"It Is Finished"

Jesus had hung on the cross for six hours. In John 19:28-30:

After this, Jesus, _____ that all was now finished, said (to ______ the Scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to

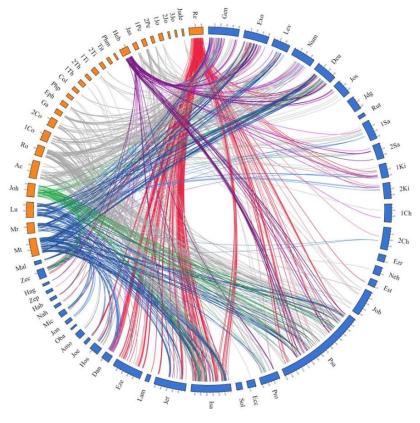


his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is ______ and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

"It is finished." Those are some of the most significant words in all of the Bible. But what do they mean? *What* was finished? We'll talk about that together in our class, but to get us thinking, remember some of the earliest statements of Jesus we looked at in this entire Search for Our King.

"You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is ______ that bear witness about _____..." (John 5:39)

"For if you believed _____ you would believe me; for he wrote of _____." (John 5:46)



Or, remember Jesus' words to those two men on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24:

And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the ______ have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning ______. (24:25-27)

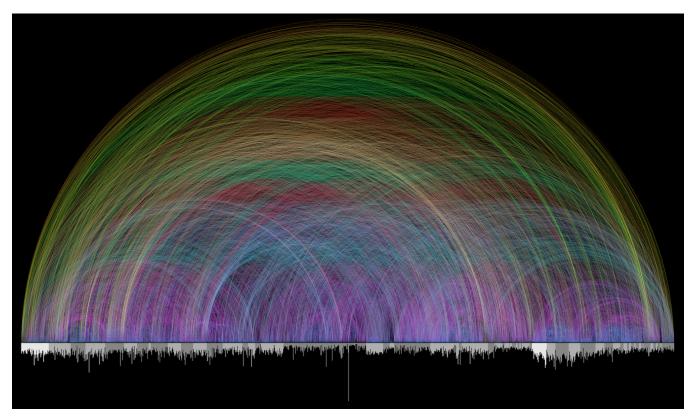
Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the _____ must be fulfilled." (24:44)

"It is finished." That sure sounds important. What did Jesus mean? Let's talk about...

For Class & Family Discussion:

"Hail, King of the Jews!" What were the Roman soldiers doing in John 19:1-5?

- What should we make of Pilate repeatedly referring to Jesus as "the King of the Jews" (John 19:14-15, 19)?
- In John 19:28, John draws attention to the fact that Jesus said something "to fulfill the Scripture." We've seen that sort of language many times throughout this series, but let's make sure we understand. What are the Gospel writers communicating when they say things like that? Let's open our Bibles back to Psalm 69:19-21 as a great example...
- As you look at visual representations like this one featured in our video, what do you see? What do we need to understand and appreciate? Maybe 2 Peter 1:19-21 would be good to carefully think about here...



For NEXT Sunday:

 We'll finish this year's Search for the King by focusing in on the truly powerful words in 2 Corinthians 1:20—"For all the promises of God find their Yes in him."