

## I. REDEMPTION IN CHRIST

### A. What does redemption mean?

1. Redemption is used in both the Old and New Testaments. In the Old Testament redemption involves deliverance from bondage based on the payment of a price by a Redeemer. One of the Hebrew words used for redemption is “ga’al.” This word “ga’al” is a verb and is a legal term for the deliverance of person, property, or right to which one had a previous claim through family relation or possession. We can see this redemptive story in the book of Ruth.
2. The message of the New Testament is the announcement that Jesus is the fulfillment of Israel's Messianic hope and that “in Him” the long-awaited redemption has arrived. Deliverance of humankind from God has been accomplished through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
3. In order to get a more in-depth picture we would need to take a journey through the Bible to see what it has to say about redemption. I like the way the Message Bible speaks about our need for redemption.

***Romans 5:12 You know the story of how Adam landed us in the dilemma we’re in - first sin, then death, and no one exempt from either sin or death. (Message Bible)***

### B. How did Adam land us in a dilemma?

In order to answer that question, we need to go back to the beginning and see what happened at the fall of Adam and Eve to identify why we needed to be redeemed. We can also get some insight into the fall by unlocking some key scriptures in the book of Romans.

***Romans 3:9 We have already charged that all men, both Jews and Greeks, Gentiles, are under sin held down by and subject to its power and control.***

1. The word under is the Greek word "hupo" which means beneath, inferior position or condition.
2. How did we get in this position, if we had been created in the image of God to have dominion? Something had to bring about this change. Let’s look at some other scriptures in Romans to determine how this happened.

***Romans 7:14 We know that the Law is spiritual; but I am a creature of the flesh carnal, unspiritual, having been sold into slavery under the control of sin.***

3. The word sold is the Greek word "piproasko," which literally means a transfer of property. The Blue Letter Bible defines this Greek word as follows: “to sell for a price, one into slavery of the master to whom one is sold as a slave sold under sin, entirely under the control to give himself up wholly to another’s will.” What happened to cause this transfer of property? To help us understand how we

became slaves let's look at another scripture.

***Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with [Him], that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.***

4. The word "serve" in this scripture is the Greek word "douleuō" meaning to be a slave, serve, do service, to yield to, or to give one's self up to power of another. If we were owned by the Lord, how did we lose our position and become slaves of sin? Adam's sin gave Satan a legal right to rule creation and made man his slave.

***2 Timothy 2:26 and that they may come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.***

5. Now that we have some insight as to how we became slaves to sin, we can clearly see how we needed Jesus to bring us out of this captivity and bondage. The Kenneth Wuest translation unveils this truth in Ephesians 1:7-8.

***He purposed in himself, with respect to an administration of the completion of the epochs of time to bring back again to their original state all things in Christ.***

6. One of the Greek words for redemption is the word "apolutrosis" most assuredly means that Jesus paid the ransom in order to return as to the condition we were in before our captivity began. This means that Jesus paid the price to permanently set us free and to restore us to the full statures of sons.
7. Jesus is our Redeemer who came to seek and save that which was lost. You know what's interesting? If you do a study on the book of Ruth, it tells us that Boaz who was in a position and the next relative in line to be the kinsman redeemer bought the field back that was lost which belonged to Naomi in order to redeem her and Ruth's property. A Kinsman-redeemer is male relative who has the responsibility to help a relative in need or danger.
8. Jesus saw us as the hidden treasure which was lost. Jesus bought the field in order to gain the treasure. (See Matthew 13:44) You are that hidden treasure. You are so valuable to the Father that Jesus left heaven's glory to bring you back to your rightful place in Christ.

## II. VALUE

1. "If you don't understand the value I placed upon your life, you won't be able to understand the value of the people I placed in your life." These are the words that Jesus spoke to my heart.
2. Understanding how valuable you are to the Lord is important. Value on a masterpiece is based on the price paid.
3. In the book of Ephesians Paul begins to identify us as God's Masterpiece and work of art. When God created humanity He saw us through the eyes of Love. We are created in the image of God.

4. The Mirror Bible says:

***Romans 3:2 Everything only finds its relevance and value in the original intention of God realized by faith. What we believe about God does not define Him: God’s faith defines us.***

5. When Jesus redeemed our life, the Bible specifically says that we were reconciled to God through the work of the cross. The word reconciled or reconciliation is the Greek word “katalasso” and it means to exchange as coins for equivalent value. Jesus valued our lives and exchanged His life for ours.

***2 Corinthians 5:18 In Jesus Christ, He God Exchanged equivalent value to redeem us to Himself. (Mirror Bible)***

### III. RIGHTEOUSNESS

#### A. Two types of righteousness

The following is a quotation from “Your Time to Shine” by Rob Rufus. (Page 144)

1. *“There are only two types of righteousness that the New Testament refers to: the gift of Christ’s righteousness and self-righteousness.*
2. *Self-righteousness came about when Eve was deceived with the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil by the cunning craftiness of the serpent.*
3. *Christ’s righteousness is imputed righteousness which is given freely to us. Our standing has nothing to do with our righteous performance or lack of righteous performance. Christ’s righteousness is credited to us, and God sees us as righteous. This is His permanent opinion of us from the time that we are in Christ.”* Quote by Rob Rufus

- B. We have been given the same status and standing that Jesus has before the Father.

***John 16:27 For the Father himself loves you dearly because you love me and believe that I came from God.***

- C. We can see this type of standing when Paul made a comment to the Church of Galatians 1:6 that he was astonished that they were “deserting” the one that called them. It’s interesting to note that the word “deserting” is actually a preposition, denoting a fixed position. So, what Paul was saying is, “How are you changing your position or right standing in the grace of God for a different gospel?”

- D. Righteousness means the condition acceptable before God. Just as you ought to be. It actually reminds me of the word for redemption "apolutrosis," as I previously mentioned, meaning that Jesus paid the price to permanently set us free and to restore us to the full stature of sonship. That’s what our position in Christ is - a permanent standing in the Grace of God.

### IV. RENEWING THE MIND

- A. Once we have a revelation of our “identity, acceptance, and approval,” we need to renew our mind

and begin to acknowledge these key elements as truth, by adding our agreement with God’s word and what He says and thinks about us.

***Romans 1:28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.***

1. The word fit is the Greek word “dokimazo” and it means approved or worthy. So, we can say that they did not see themselves approved of God. When people are not allowed to accept themselves, they resist the will of God.
2. We need to accept our value and worth in God.
3. The Gospel is about the redemption, the reconciliation, and the restoration of the sons and daughters of God. It’s not about us becoming accepted and approved in Father God’s eyes. We were already accepted and approved, because of the finished work and sacrifice of Jesus.

***Acts 17:28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, for we are also his offspring.***

4. All these things point to one conclusion. The free gift of righteousness resets our original blueprint.
5. Everything that was lost in Adam has been regained in Christ.

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*Note: All Biblical references in this teaching are from NAS – New American Standard bible, unless otherwise stated.*