

INTRODUCTION.

CURRENTLY IN OUR STUDY OF COLOSSIANS, ~ ¶¶

▶▶we have been making our way through four reasons to joyfully and continually ~ give thanks to God the Father.

TODAY, ~ WE'LL LOOK AT THE FINAL TWO.

▶▶3rd, ~ for redemption ~ and 4th, ~ for forgiveness of sins.

NOW, ~ RIGHT AT THE BEGINNING, ~ WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT ~ ¶¶

▶▶as in the case of our rescue from the domain of darkness and transfer to Jesus' kingdom, ~ ¶¶

↪↪the forgiveness of our sins was simultaneous with our redemption.

▶▶We were redeemed, ~ and at the same time ~ our sins were forgiven.

OK, ~ THE FINAL TWO REASONS FOR ~ JOYFULLY AND CONTINUALLY ~ GIVING thanks to the Father.

COLOSSIANS, ~ CHAPTER 1, ~ VERSE 14. (Lit. Trans.)

▶▶We have redemption and the forgiveness of sins.

▷▷My . . . , ~ ¶¶

↪↪how could we not ~ joyfully and continually ~ give thanks to the Father. ¶¶ 1/13

THERE IS A PARALLEL PASSAGE ~ IN WHICH Paul covers this in a little more detail.

EPH., ~ 1: ~ 7-8a.

▶▶ Just a quick side note here. ~~ A careful reading of both Ephesians and Colossians ~ 77

▷▷ will show that many passages in the two epistles are parallel.

▷▷ Most likely ~ this arises from Paul dealing with several common subjects at the same time. ⇔⇔ Prison epistles

OK, ~ EPH. ~ 1: ~ 7-8a, ~ IS A PARALLEL PASSAGE TO COL. 1:14, ~ which gives more details.

▶▶ And because of this fuller treatment, ~ we're going to camp out there for today, ~ in order ~ to get a fuller picture of this.

▶▶ Lit. Trans., ~ in whom ~ [i.e., in Jesus] ~ we have redemption through his blood, ~ the forgiveness of sins. ~ according to the riches of his grace, ~ that he caused to abound to us.

▶▶ The idea here is this. ~~ because of what Jesus has done, ~ namely ~ his sacrifice on the cross

WE HAVE REDEMPTION, ~ PAUL SAYS.

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.

▶▶ Believers have been redeemed, ~ we have been freed from slavery, ~~ because the required payment to free us was met. 11 2/13

SEVERAL PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE ~ POINT OUT ~ OUR NEED FOR REDEMPTION ~ AND what we were enslaved to ~ when we were unsaved.

▶▶E.g., ~ in Rom. ~ 6 ~ twice Paul tells us ~ that before God saved us ~ we "were slaves of sin."

▶▶In Rom. ~ Paul, ~ referring to himself, ~ but applying to all of us, ~ points to the fact that ~ in our unsaved state, ~ ¶¶

▷▷all of us ~ were "sold into slavery to sin."

▶▶And in In Titus ~ 3: ~ 3a, ~ Paul writes of our former, ~ unsaved condition.

▷▷For we ourselves were once foolish, ~ disobedient, ~ led astray, ~ slaves to various passions and pleasures ~ [i.e., ~ sinful desires and pleasures].

BEFORE WE WERE SAVED, ~ WE WERE ~ HOPELESSLY AND HELPLESSLY enslaved ~ to sin.

▶▶So, ~ we were in need of redemption, ~ but could not redeem ourselves.

▶▶We needed someone to pay the required price to set us free.

▷▷We needed a redeemer. ~~ A redeemer ~ is one who provides such release.

↪↪One who pays the required price to set another free.

▶▶And our redeemer is Jesus. ~~ He paid the required price to effect our release.

▷▷Believers in Jesus have been redeemed.

WE'LL TALK ABOUT THE REQUIRED PRICE OF OUR REDEMPTION IN A LITTLE BIT.

BEFORE THAT, ~ WE NEED TO SPEND SOME TIME LOOKING AT TWO THINGS. ¶¶ 3/13

FIRST, ~ I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE PHRASE, ~ "WE HAVE" ~ IN Paul's statement, ~ "we have redemption."

