<u>Intro.</u>

God's grace & peace with God.

Redemption.

► Specifically, ~ what we're talking about is the fact that ~ 77

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ all who ~ have openly declared that Jesus is Lord ~ 77

→ →and believe in their heart that God raised him from the dead ~ have redemption.

Celebrate God's grace & peace with him.

► We've been redeemed.

And of course, ~ redemption ~ fits right in ~ with the cross of Jesus.

▶ Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.

Focus On Eph. 1:7-8a.

Context.

Eph. 1:7-8a.

 $\triangleright \triangleright^7$ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us. 1/9

Outline.

▶ 7b, ~ Paul states that ~ we have redemption. $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow$ Main point.

►► And Paul adds 4 pts concerning our having redemption.

 $\triangleright \triangleright 1^{st}$, ~ in Jesus.

 $\triangleright \triangleright 2^{nd}$, ~ through Jesus' blood.

 $\triangleright \triangleright 3^{rd}$, ~ included in our redemption was ~ the forgiveness of sins.

 $>>4^{th}$, ~ our redemption is ~ according to the riches of God's grace which he lavished upon us.

1st, ~ let's look at the fact that we have redemption.

The Greek word for ~ redemption ~ was used to refer ~ to the freeing of slaves ~ through the payment of a price,

▶▶I.e., ~ by paying whatever was required to free the individual from slavery.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ Believers have been redeemed, ~ we have been freed from slavery, ~ 77

→ → because the requirement to free us was met.

 $\rightarrow \rightarrow$ More on this in a little bit.

▶ The question arises then, ~ to <u>what</u> ~ were we enslaved? 2/9

► Well, ~ according to Scripture, ~ before God redeemed us, ~ we were enslaved in at least 3 ways.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ To sin, ~ our sinful flesh, ~ Satan.

>>In Rom. 6: ~ 17 & 20, ~ Paul tells us that before God saved us we were slaves of sin.

▷▷In Titus 3: ~ 3a (LEB), ~ Paul writes of our former, ~ unsaved condition, ~ 77

→→For we also were once foolish, disobedient, ~ led astray, ~ enslaved to various desires and pleasures.

 $\rightarrow \rightarrow$ I.e., ~ sinful desires and pleasures.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ In 2 Tim. 2: ~ 26, ~ Paul says that before we were redeemed, ~ 77

→ → we had been captured by [Satan] to do his will.

▶▶And from this slavery, ~ Paul says in Eph. 1:7, ~ believers in Jesus have been redeemed.

 $\triangleright \triangleright \mathsf{God}$ has liberated us from this slavery to sin, ~ to our sinful flesh, ~ and to Satan.

▶▶But, ~ God did not just liberate us from slavery ~ and then leave us on our own.

▷▷Paul explains in Col. 1:13 (LEB).

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ In verse 13a, ~ he tells us that God has rescued us ~ [i.e., ~ believers] ~ from the domain of darkness.

 \rightarrow Here Paul is referring to our redemption. 3/9

 \rightarrow \rightarrow When we were enslaved to sin, ~ our sinful flesh, ~ and to Satan, ~ 77

 $\rightarrow \rightarrow$ we existed in ~ and were ruled by ~ the domain of darkness.

 \rightarrow \rightarrow And from this domain ~ God redeemed us.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ Then in verse 13b, ~ Paul points out ~ that God went further.

 \rightarrow \rightarrow He did not leave us on our own.

 \rightarrow Paul continues, ~ God transferred us ~ to the kingdom of the Son he loves.

We should mention here ~ that the form of the verb that Paul uses for "we have," ~ 77

>> when he says, ~ we have redemption, ~ means ~ that our redemption is an ongoing state.

▶▶IOW, ~ genuine believers ~ will always have redemption, ~ will always live in Jesus' kingdom.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ There is no expiration date on our freedom from our slavery to sin, ~ to our sinful flesh, ~ and to Satan.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ There is no expiration date for our being in the Kingdom of Jesus.

►►And there's more.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ There's no expiration date on Jesus' kingdom.

⇒⇒Dan. 7:13-14. 4/9

 1^{st} , ~ We have redemption in him.

 \blacktriangleright I.e., ~ in Jesus.

► Here Paul is identifying ~ exactly who achieved our redemption for us.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ Jesus, ~ and Jesus alone.

Scripture clear.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

>>1 Tim., ~ Jesus ~ gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ In Titus, ~ Jesus ~ gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ Jesus ~ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ And Peter, ~ There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.

► Therefore, ~ as Paul wrote, ~ Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord. 5/9

The 2nd point that Paul adds concerning our redemption.

▶ We have redemption through his ~ [i.e., ~ Jesus'] ~ blood.

