



World Christian Fellowship

www.wcflondon.com
wcflondon@gmail.com

Redemption

- **Creation** the work of God was Great.
- **Redemption** the work of God was greater!
 - **Creation** was made by speaking of a word.
 - **Redemption** there was shedding blood!
 - ✓ **Creation** was the work of God's fingers.
 - ✓ **Redemption** is the work of His arm!

It cost more to redeem us than to make us.

Mark 10:45, *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

Redemption is more specific than salvation. Redemption is the heart and soul of salvation and focuses by which salvation is achieved.

Redemption has to do with the purchase by payment of a price. Redemption then focuses on how God bought us from our bondage to sin and how God paid the price.

Man's condition as a prisoner and sees God coming to set the prisoner free by paying the full required price.

Sin calls for justice. Justice demands a price.

The price justice demand is death. Redemption then of the sinner must come through death.

Acts 20:28, *Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.*

In the Bible Christians are said to be redeemed or bought in reference to the death of Christ

1 Corinthians 6:20, *For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*

1 Corinthians 7:23, *You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.*

2 Peter 2:1, *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.*

Revelation 5:9, *And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood*

Revelation 14:3-4, *They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four*

thousand who were redeemed from the earth. ⁴ These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

Galatians 3:13, *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),*

Galatians 4:5, *to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

1 Peter 1:18-21, *knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. ²⁰ He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you ²¹ who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.*

The imagery shadowing Peter's words here comes from Exodus chapter 12.

Exodus 12:1-14, *Now the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, ² “This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. ³ Speak to*

all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. ⁷And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. ⁸Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted in fire—its head with its legs and its entrails. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until morning, and what remains of it until morning you shall burn with fire. ¹¹And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover. ¹²'For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. ¹³Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. ¹⁴'So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to

the Lord throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance.

That describes God initiating the Passover which, is still celebrated by Jews even today.

One of the patriarchs of Israel, Joseph had been sold into slavery in Egypt by his brothers. He then became Prime Minister of Egypt alongside the Pharaoh Ramses II. During a severe famine in Israel, the family of Jacob, Joseph's father, seventy strong came to Egypt to survive. There was food in Egypt but not in Israel.

These Jewish people, these Hebrew people began to dwell in Goshen, Egypt. They lived there and raised their crops and their herds there and they began to multiply.

Exodus 1:7, *But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.*

They had explosive growth and they multiplied to several million people.

As the population grew but their status begins to deteriorate, and they became slaves since the Egyptians feared them.

Because they had become so powerful and were so blessed by their God. So, Pharaoh forced them into making bricks for his

great buildings that he was building. However, this concentrated labour, this slavery made them stronger, and continued to increase.

God heard their cry and in God's time, after 400 years, He called them to come out of Egypt to establish them in the promised land and establish them as a nation.

But Pharaoh refused to release the people, so God unleashed on Egypt plague after plague, a series of ten plagues culminating in the final plague which was the supernatural execution of the firstborn animal, the firstborn in every family.

The firstborn in the family was the heir to everything the family possessed. The tragic judgment made the Egyptian to let the Israelites go and several million people exited Egypt. When they crossed the Red Sea and Pharaoh then changed his mind, chasing them and having his entire army drowned in the Red sea.

The death angel was going to move through Egypt and kill the firstborn child in every house on this huge race of Egyptians. To be spared from this cruel judgment the Hebrews to kill a lamb of the first year without a blemish, without a spot, offered as a sacrifice to the Lord. Take its blood and put on the door top of the door and on the sides. So, when the Angel of Death passes the house it sees the blood and know that they had obeyed God and spare their firstborn.

On the 10th Day of the month of Nissan they brought the Lamb into their home and on the 14th day evening they killed the lamb and put the blood on their door post as the Lord commanded them. When evening came the people gathered around the table,

- they had their sandals on,
- they had their loins girded, meaning ready to get out,
- they had the belt cinching their garments together,
- they had their staffs in their hands ready to walk and hike,
- they ate quickly/ hastily and
- they were not in a relaxed position.

The lamb's life was given in place of the life of the firstborn, and the lamb died as a substitute. It is a substitutionary death, that paid the price God required and redeemed the firstborn from death.

The blood of the lamb that redeemed the family from divine judgment.

The death of a lamb that paid the price to satisfy God and the angel passed by.

When the Angel started to slay the first born in Egypt they heard the cry of the families. The Egyptians urged the Israelites to leave from there, so the people left in a hurry with gold and silver from them.

God thereby had decreed that this Passover would be celebrated every year! It became memorial to remind Israel that they were delivered from devastating judgment through a lamb who died in their place and paid the price to ransom them as a redeeming, ransoming substitute.

This became the overriding theme of the Old Testament sacrificial system. And throughout the Old Testament time, even into the life of Christ in the New Testament, millions and millions of lambs were slain in this blood-letting sacrifice which pictured substitutionary death which was a price paid to ransom sinners.

This was behind Peter's words in his first letter!

All that was imagery leads to the cross and we are redeemed by the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. The ransom price required by God was death, the ransom price required by God was death. Jesus died that the death angel might pass us by.

The word "**redeemed**" by the way, just as a note there in verse 18, *alutroo* or *lutroo*, this form of it, *alutrothete* means **to be set free by a ransom paid**.

The noun form means a ransom.

It's a technical term for a price paid to buy back somebody headed for judgment, to buy back particularly a prisoner of war or to buy a slave's freedom.

To understand the Christian faith then is to understand redemption, ransom, substitutionary death, that's at the heart of what we must understand.

1. What were we redeemed from?

They were redeemed from divine judgment, from death, from execution at the hands of the death angel.

We were redeemed from sin.

