

4-8-1955

## Notes: Lenten Address: It is Finished (John 19:30, Luke 23:46)

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### Recommended Citation

Kretzmann, O.P., "Notes: Lenten Address: It is Finished (John 19:30, Luke 23:46)" (1955). *O.P. Kretzmann Collection*. 68.  
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DATE 4/8/55 OCCASION Good Friday - Valpo-THEME It is Finished - Father into Thy hands -Two ~~sermons~~:

XX John 19, 30: "Jesus said 'It is finished' -  
 Luke 23, 46: "Father into Thy hands I commend  
 my spirit -"

1. Often wondered about desirability - necessity  
 preaching sermon on Good Friday evening.  
 people here in Church regularly - heard good  
 better sermons - <sup>in all churches</sup> those who are moving on  
 annual communion - back for Xmas - hard to  
 talk to - heard it all before - they have  
 passed by & it is nothing to them. Anselm 1500, 16  
 ago -

2. So - really no sermon. ask you to think quietly &  
 briefly & personally - about two sentences - two  
 of the greatest in all the history of human  
 speech - uncompassing <sup>compass</sup> all of life and the  
 shadow of death. first: It is finished - by  
 this we can live - second: "Father" - live this  
we can die - probably a good way to speak  
Good Friday evening - draw the last two words together

3. Setting: 3rd clock - last few moments - quiet -  
 even mobs become still when death rides - <sup>ignoring</sup>  
 suddenly - head goes up - loud voice - "It is finished"  
Meaning: hear it again? Pharisees - Roman  
 soldiers - eyes to see, ears to hear. crack of  
 doom - had they lost? - riding him - victory -  
 thorn - girdle - nails forged into the scepter.  
 wounds cloth him - purple of empire - victory -  
 world was changed - before & after - all men must  
 decide - no neutrality - stone of stumbling or  
 the way of life & to life -

DATE 4/8/55 OCCASION Good Friday - Walpo

THEME \_\_\_\_\_

4. Two remarks about that sentence: "It is finished" - implies victory <sup>he is</sup> for ~~him~~. not referring to the fact that his agony was now ended - that the malice, <sup>the</sup> hatred, <sup>the</sup> pain, the heart broken with sorrow were now done & set aside forever - nor was the merely saluting etc. - nor was he merely saying goodbye to life, the years flashing swiftly etc. - tired of Himself. life - no - clear - this is it - ~~any~~ of a warrior, soldier, or Savior - <sup>the Son of Mary going home - my chips in his slip</sup> 20 Century - <sup>today</sup> He has in His grip.
5. Proof? Not Scripture taught - but another. His aporia - the indifferent - [some in obscure taught] testimony to His continuing power. they cannot leave Him alone - Men do not hate the dead - have gone beyond the grave - but hate soldiers - Napoleon. Genghis Khan - Hitler <sup>difficult</sup> - <sup>and</sup> so - is the books they write against Him - in their laughter - in their cynicism his own testimony to His mysterious hold over man's life & time - why? - [Textus] "Hymn of Heaven" - last line sums it all up - reason why men who hate Him still look at Him, <sup>strangely</sup> as He passes by in life & history - for time & eternity: "All things betray thee". that's it - <sup>we are out of control</sup> the good things in life which He made - love & laughter & sunshine & health - become dust & myth & ashes <sup>without Him</sup> - and on <sup>light</sup> (Good Friday) more men & women know it than ~~at~~ any other day of the year - crowded churches - "It is finished"



DATE 4/8/55 OCCASION Good Friday - Volpo

we peccat + joy on his face. come home - so this candle tonight standing in the light of the

THEME Cross - home of Heracles no loneliness at all. home-

G. And so we - who by His grace + pity have made His victory our victory our now live on + by His cry: "It is finished" - sins forgiven. souls cleared. consciences clear + clean. our incompleteness - our unfinished tasks - our broken lives - complete, finished + made whole by Him who loved us so much that He would rather die than be without us - III

Good Friday complete.

And now - quietly. the other sentence: "Father" something on which we can die - interesting study: ultimate problem - mystery. how man meet death. Shakespeare: "Oed, oed."

the Holy Spirit fades - earth moves away.

Goethe. Anable France - protest, acceptance - gamut. Nothing less that here. head gets up once more - crowd forgotten. He is coming home - long adventure in the great halls of heaven Cherubim + Seraphim wait for Him - tall robes - choirs of eternity. He is coming home. all He has to show - one poor thing - but all the angels rejoice - first of a long procession - will storm the gates of heaven.

9. As goodly company + we should join them - mother putting her child to bed - etc - so also we - toward twilight a voice - put away your toys. little things - the patchwork - the plans - the dress. say your prayers + go to sleep.

10. And then something wonderful - in the morning. the great morning of God - wave up - something very splendid + very beautiful - flaming + glowing - all the little things - ascended, glorified, transfigured - finished for us - by the hard - torn -

11. Good Friday - favorite picture - usual crowd - man taking off his shoes.