](#), [John 15:1-6](#), [1 Corinthians 6:12-20](#)

CONCLUSION

Consider the various hymns and passages mentioned in this episode. Pick two to return to and reflect on each day this week. Meditate on the words and let the truth of Christ's complete fulfillment of your debt through his death on the cross remain in your consciousness. Each day, close your time of reflection in a prayer of confession, then a prayer of thanksgiving for Christ's sacrifice, and finally with a request that God help you see your deeds rightly and not be distracted from the completeness of your salvation in Christ.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/the-complete-sufficiency-of-the-cross>

Printed on February 6, 2025