

The Biblical Concept of Redemption

Introduction

- A. The Bible constantly reminds us of the importance of spiritual freedom. There is good reason for this in that sin has and will enslave a person. The Christian recognizes this truth. It has been the sad experience of every believer.
- B. The Biblical message of redemption has to do with setting people free. The word itself means "to release by the payment of a ransom". As a human race we must recognize our enslavement to sin. God in His mercy has made our freedom possible.

I. Redemption is Belated to the Person of Jesus Christ.

- A. Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, spoke of this redemption, Luke 1:68

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He hath visited and redeemed His people.

Observation: John the Baptist was the forerunner of the Lord Jesus. His father correctly understood that the time for the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ, had come. In Him the people of God were to be redeemed.

- B. Paul the Apostle explained how Jesus Christ was God's provision for our redemption, I Corinthians 1:30.

But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, Who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

Observation: God has had mercy upon us and made provision for our spiritual needs. Through Jesus Christ, Who came into the world as our Redeemer, we can be set free from all the judgment and enslavement of sin and be blessed with all spiritual benefits.

II. Redemption is Related to Jesus Christ Giving His Life for Us.

- A. Giving His life was the purpose of His coming, Mark 10:45.

For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Observation: This verse describes the meaning of the love of God. We see here the action which love really means. Who can understand the depth of such sacrifice? He gave His life as our ransom.

- B. Giving His life made redemption possible for us, I Peter 1:18,19.

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold . . . but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Observation: Only Christ's death could redeem us. He alone, as the God-man, could pay for our sins and break its power.

III. Redemption is Related Many Important Spiritual Benefits.

A. The believer, through redemption, has been justified, Romans 3:24.

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Observation: To be justified means to be declared righteous by God. In Jesus Christ, Who paid our debt to the Law of God, we have received complete righteousness. Romans 5:1; 8:3,4

B. The believer, through redemption, is free from the curse of the law, Gal. 3:13.

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us, for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.

Observation: The judgment of the law for sinners was alienation and death. Jesus Christ paid that debt. We are now accepted in Him and have eternal life. Ephesians 1:6; John 10:28

C. The believer, through redemption, is adopted, Galatians 4:4,5.

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem that that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Observation: Through believing in Jesus Christ the Christian has been given all the rights and privileges of sonship. We are the sons of God. We can pray, worship, and walk in fellowship with God.

D. The believer, through redemption, is forgiven, Ephesians 1:7.

In Whom (the Lord Jesus Christ) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

Observation: When Jesus Christ died on the Cross He bore the penalty for our sins. Our guilt was placed upon Him. Through believing on Him we are now completely absolved from the guilt of our sin. Colossians 1:14; 2:13

E. The believer, through redemption, may be freed from all iniquity, Titus 2:14.

Who (the Lord Jesus Christ) gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity (lawlessness), and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Observation: Through redemption we are not only freed from the guilt and unrighteousness of sin but we may also be freed more and more from the sinful attitudes and behavior patterns of sin. This is correctly designated as a "lawless" way of living.

F. The believer, through redemption, has eternal inheritance, Hebrews 9:15.

And for this cause He is the Mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first Testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. Hebrews 9:12

Observation: The inheritance is all these blessings -- eternally.

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