

The Redemption of the Church

(Part 2 – The Redemptive Work of Jesus)

Text: Ephesians 1:7-10

Main Idea: The redemption of the Church was accomplished by the blood of Jesus resulting in abundant forgiveness of all our sins.

1. **The Meaning of Redemption:** “Christ’s saving work viewed as an act of ‘buying back’ sinners out of their bondage to sin and to Satan through the payment of a **ransom**.” (Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, pg 1253)
 - Every human being is born & **enslaved** in sin, under total spiritual bondage not free! (Rom 5, Jn 8:34, Rom 7:14, 8:21)
 - Jesus paid the price or ransom NOT to Satan but rather to God to free us from both the **penalty** & **power** of sin. (Matt 20:28, Rom 6:18, Gal 1:3-4, 3:13, 5:1, Col 1:13-14)

2. **The Redeemer of the Redemption:** Jesus Christ, the Beloved, is the **only** redeemer.
 - Only Jesus could provide the **perfect** sacrifice through His perfect life. (1 Pet 2:22, 2 Cor 5:21, Heb 4:15, Lk 1:35)
 - Only Jesus could be the **substitute** for us. (2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Is 53:5)

3. **The Recipients of the Redemption:** Only the **Church** is the redeemed. (v. 13)
 - Jesus **actually** saves not potentially saves sinners. (Rom 3:24-25, 5:8-9)
 - Jesus died to fulfill the eternal **covenant** that was made in eternity past. (Jn 6:35-40, 10:11, 14-18, 24-29, 17:1-11, 20, 24-26)

How did Jesus die for “all” and yet for a particular people?

Some passages speak of Christ dying for “all” men and of His death as saving the “world” yet others speak of His death as being definite in design and his dying for a particular people and securing salvation for them.

- 1) There are 2 classes of texts that speak of Christ's saving work in **general terms**: a) those containing the word '**world**' (Jn 1:9, 29, 3:16-17, 4:42, 2 Cor 5:19, 1 Jn 2:1-2, 4:14, and b) those containing the word '**all**' (Rom 5:18, 2 Cor 5:14-15, 1 Tim 2:4-6, Heb 2:9, 2 Peter 3:9). These words are used by the Apostles to correct the false notion that salvation was for the Jews alone. Such phrases as 'the world,' 'all men,' 'all nations' and 'every creature' were used by NT writers to emphatically correct this mistake. These expressions are intended to show that Christ died for all men **without distinction** (i.e. he died for Jews and Gentiles alike) but they are not intended to indicate that Christ died for all men **without exception** (i.e. He did not die for the purpose of saving each and every lost sinner).

- 2) There are other passages which speak of His saving work in **definite terms** to show that it was intended to infallibly save a particular people, namely those given to Him by His father. (Matt 1:21, 20:28, 26:28, Jn 10:11, 11:50-53, Acts 20:28, Eph 5:25-27, Rom 8:32-34, Heb 2:17, 3:1, 9:15, 28)

Source: The Five Points of Calvinism by Steel, Thomas, & Quinn, Page 49-51.

4. **The Price of the Redemption:** Jesus died and gave His **blood** as a payment. (Heb 9:12-14, 10:10, Matt 26:28, 1 Pet 1:18-19, Rom 3:24-25)

5. **The Results of the Redemption:** We have complete **forgiveness** of our trespasses according to the riches of His grace which He lavished upon us to make known to us the mystery of His will. (v. 7b-9b, Acts 13:38-39, Ps 103:12, Mic 7:18-19, Jn 13:10)

6. **The Reason for the Redemption:** God's purpose in doing all of this is to **unite** everything to Christ during the millennial kingdom and in the eternal state, in the fulness of time. (v. 10)