We are sinful, and we are headed for death, physical and eternal. We are doomed to the divine judgment of God. We were redeemed then from sin.

Characters of sin

1 Peter 1:14, *as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;*

The first characteristic of sin is a moral characterization. It is lusts that define us.

Genesis 6:5-6, *Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

⁶*And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.*

Our motives are corrupt, our desires are corrupt. From the depths of our heart the imaginations of our mind are wicked.

James 1:15, *Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.*

We are fundamentally wicked.

Lust rise into our minds and they are expanded into imaginations and fantasies that then give birth to sin which produces death. We are morally corrupt deep down, that's why trying to moralize unconverted people is futile.

V 14 not only as lusts which were yours, but he adds, "In your ignorance."

We are sinful intellectually. We are ignorant of God and ignorant of God's standards.

We cannot know God.

1 Corinthians 2:14, *But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

John 17:25, *O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. We don't therefore have enough information to live as we ought to live.*

Romans 1:28, *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;*

1 Timothy 1:13, *although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.*

We are ignorant, we have no knowledge of God. So, we are sinful morally and we are sinful intellectually.

V18, *knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,*

Sin affects us socially.

We would like to think, we are making a great contribution to the humanity, the world and to people around us and we have some social benefits to lay on the world we influence. The truth of the matter is we are meaningless, we are powerless, we are pointless, we are valueless.

Our life is empty as far as having any value to anyone else, any real spiritual, permanent, eternal value.

We are sinful morally, intellectually and socially.

V18, "inherited from your forefathers."

We are lost even though we're religious. The tradition was passed down to us.

Matthew 15:9, *And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'*"

Morally, intellectually, socially, religiously, every way we are sinful.

Our morality is not what is acceptable to God.

Our minds aren't acceptable to Him.

Our social impact is zero and

Our religion is a damning religion.

This is the state of our sin.

When we ask people to define sin, how do people usually define it?

Murder,

Gambling,

Robbing,

Drinking and

Committing acts of sexual sin

It is far more than that, this is some sort of superficial. when you look at the Scripture's definition of sin it makes plain that we are in a prison cell and it is alienation from God.

You cannot jail break!

We are separated from God with the coils of a twisted self.

It is nothing but a slavery too terrible for us to ever escape by ourselves.

The punishment for this is damnation. The condition of unredeemed man is so unescapable it totally enslaves him and

there's absolutely nothing he can do about it and God has promised to judge him for it.

We were redeemed from sin!

2. What were we redeemed with?

V18, *knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,*

- Not with silver and gold,
- Not with any perishable commodity,
- Not with any decaying commodity,
- This isn't some ransom price,
- There is no human wealth and
- There is no earthly commodity that can pay the price.

"We were redeemed with precious blood,"
the death of someone precious, the death of a precious Lamb,
an unblemished spotless Lamb.

Psalms 49:7-8, *None of them can by any means redeem his brother, Nor give to God a ransom for him ⁸ For the redemption of their souls is costly, And it shall cease forever—*

There need to be a substitute to pay the price of redemption, to pay the ransom to God and it takes the death of a spotless Lamb without blemish who is precious.

V 19, *but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

it's Christ.

That's why John the Baptist looked at Jesus when He came down to the Jordan River and said,

John 1:29, *"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."*

3. Who were we redeemed by?

V 20, *He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you*

Christ.

We were redeemed with blood, the death of a substitute Lamb. Jesus is the perfect, spotless, unblemished sacrifice for sin. He's the one more precious than any whoever lives, more valuable than any other ever walked on this earth. It was His precious life that was given for us. He died on the cross to pay our ransom price, to satisfy the justice of God, the person of Jesus Christ.

V20, "He was foreknown before the foundation of the world." God planned this from before the foundation of the world. It was predestined. He was the predestined one. If He was

predestined from before the world began, before creation in eternity past, of course He then was a member of the trinity.

He was incarnated, He has appeared in these last times. He wasn't made in these last times, He just appeared in these last times. That means He came into the world. He was predestined, and He was incarnated, '*phaneroo*', a historical event to make plain and clear, manifest to reveal.

V 21, that He was raised from the dead.

This was a divine affirmation that His sacrifice was complete and perfect. God not only raised Him from the dead but He also gave Him glory.

That's His ascension.

4. What were we redeemed for?

V 20, *He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you*

"For the sake of you," for your sake. All of this is for us.

What does it bring to us?

To bring us to God!

You have hope in this world!

This defines the fact that we are linked to God.

In God we trust, in whom we hope, He is our life and we live in faith.

Conclusion:

Every human being is in need of redemption!

Romans 3:23, *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

Our natural condition was characterized by sin and guilt.

Romans 3:24, *being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

Christ's redemption has freed us from guilt, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus!

what salvation does?

It brings you to God.

And all your trust is in God and all your hope is in God both in time and eternity. This is redemption.

This is the message.

The benefits of redemption:

- Eternal life (Revelation 5:9-10),
- Forgiveness of sins (Ephesians 1:7),
- Righteousness (Romans 5:17),
- Freedom from the law's curse (Galatians 3:13),
- Adoption into God's family (Galatians 4:5),

- Deliverance from sin's bondage (Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 1:14-18), Peace with God (Colossians 1:18-20), and
- Indwelling of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

When you want to present the Gospel to someone how would present it?

- Talk about sin.
- Talk about substitution.
- Talk about the ransom price paid by Christ as the Lamb who died in our place to satisfy the justice of God.
- Talk about submission.
- Sin,
- Substitution
- Ransom by Christ and
- Submission.

One must come to God submitting by recognizing your sin and embracing Jesus as Lord to receive the gift of salvation. That's the gospel.

