REDEMPTION: Your Debt is Paid in Full

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I. Redemption defined

A. Webster's 1828 Dictionary

—Repurchase of captured goods or prisoners; the act of procuring the deliverance of persons or things from the possession and power of captors by the payment of an equivalent; ransom...

B. Key words in the definition

1. Repurchase of prisoners

Lev 25:47 And if a sojourner or stranger wax rich by thee, and thy brother *that dwelleth* by him wax poor, and sell himself unto the stranger *or* sojourner by thee, or to the stock of the stranger's family:

Lev 25:48 After that he is sold he may be redeemed again; one of his brethren may redeem him:

2. Deliverance from captors

Isa 49:24 Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?

Isa 49:25 But thus saith the LORD, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.

3. Payment

Isa 52:3 ... Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed without money

1Pe 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold...

1Pe 1:19 But with the precious blood of Christ...

4. Ranson

Mat 20:28 Even as the Son of man came...to give his life a ransom for many.

II. Old Testament thoughts on redemption

A. Something had to die—Either the unclean ass—Or the clean lamb in its place

Exo 34:20 But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem *him* not, then shalt thou break his neck...

B. The same one who marks the debt—pays the debt

Psa 130:3 If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

Psa 130:4 But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

Psa 130:5 I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.

Psa 130:6 My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

Psa 130:7 Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption.

Psa 130:8 And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

C. Many near-kinsmen would say that the cost of redemption is too high to pay

Rth 4:6 And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem *it* for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem *it*.

D. Yet Boaz (the kinsman-redeemer picture of Christ) was willing to pay for his bride

Rth 4:9 And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people, Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all...

Rth 4:10 Moreover Ruth...have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off...

E. The Year of Jubile marked the time of automatic redemption

Lev 25:10 And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout *all* the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

Lev 25:11 A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: ye shall not sow, neither reap...

F. Double comfort—We are discharged and sin is forgiven—For God has paid double

Isa 40:1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

Isa 40:2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

G. A call for the redeemed to praise the LORD

Psa 107:2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so..

III. Thoughts on the eternal redemption of God's children

A. Redemption involves a debt that needs to be forgiven

Mat 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Mat 18:24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

Mat 18:25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

Mat 18:26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

Mat 18:27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

B. God is gracious to forgive us our debts

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

C. Yet, to be a righteous judge, God cannot just ignore the debt—It must be paid

Job 34:12 ...God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment.

1. And no man has enough to pay the debt

Psa 49:7 None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:

2. A huge theological question—How can the Holy God be just in justifying sinners?

Job 25:4 How then can man be justified with God? ...

Job 9:2 I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God?

a. To justify is to legally declare a man to be righteous and innocent

b. It is right to declare a man righteous and innocent—Only if he is

c. So, how can God be right—If He justifies a guilty sinner who should be condemned?

3. Before God can justify—The sinner must be just—But how can a sinner be just?

Rom 3:25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation (*satisfaction*) through faith (*reliance upon Christ for salvation-Strongs*) in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Rom 3:26 To declare, *I say*, at this time (*even for those who live now*) his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

D. All of salvation hinges on the truth—'Jesus paid it all'-Even all we owed to God

Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

IV. 'PAID IN FULL' - Think of what Christ accomplished for His people on the cross

A. Christ was our redemption (paid our debt—bought us back)

Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

B. Christ removed our sins and cleansed us (purified us in the sight of God)

Rev 1:5 ... Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

C. Christ was our substitution (suffered God's wrath because of our sins in our place)

Isa 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

D. Christ caused God to be reconciled to us (made God to be at peace with us)

2Co 5:18 ...God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ...

E. Christ was our remission (remission is the removal of the consequences of sin)

Mat 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

F. Christ brought forgiveness (forgiveness and remission are from the same Gk. word)

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins...

G. Christ made us have the righteousness God

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

H. Christ perfected all God's children forever

Heb 10:14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

I. Christ satisfied God

Isa 53:11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied...

J. Christ secured God's legal verdict of eternal justification for each of His children

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

K. Christ was—is—and forever shall be our salvation

Mat 1:21 ...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace...

V. 'PAID IN FULL' - Each and every person Jesus died for must end up in heaven

A. IfJesus:

Redeemed—Reconciled—Made accepted—Each and every one He died for Cleansed—Made righteous—Perfected—Each and every one He died for Brought remission for—And forgiveness to—Each and every one He died for Took the punishment for—And satisfied God in behalf of—Each one He died for

- —Then there is nothing to keep God from justifying each one Jesus died for
- -And there is nothing that can keep any person Jesus died for out of heaven
- B. The Bible fully proclaims—And I fully believe and preach—'PAID IN FULL'