

# Studies in I Peter (18)

## The Responsibility of Salvation

### Introduction

- A. In times of serious crisis every believer has a tendency to act out of harmony, in some area of life, with his Christian commitment. This may happen to us even though salvation is the very foundation of our life. Peter's denial of the Lord Jesus would illustrate this thought.
- B. In writing this Epistle Peter reminds his readers of the necessity to understand salvation and to make the necessary choices to obey God. As we obey -- we open the door to divine blessing and fruitfulness.

### I. The Grace of God in the Believer's Salvation, I Peter 1:3-2:10.

- A. The description of salvation, Vs 3-5 (Lesson # 11)
- B. The joy of salvation, Vs 6-9 (Lesson # 12)
- C. The greatness of salvation, Vs 10-12 (Lesson # 13)
- D. The responsibility of salvation, Vs 1:12-2:3
  - 1. The responsibility of dedication, V 13 (Lesson # 14)
  - 2. The responsibility of holiness, Vs 14,15 (Lesson # 15)
  - 3. The Biblical reasons for obeying God, Vs 16-21
    - a. Because of divine revelation, V 16 (Lesson # 16)
    - b. Because of personal accountability, V 17 (Lesson # 17)
    - c. Because of redemption, Vs 18-20

*Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation (empty life) received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.  
Vs 18,19*

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#### 1) The fact of redemption, "redeemed."

The meaning of redemption revolves around the theme of paying a price to obtain a possession. In Peter's day the word was often used to refer to paying for a slave.

In the Bible the word indicates the work of Jesus Christ whereby He gave Himself as our sacrifice on the cross to provide a "redemption" (freedom from sin) for all who will believe upon Him.

#### 2) The reminder regarding redemption, "Not redeemed with ... silver and gold."

In the business world of Peter's day, acts of redemption were by silver and gold -- as true today. We are here reminded that the need we have is of a spiritual nature and could only be provided by a spiritual price.

The redemption that was needed, not only had to be able to reverse our fallen condition, in particular it would have to satisfy the holiness and justice of God. At least six demands would have to be fully met.

- a) A sacrifice must be made by a divine-human individual. The Lord Jesus, through the Incarnation, came to be that individual.

*But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. Galatians 4:4,5*

- b) The divine-human person must act as our representative. The Lord Jesus came to be our representative before God.

*But God commended his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*

- c) The divine-human person must render perfect obedience to God for us.

The Lord Jesus obeyed God perfectly -- as our representative.

*For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Romans 5:19*

- d) The divine-human person must, as our priest, present an sacrifice. The Lord Jesus, as our priest, presented Himself as our sacrifice.

*The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:29*

- e) The sacrifice of this divine-human must be of infinite worth. The Lord Jesus alone could and did give Himself as an offering of infinite worth.

*And he is the propitiation (sacrifice) for our sins, and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world. I John 2:2*

- f) The divine-human must present His sacrifice in such a way that its value could be transferred to others. The Lord Jesus died in such a way that the value and merit of His death could be vicariously transferred to us.

*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. Romans 5:8,9*

- 3) The assurance of redemption, "Redeemed ... with the precious blood of Christ."

- a) We are comforted as we contemplate this highest act of divine love.

- b) We are comforted as we understand the spiritual transaction which occurred when the Lord Jesus shed His blood for us on the Cross.

- c) We are comforted as we recognize our belief is the evidence that the redeeming work of Jesus Christ has been imputed to us.

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