

You Are Made for Redemption

"Made For More" Series- Part 02

Use the next few minutes to connect and fellowship with other members of the group by discussing the following: Can you think of a time when what you paid for something far exceeded its value? What motivated you to pay more? Looking back, how do you feel about your decision today?

Let's get on the same page -

Lehman Strauss, Professor of Old Testament History and Pastor, wrote a great study on the subject of God's atonement for our sins. In this study, he remarked that there are many different aspects to the subject of salvation and are found in such descriptive words as: Substitution, Satisfaction, Propitiation, and Reconciliation. Please note his thoughts from the following quotation:

*"And yet, perhaps no word has been used more to represent the saving work of Christ than the word **redemption**. But we must guard against confining ourselves to this or any other single term lest we restrict the work of the Cross. Redemption means to buy back something that had been temporarily forfeited.*

Dr. L. S. Chafer says, 'Redemption is an act of God by which He himself pays as a ransom the price of human sin which the outraged holiness and government of God requires. Redemption undertakes the solution of the problem of sin, as reconciliation undertakes the solution of the problem of the sinner, and propitiation undertakes the problem of an offended God. All are infinitely important and all are requisite to the analysis of the whole doctrine of Christ's finished work, a work finished to the point of divine perfection'." (Lehman Strauss, The Atonement of Christ, Published June 2004)'

Google and read online the definition of these two words: Reconciliation and propitiation.

What did Dr. Chafer mean when he wrote, "*reconciliation undertakes the solution of the problem of the sinner*"? How about his statement, "*propitiation undertakes the problem of an offended God.*"?

In our study today, we will emphasize the importance of redemption in God's gift of salvation.

Book: EPHESIANS 1:3-8

Eph 1:3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.

Eph 1:4 Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes.

Eph 1:5 God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure.

Eph 1:6 So we praise God for the glorious grace He has poured out on us who belong to His dear Son.

Eph 1:7 He is so rich in kindness and grace that He purchased our freedom with the blood of His Son and forgave our sins.

Eph 1:8 He has showered His kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

Let's get into the Word:

When did God realize that He would have to provide a solution for our sin problem? What does this tell us about God's relationship toward us?

According to verses 3-5, what are the implications concerning God's will and desire for fallen man?

Look at the scripture below and write down the benefit(s) that are connected to the stated source:

Scripture	Source	Benefit(s)
Eph. 1:3	united with Christ	
Eph. 1:4	in Christ	
Eph. 1:5	through Christ	
Eph. 1:6	belong to his dear son	
Eph. 1:7	with the blood of His Son	

Looking at the above list of benefits, is there any way humanly possible to purchase or buy back these lost benefits?

In the New Testament, there are three different words that are translated “redeemed”:

- (1) Agorazo, which means to purchase in the market.
- (2) Exagorazo, which means to purchase out of the market.
- (3) Lutroo, which means to loosen and set free.

The different words could be used to describe the purchase of a servant in the slave market. The “Redeemer” would pay (agorazo) the required market price for the servant, the Redeemer’s payment (exagorazo) takes the servant off the market and he/she is no longer for sale, and then the Redeemer’s purchase price (lutroo) would allow the Redeemer to offer complete freedom and set the servant free.

How can we apply these three words of redemption to our experience of salvation? How has our Savior and Redeemer set us free?

Even though we are set free from some things (taken out of the market place) we are redeemed toward God and His purpose. In the OT laws, the following instructions are given:

“If you buy a Hebrew slave, he may serve for no more than six years. Set him free in the seventh year, and he will owe you nothing for his freedom. If his master gave him a wife while he was a slave and they had sons or daughters, then only the man will be free in the seventh year, but his wife and children will still belong to his master. But the slave may declare, ‘I love my master, my wife, and my children. I don’t want to go free. If he does this, his master must present him before God. Then his master must take him to the door or doorpost and publicly pierce his ear with an awl. After that, the slave will serve his master for life.’” Exodus 21:2-6

What should our response be toward our Redeemer who has set us free?

Discuss the following statement: *God has made each one of us and He made us to redeem us!*

Getting personal (with self)!

How can you celebrate your redemption this week?