

**REDEMPTION**

*Scripture Reference: Ephesians 1:7*

Redemption is one of the better-known words used by God to refer to the salvation we have in the Lord Jesus Christ. In the Old Testament redemption was based on the concept of deliverance and of purchase. Israel's experience when they came out of Egypt is typical in many ways to what happens when a sinner is redeemed by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Israel was redeemed out of bondage in Egypt. The believer today is redeemed out of the bondage of sin. See Exodus 13:14-15. The sacrificing of the firstborn or redeeming of the firstborn referred back to the time in Egypt when Israel was set free from bondage. The words redeem and redemption are used many times in the Old Testament to describe what took place at the first Passover. This gives us the first definition for redemption which is deliverance.

Another idea put forth in the Old Testament for redemption is buying back. Leviticus 25 gives detailed instructions on how the land was to be held and purchased by the Israelites. The word redeemed, is used with the idea of buying back. So in the Old Testament redeemed is used to mean deliverance and to buy back. This Old Testament background will help us to understand what Paul means when he uses the word redeemed or redemption. The believer is delivered from the bondage of sin and bought back to God through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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**REDEMPTION (CONTINUED)**

*Scripture Reading: Titus 2:14*

There are three primary Greek words used in the New Testament which are translated redeem and redemption.

1. Agorazo-- to purchase in the market place. "For ye are bought (Agorazo) with a price. ..." (I Corinthians 6:20). "Ye are bought with a price,..." (I Corinthians 7:23). First of all, redemption is to be purchased by God. We are in the slave market of sin. We are under servitude of sin (Romans 6.17). God came along with sufficient price to buy us in this market. The price was the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. So the believer is purchased - redeemed. God has paid the price.
2. Exagorazo-- to be purchased away from or out of the market. "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us:..." (Galatians 3:13). The believer has been bought out of or away from the curse (condemnation) of the law. We were bought out of or away from the jurisdiction or servitude of the law. God has not only purchased us so that we belong to Him, but He has taken us out of bondage and servitude to sin altogether.
3. Lutroo-- to set free -- to deliver -- to liberate "Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14). All of this is involved in the work of redemption. We belong to God--the idea of purchase. He has taken out from bondage--the idea of security. He has set us free-- the idea of liberty.

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**REDEMPTION (CONTINUED)***Scripture Reading: Hebrews 9:12*

Another word used for redemption is Apolutrosis which means deliverance on account of a ransom being paid. "In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7). We have been delivered and set free on account of the ransom being paid. That ransom was the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When we put it all together redemption means: To be purchased by God and thus we belong to Him. He purchased us out of or away from the slave market of sin. He set us free from the condemnation of sin and the curse of the law. All of this was made possible because the ransom was paid – the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

What are we redeemed from?

1. Bondage of sin - Titus 2:11-14
2. Bondage of the old life (vain conversation) - I Peter 1:18, 19
3. Bondage to the law - Galatians 3:13, 4:4-5
4. Bondage to these bodies of sin - Romans 8:23

Christ has redeemed from sin. He has redeemed us from the old life. He has redeemed us from the law. And one day we will realize the redemption from these bodies of sin. How long will this redemption last? "Neither by the blood of goats or calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us" (Hebrews 9:12).

**JB***Notes:***JUSTIFICATION***Scripture Reading: Romans 5:1*

Job asked the question "how should man be just with God?" (Job 9:2) In 1515 an Augustine monk studying the book of Romans saw Romans 1:17 "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, the just shall live by faith." This was the beginning of change in Martin Luther's life and the beginning of the reformation.

Justification means that upon the basis of the Justice of God, man can be justified. How can a man be just before God? "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

Justification = the gracious act of God declaring righteous the sinner who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Note the following:

1. Justification is an act, not a process. No one believer is more justified in God's sight than any other. Justification has to do with standing not state - with position not condition. Upon believing, a person is instantly given a righteous standing before God.

2. Justification is unchanging. Once God declares that we are righteous through the Lord Jesus Christ, the sin question is settled once for all.

3. Justification is not the same as regeneration. Regeneration gives a new life. Justification gives a new standing before God.

4. Justification is not the same as forgiveness. If I am forgiven, I am still guilty. Being justified means I am declared not guilty.

5. Justification is not the same as pardoned. A pardoned criminal is still a criminal. Justification removes the guilt.

**JB***Notes:*

**JUSTIFICATION (CONTINUED)**

*Scripture Reading: Romans 5:1-3*

Justification is not something God does only on His books. Justification results in a new standing and a new life. In myself I am dead and condemned. In Christ I am alive and justified.

What are the marks of justification in the believer's life?

1. Peace with God (Romans 5:1)

When we were unsaved, we were at war with God, alienated (Romans 5:10). We cannot have peace until we have righteousness. Because Christ died on the cross and rose again, we have righteousness (II Corinthians 5:21) the moment we believe.

2. Access to God (Romans 5:2).

Not only is there peace with God, but there is access to God. We have a new standing before God. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom also we have access by faith.

3. Hope in the glory of God (Romans 5:2).

We not only have peace with God and access to God, but we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. When you trust Christ as your Saviour, you have a standing in grace and can rejoice in hope.

Justification is the gracious act of God whereby He declares the sinner righteous in Christ. We are justified by grace - not human merit. We are justified by faith - not works. We are justified by His blood because Christ died for us. We are justified unto life and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

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**ETERNAL SECURITY**

*Scripture Reading: Romans 8:33-39*

A study of salvation would not be complete without a reference to eternal security of the believer. We can have assurance that our salvation is eternally secure. We should realize that we had nothing to do with our salvation in the first place. We are not saved because of who we are or what we have done. It is a gift of God's grace (See Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 4:5, and Titus 3:5). We must then conclude that who we are or what we have done will not cause us to lose our salvation. We receive the gift of salvation by faith through acceptance of God's Word. We also can have assurance, by accepting God's Word.

The following references should provide us this assurance:

1. Romans 8:33-39 assures us that nothing can separate us from God's love.

2. Paul explains that we can have assurance in the gospel; "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance" (I Thessalonians 1:5).

3. Paul's prayer was: "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto the full assurance of understanding"(Colossians 2:2a).

4. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life" (I John 5:13).

The believer possesses eternal life (I John 5:13) and his salvation is called eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:9). He has been redeemed by an eternal redemption (Hebrews 9:15). Eternal life is forever, and cannot be lost.

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**SAFE FOREVER MORE**

*Scripture Reading: Hebrews 7:25*

All that God has done in providing salvation for man is of such a nature that there is no possibility of failure.

Redemption was purchased with the incorruptible blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This redemption price can never lose its value.

Justification is by God imputing the infinite righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ to the one who believes. There can never be found any fault in that righteousness. This was made possible because man's sins were imputed to the Lord Jesus and He paid the penalty for them.

By regeneration man is born into the family of God to never be removed. He is a new creation in which we read "grace reigns through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:21).

All who receive God's reconciliation made possible by the death of His Son shall be saved by His present life in heaven where He ever lives to intercede on their behalf. "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25).

The Bible clearly teaches that the believer is included in God's eternal plan and purpose (Ephesians 3:10,11). We should begin and end each day by thanking God for the salvation He has provided to us freely by His amazing Grace.

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