▶▶ The form of the verb that Paul uses for "we have," ~ in both Eph. 1:7 and Col. 1:14, ~ ¶¶

▷▷ means ~ that our redemption ~ is an ongoing and permanent state.

▶▶ IOW, ~ we will always have redemption.

▷▷ There is no expiration date on our freedom from sin.

↪↪ We can never be enslaved to sin again.

▶▶ And this points to the fact ~ that the genuine child of God ~ is eternally secure ~ in his or her salvation.

NOW, ~ DOES THIS MEAN THAT WE WILL BE SINLESS IN THIS LIFE? ~~ Emph. No!!

▶▶ As long as we are in our fleshly bodies, ~ we will never achieve perfection.

▷▷ We will never be sinless in this life.

↪↪ Unfortunately, ~ sinning is inevitable for sinners, ~ even for forgiven sinners.

▶▶ The apostle John points this out ~ in his first epistle.

▷▷ In chapter 1: ~ 9, ~ he implies that we will still sin ~ when he says, ~ ¶¶

↪↪ "If we confess our sins, ~ he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins ~ and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

▶▶ And in 2:1, ~ John writes, ~~ "My little children, ~ I am writing these things to you ~ so that you may not sin. ~~ ¶¶

▷▷ But if anyone does sin, ~ we have an advocate with the Father, ~ Jesus Christ the righteous." ¶¶ 4/13

▷▷ John does not want us to sin. ~ He wants us to do our best to not sin.

▷▷ But, ~ the obvious implication ~ is that it's possible for us to, ~ and indeed likely ~ that we will sin.

▷▷ Why else would he say, ~ "I am writing these things to you ~ so that you may not sin"?

▷▷ And the fact that we need ~ and have ~ "an advocate with the Father," ~ ¶¶

↳ i.e., ~ one who speaks to the Father on our behalf, ~ points out ~ ¶¶

→→ that while we are still in the flesh, ~ we will sin.

▶▶ In this life, ~ believers ~ will never be sinless.

▷▷ But ~ in this life, ~ the genuine child of God ~ will sin ~ less and less.

THE SECOND THING WE NEED TO LOOK AT ~ BEFORE DISCUSSING THE REQUIRED price for our redemption ~ is ~ ¶¶

▶▶ the practical application of our redemption to our lives.

▶▶ We have been redeemed from slavery to sin, ~ Paul says.

▶▶ Jesus paid the required price to effect our release from this slavery.

▶▶ This is a great truth.

▶▶ And Scripture makes it abundantly clear ~ that our being set free from enslavement to sin ~ ¶¶

▷▷ is to have an impact ~ on our daily behavior. ¶¶ 5/13

▶▶ There is a clear pattern in the NT.

▷▷ Believers have been redeemed, ~ saved, ~ forgiven. ~~ Therefore, ~ live accordingly.

▶▶ E.g., ~ we see the patten in [1 Cor. ~ 6: ~ 20](#).

▷▷ Referring to our redemption, ~ Paul writes, ~ "for you were bought with a price."

▷▷ Then he says what the impact should be on our lives: ~~ "So glorify God in your body."

▷▷ Notice, ~ our redemption involved a change of ownership.

↳↳ Jesus purchased us from the slave market of sin.

▷▷ We went from one master to another.

↳↳ Therefore, ~ we belong to Jesus, ~ not to ourselves.

▷▷ I don't know about you, ~ but I would much rather be a slave to Jesus ~ than a slave to sin.

↳↳ I mean, ~ if this is slavery, ~ give me more.

▷▷ Jesus bought us. ~~ And the impact on our lives?

↳↳ To do ~ to and with our bodies ~ only ~ what is glorifying to God.

▶▶ We also see the pattern in [Titus ~ 2: ~ 11-12](#).

▷▷ In [verse 11](#), ~ Paul writes, ~ [For the grace of God has appeared, ~ bringing salvation for all people.](#)

↳↳ I.e., ~ making salvation available to all people. **↴↴ 6/13**

▷▷ Then Paul follows in [verse 12](#) ~ with what the practical impact is to be ~ ¶¶

↳↳ on the lives of those who accept God's free gift of salvation.

→→ training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, ~ and to live self-controlled, ~ upright, ~ and godly lives in the present age.

