

**“What it Means to be Reformed”; Session # 44 –“For Whom Did Christ Die?”**  
**Prepared for the Adult Sunday School Class on June 28th, 2015,**  
**by Pastor Paul Rendall.**

**3. The Offer of Salvation is general; the actual application of saving grace by God is Particular.**

Titus 2: 11-15 – “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.”

Notice in these verses that the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men in a general sense in the gospel of Jesus Christ; but when God applies Christ’s redemption to an individual soul, it actually teaches that person to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. This comes about because Jesus Christ our Lord gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us (those who believe, God’s elect) from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people. (Again, the elect of God), which again shows a particular redemption.

**Therefore, when Christ is spoken of in the Scriptures as redeeming sinners, bearing their sins, it is spoken of in terms of many people, but not all men. The sins which are actually born by Christ are the elect of God in particular.**

**a. Christ bears the sins of “many” –**

Isaiah 53: 12 – “Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”

Hebrews 9: 27 and 28 – “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many.” “To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.”

It is appointed for all men to die once, but Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many of that greater group of all men.

**b. Christ died, a ransom for “all” –**

2nd Corinthians 5: 14 – “For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”

Notice the “all” that Christ died for is not all and every man but the all who died with Him spiritually when He died on the cross. Therefore, when they are savingly brought to salvation the application of redemption is made to them in particular. All that Christ died for, have died to sin. This cannot be said of all men in general.

1st Timothy 2: 3-6 – “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.”

In verse 4 it should be obvious by a plain reading that God has a “will of desire” that is not His Decretive Will, or His most certain, fixed, and unchangeable will in His Divine Decrees. That will is unchangeable even as He is unchangeable in His purposes. This will of desire is found in the gospel of Jesus Christ; that all men would repent and be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. This is why we can pray for all kinds of men, for them to come to know the Lord.

In verse 6 Paul says that Christ gave Himself a ransom for “all”, which means the “all” of the elect. Their being God’s elect is testified to each believer when they come to saving faith in Him. They receive the Holy Spirit upon believing in Christ and know the Lord experientially for themselves. This they are willing to testify and declare with their own mouth; that He is their Lord and their life, which has been changed by Christ’s grace, is a further testimony. It will be further testified concerning them, at the time of the last judgment by God Himself, that Christ did die for them in particular.

**4. Redemption of individual men is too costly a thing for a man to purchase with money. God must be given a ransom, a purchase price of the precious blood of Christ, in order for sinful souls and bodies to be redeemed.**

Psalm 49: 5-13 – “Why should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity at my heels surrounds me?” “Those who trust in their wealth and boast in the multitude of their riches, none of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him – For the redemption of their souls is costly, and it shall cease forever—that he should continue to live eternally, and not see the Pit.” “For he sees wise men die; likewise the fool and the senseless person perish, and leave their wealth to others.” “Their inner thought is that their houses will last forever, their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.” “Nevertheless man, though in honor, does not remain; he is like the beasts that perish.” “This is the way of the foolish, and of their posterity who approve their sayings.” Selah “Like sheep they are laid in the grave and death shall feed on them; the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.” “But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, for He shall receive me.” Selah.