

Intro: Thomas Watson said, Great was the work of creation, but greater the work of redemption; it cost more to redeem us than to make us.

VII. The Wonder of Redemption

A. From What Did God Redeem Us - vs 18b

1. Redemption

a. describes the essential features of salvation

i. deals specifically with the cost and the means of salvation

ii. Since all are lost and slaves to sin,

- in order to be forgiven and reconciled to God

- He had to purchase them back from their condition

- only then can they be release from sin's bondage and curse

b. *lutroo* - to ransom (literally or figuratively)--redeem.

i. key word of the passage

ii. Greek understanding would be buying back a prisoner of war

iii. Peter' use deals more with OT thinking - **Ex 12:1-13**

- the lamb's life was the price required

- the Passover become the symbol of substitutionary redemption - 1

Co 5:7b For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

- God mandated the annual celebration of Passover as a constant

reminder - Deut. 16:2-3, 5-7

2. Four features of unredeemed man' bondage

a. the former lusts - vs 14 - *epithumia* - compelling driving passions, usually for what is evil

i. The road to slavery - idolatry

- starts as desire - I want

- becomes a demand - I must have

- transforms to a need - I will do what is necessary

- becomes an expectation of God (entitlement) - You should...

- expectation leads to disappointment - You didn't.....

- disappointment leads to anger - b/c You didn't, I will . . .

ii. Imagination - sheds additional light on lust

- Comparing two versions

- KJV - Ge 6:5b every imagination of the thoughts of his heart

- NKJV - and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart

- clearly refers to the mind - Jas 1:13, OT - heart - Jer 3:17

b. Ignorance - vs 14- an absence of spiritual understanding - Jo 8:43-44

i. Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: - Eph 4:18

ii. Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. - 1Ti 1:13

c. aimless conduct - vs 18

i. *mataios* - empty, profitless, an idol, vain, vanity.

ii. Pointless from eternities perspective

d. received by tradition from your fathers - vs 18

i. religious traditions as followed by the Pharisees and their followers

ii. Jesus' harsh rebuke of them in Mt 15:7-9 shows the problem with

traditional religion "Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'"

B. With What Did God Redeem Us - vs 18a, 19

1. knowing that
 - a. an elemental truth of the Gospel - Jesus' death and resurrection - Ps 49:7-8
 - b. you were not redeemed with corruptible things,
 - c. corruptible things, like silver or gold,
 - i. an earthly commodity
 - ii. Peter may be recalling of ransom money required by God for numbering males of military age - Ex 30:11-16
 - numbering the people was sin - considered a lack of trust
 - when God required it, He required a purification ceremony
2. but with the precious blood of Christ,
 - a. blood - a vivid synonym for sacrificial death
 - i. is not necessarily talking of the fluid in His body
 - Speaks of the whole of His redemptive death
 - blood is the chief term used in the NT to refer to atonement
 - ii. Blood sealed the new covenant - Heb 9:1-18
 - without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness - Heb 9:22
 - the sacrifices of the OT bled to death, b/c the life was in the blood - Le 17:11
 - iii. Though His blood was violently shed in the crucifixion
 - the meaning of the crucifixion is not fully expressed in the bloodshed alone - physical death doesn't pay the wage of sin - Ro 5:8-9
 - if bloodshed was all that was necessary, why not just donate a pint
 - b. precious - b/c it belonged to the lamb "of God"
 - c. the animals sacrifices of the OT
 - i. They showed the deadly effects of sin
 - ii. They pictured the coming one who would substitute Himself for us - Heb 10:1-10
 - d. without blemish and without spot - the testimony of Christ's sinlessness which was necessary for the doctrine of the imputed righteousness of Christ
 - i. Imputation speaks of a legal reckoning
 - ii. Our guilt and sin was imputed to Christ - 2 Co 5:21
 - iii. His righteousness was imputed to us - Gen 15:6; Ro 4:22-24; 2 Co 5:21
 - e. the creditor is the one who determines the price of redemption
 - i. all sin is against God
 - ii. He set the price, and only His Son could pay it b/c He was the only sinless One

C. By Whom Did God Redeem Us - vs 20 a, 21b

1. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world,
 - a. Is unique b/c
 - i. *proginosko* - to know beforehand, foresee:--foreknow (ordain), know (before).
 - ii. lit. having been foreknown
 - b. clearly indicates God planned to send the Son as the incarnate redeemer
 - i. God did not react to the fall with a last minute fix

ii. Ac 2:23; 4:27-28; 2 Tim 1:9; Rev 13:8

2. but was manifest in these last times

a. *phaneroo* - to render apparent (literally or figuratively):--appear, manifestly declare, (make) manifest (forth), shew (self).

i. Is unique b/c of His incarnation

ii. Aorist passive - denotes historical event

iii. Phil 2:6-8; Jo 1:14; 14:8-9; Ga 4:4

b. in these last times

i. refers to the entire period between His 1st and 2nd comings

ii. Synonym for last days - 2 Tim 3:1; Heb 1:2; Jas 5:3; 2 Pe 3:3 and last hour - 1 Jo 2:18

3. who raised Him from the dead

a. Is unique b/c of His resurrection which proves that His sacrifice was accepted by God and had accomplished the work of redemption - Ro 6:23

b. I also proves His person - Ro 1:4

4. and gave Him glory,

a. Is unique b/c God showed His ultimate affirmation

b. Refers to Christ's ascension and being seating at the right hand of God - Mk 16:19; Lk 24:50-51; Ac 1:9-11

c. The writer of Hebrews calls this a reward - Heb 2:9

d. Phil 2:9-11 assigns Him with Lordship over all

D. For What Did God Redeem Us - vs 20b, 21a, c

1. for you

a. who through Him

i. redemption is only through Him - Act 3:16; 4:12; Jo 3:36; 10:7,9; 1 Co 1:4; 1 Tim 2:5; 1 Jo 5:11-12; 2 Jo 9-11

ii. No other way - Jo 14:6

iii. Not only indicating the way, but the power for the next statement

b. believe in God

i. everyone knows there is a God - Ro 1:19-21

ii. Obedience to the Gospel is where true belief begins - 4:17; Jo 3:18-21; Ro 1:16; 2:8; 2 Th 1:8

2. so that

a. your faith and hope

i. faith enables believers to trust in God for grace needed for present circumstances

ii. Hope enables believers to trust in God for future grace to be revealed for them in glory

b. are in God