

CALL to PRAYER - offer a prayer of gratitude for salvation the freedom we have to proclaim it

## John 19:28-30 - Canceled/Completed/Continued

Intro - Today is a LORD's Supper SONday where we celebrate Christ's *completed work* by this *continuing meal*. Our practice has been to focus the entire service around, and in preparation of, the partaking of this sacred meal. It is a special privilege to be able to freely celebrate this ordinance. It has not always been the case in Christian history. *Cancel Culture* is not new, and it was brought to bear over this very issue of Communion. Many people were killed over the meaning of this meal. Last week we mentioned the corruption that happens within the visible church and the need for reformation/revival. When a corrupt church with a corrupt message is married to a corrupt state...people can be canceled... and were canceled. The meaning of this supper was so important to the reformers that were willing to be burned at the stake for the sake of the gospel. This meal and its message ought to be important for us as well and we should be very grateful for the freedoms we enjoy so we can celebrate Christ's completed work with this continuing meal.

### CANCELED

- Many people were literally canceled (killed) over the issue of communion
  - Ever heard of Bloody Mary...not the drink but Queen of England is named for
  - She burned 100's of Christians - men , women (55) and children (4)
    - She earned her name
  - When she came to power as queen she imposed her Catholicism
    - The meaning of the Mass (after the prayer of consecration from the priest the elements become body and blood of Jesus under guise of bread/ wine
    - The meaning of the Mass was a mass of abominations to the reformers
    - There was no such thing as religious liberty. The mass was mandated
    - Those who opposed were marked for prison & condemnation - canceled
- John Rogers was the first martyr Mary burned at the stake.
  - He was marched past the church where he preached and his wife and 10 children
  - "Rogers went to his death as if he was walking to his wedding" (French ambass.)
  - New England Primer recorded this for all American children to learn
    - Excerpts from his poem to his family
- Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley. These two bishops were burned together at Oxford
  - *Ridley*- "Be of good heart, brother, for God will either assuage the flames, or strengthen us to abide it." Before fire lit said, "Heavenly Father, I give Thee most hearty thanks that Thou has called me to a profession of Thee even unto death."
  - *Latimer* -"Be of good comfort Master Ridley, and play the man, we shall this day, by Gods grace, light such a candle in England as I trust shall never be put out."
- These were willing died - not over semantics but over the serious meaning of the Meal
  - They took the Supper seriously. We should do the same
    - They endured flames we have freedom