► Jesus achieved our redemption.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ And shedding his blood was how ~ he achieved our redemption.

►► As said earlier, ~ the Greek word for "redemption" ~ was used for freeing a slave ~ 77

DDby doing whatever was required to free the individual.

► Heb. 9:22b (<u>LEB</u>) tells us, ~ and apart from the shedding of blood ~ there <u>is</u> no forgiveness.

► Lev. 17:11 (NIV).

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ For the life of a creature is in the blood, ~ and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; ~~ it is the <u>blood</u> that makes atonement for one's life.

▶▶So the price required to obtain our redemption was blood, ~ but not just any blood.

▷▷In 1 Pet. 1:18.

→→Knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, ~ not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ~ but with the precious blood of Christ, ~ like that of a lamb without blemish or spot."

 \triangleright The description of Jesus as ~ a lamb without blemish or spot ~ alludes to the ~ requirements for the Passover lamb. 6/9

→→The Israelites who left Egypt ~ had been saved from the angel of death ~ 77

 \rightarrow \rightarrow because of the blood ~~ of an unblemished and spotless lamb.

 $\triangleright \triangleright \mathsf{Likewise}$, ~ our redemption could only be secured by the blood of a 100% pure and sinless person.

 \rightarrowtail This is what was required to free us from slavery to sin, ~ to our sinful flesh, ~ and to Satan.

→ And because Jesus was 100% pure and sinless, ~ His precious blood ~ 77

is the that of a lamb without blemish or spot, ~ met the required cost of our redemption.

⊳⊳Heb. 9:11-12 (LEB).

 \Rightarrow But Christ has arrived as a high priest of the good things to come. ~~ Through the greater and more perfect tent not made by hands, ~ that is, ~ not of this creation ~ [referring to more perfect Tabernacle in heaven], ~ 77

 \rightarrow and not by the blood of goats and calves, ~ but by his own blood, ~ he entered once for all into the most holy place, ~ obtaining eternal redemption.

▶▶Jesus did what was required to free us from slavery to sin, ~ to our sinful flesh, ~ and to Satan.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ He shed His own blood.

→→As the song says: ~ Till on that cross as Jesus died, ~ The wrath of God was satisfied; ~~ For every sin on Him was laid — Here in the death of Christ I live. 7/9

The 3rd point that Paul adds in verse 7 concerning our redemption.

► We have the forgiveness of sins.

▶▶I.e., ~ included with God ~ rescuing us from the domain of darkness ~ 77

Dand transferring us to the kingdom of his beloved Son ~ is the forgiveness of our sins.

▶ The term ~ forgiveness ~ means ~ to release ~ or ~ to cancel.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ It thus denotes a permanent release from the punishment for sins, ~ 77

→ →which have been paid for by Christ's sacrifice.

 $\triangleright \triangleright \mathsf{God}$ no longer holds the sins against us.

▶ Paul also points this out in Rom. 8:1.

>> There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ The point Paul is making here ~ is that ~ condemnation <u>is</u>, ~ in <u>every</u> sense, ~ 77

→ →out of the question ~ for those who truly belong ~ to Christ Jesus.

▶ What Paul says about our forgiveness ~ is beautifully illustrated in Ps. 103:12 (NASB).

 $\triangleright \triangleright As$ far as the east is from the west, ~ So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 8/9

And The 4th point that Paul adds in verse 7 concerning our redemption.

► Our redemption is ~ according to the riches of his ~ [i.e., ~ God's] ~ grace.

▶ Paul clearly points out that God's grace is the reason for our redemption and forgiveness.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ The blessings of redemption ~ result from the abundance of God's grace.

 \Rightarrow \Rightarrow I.e., ~ our redemption ~ is a free and undeserved gift.

▶ Then Paul adds that God caused His grace to abound to us.

>> The Greek word for ~ abound ~ means ~ more than enough, ~ to provide in abundance, ~ to cause to overflow.

 $\triangleright \triangleright \mathsf{God}$ is infinitely rich in grace. $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \mathsf{But} \mathsf{He}$ is not stingy with it. $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \mathsf{Not} \mathsf{like}$ some cosmic Scrooge.

>>God does not give His grace to us in limited measure, ~ carefully weighed out.

→→He causes His grace to overflow, ~ to super-abound to us.

 $\triangleright \triangleright$ And his grace ~ can never be exhausted. ~~ And he is extremely generous.

→→Therefore, ~ we receive and enjoy His grace in superabundance, ~ in overflowing measure.

 \rightarrow "Marvelous, ~ infinite, ~ matchless grace, ~ 77

 \rightarrow \rightarrow freely bestowed on all who believe. 9/9