

REDEMPTION

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace,
which He lavished upon us.

(Ephesians 1:7, 8)

According to *Webster's Dictionary*, the word “redeem” means “to buy back, set free, free from sin.”

Our redemption was costly. **The ransom was paid with the blood of Jesus Christ.**

. . . knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,
but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

(1 Peter 1:18, 19)

In Revelation 5:9 we read that Jesus purchased for God men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation with His blood.

Why was it necessary to redeem us, and from what? We have to go back to the Garden of Eden in the book of Genesis for answers to these questions.

God created Adam and Eve in His own image, but after Adam and Eve's fall, God withdrew His Spirit from them. Ever since, people have been *born* in the image of Adam— spiritually dead and in need of life, sinners and in need of forgiveness. (Read chapters “Eternal Life” and “Forgiveness.”)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

(Romans 3:23)

On one side were sinful people, and on the other side the holy God. Because of Adam's sin, we were separated from God. A big problem!

But God had a plan. At the appointed time in history He sent His Son to be the Savior of the world (1 John 4:14).

The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said,
“Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

(John 1:29)

God is a loving God, but He is also a just God, and sin had to be punished. It happened on the cross. God dealt with the sin issue once and for all, when He put the sins of the entire world on Jesus. Jesus died instead of you and me.

Jesus Christ the righteous . . .
is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but
also for those of the *whole world*.

(1 John 2:1, 2)

Propitiation = God the Father was fully satisfied with the sacrifice made by His Son.

Sins are out of the way now, and *nothing* stands between God and us—people. Nothing—but unbelief in Jesus and His accomplished work on the cross and through His resurrection. We have to respond in faith to the call of Jesus, “Come unto me for life.” When we receive Jesus and His eternal life, in Him we receive the forgiveness of our sins. **If you have Jesus, you are redeemed, and you have forgiveness of your sins.** *Beloved, we must believe it and act upon it!*

If you don’t have Jesus, you are still dead in your sins and under the wrath of God. I sure hope that you are a member of the first group—believers. But if you belong to the second group—unbelievers, there is a remedy. Start believing! Jesus is only a prayer away!

How simple is the plan of salvation! God did it all, and what is requested of us is to believe Him and to receive Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior. We have to believe not just in our minds, but also in our hearts.

If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved;

for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

(Roman 10:9, 10)

. . . being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith.

(Romans 3:24, 25)

But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

that, just as it is written, “Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

(1 Corinthians 1:30, 31)

. . . His beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
(Colossians 1:13, 14)

. . . our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;
who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from
every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His
own possession, zealous for good deeds.
(Titus 2:13, 14)

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good
things to come, He entered through the greater and more
perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not
of this creation;
and not through the blood of goats and calves, but
through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for
all, having obtained eternal redemption.
(Hebrews 9:11, 12)