▶▶ And we see the pattern in [Rom. ~ 6: ~ 14-15](#).

▷▷ In [verse 14](#), ~ Paul shares this great truth with us.

↳↳ "For sin will have no dominion over you, ~ since you are not under law but under grace."

↳↳ The point is ~ sin ~ is no longer our master, ~ because we no longer live under the requirements of the law.

↳↳ Instead, ~ we now live under the freedom of God's amazing grace. ~ Redeemed.

▷▷ But before anyone can draw the erroneous conclusion ~ ¶¶

↳↳ that there is the possibility that we can then sin up a storm, ~ ¶¶

→→ Paul hits us with [verse 15](#).

▷▷ What then? ~ Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? ~ By no means!

↳↳ "By no means" is emphatic. ~ We could read the verse this way.

↳↳ What then. ~ Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? ~ ¶¶

→→ You should never conclude such a thing! ~ ¶¶

↳↳ God forbid that you should think this! ~ No way! ¶¶ 7/13

▶▶ Through Jesus, ~ we have redemption. ~~ The great truth.

▶▶ And then we have the practical side of this great truth.

▷▷ We are to live ~ the way people freed from enslavement to sin ~ are supposed to live.

NOW LET'S TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE SPECIFIC PRICE OF OUR REDEMPTION.

IN JESUS ~ WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD.

▶▶ As said earlier, ~ the Greek word for "redemption" ~ was used for freeing a slave ~~ by doing ~ whatever was required ~ to free the individual.

▶▶ Lev. ~ 17: ~ 11 ~ NIV ~ says, ~ "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 blood 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: ~ 18-19, ~ Peter writes, ~ 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."

▶▶ The description of Jesus as ~ "a lamb without blemish or spot" ~ alludes ~ to the requirements for the Passover lamb.

▷▷ The Israelites who left Egypt ~ had been saved from the angel of death ~ because of the blood of an unblemished and spotless lamb.

▶▶ Likewise, ~ our redemption could only be secured ~ by the blood ~ of a 100% pure and sinless person. **⇓⇓ 8/13**

THIS ~ IS WHAT WAS REQUIRED ~ TO FREE US FROM SLAVERY TO SIN.

▶▶ And because Jesus was 100% pure and sinless, ~ ¶¶

▷▷ His "precious blood . . . like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb," ~ met the required cost of our redemption.

▶▶ Heb. ~ 9: ~ 11-12 shows us this.

▷▷ But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, ~ then through the greater and more perfect tent ~ (not made with hands, ~ that is, ~ not of this creation) ~ he entered once for all into the holy places, ~ not by means of the blood of goats and calves ~ but by means of his own blood, ~ thus securing an eternal redemption.

NEXT IN EPH. ~ 1: ~ 7-8a, ~ PAUL SAYS, ~ "WE HAVE THE FORGIVENESS OF sins."

AS WE NOTED AT THE BEGINNING, ~ THE FORGIVENESS OF OUR sins ~ was simultaneous ~ with our redemption.

▶▶ When Jesus shed his blood for us on the cross, ~ not only did he redeem us, ~ our sins were forgiven as well.

▶▶ The shedding of blood was also required to achieve forgiveness of our sins, ~ as well as for our redemption.

▷▷ Heb. ~ 9: ~ 22b. ~ without the shedding of blood ~ there is no forgiveness of sins.

THE TERM ~ "FORGIVENESS" ~ MEANS "TO RELEASE" OR "TO CANCEL."

▶▶ And thus it denotes ~ a permanent release ~ from the punishment for sins, ~ ¶¶

▷▷ which have been paid for by Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

▶▶ God no longer holds our sins against us. ¶¶ 9/13

WHEN JESUS FORGIVES US, ~ ALL OF OUR SINS ~ ARE ERASED, ~ ARE FOREVER WIPED off the record.

▶▶ As we've noted before, ~ when Jesus cried out, ~ "It is finished," ~ it was not a cry of despair or defeat.

▷▷ It was a cry of victory.

▶▶ In Greek, ~ this expression can also mean, ~ ㄱㄱ

▷▷ "It is accomplished," ~ "It is fulfilled," ~ or even, ~ "It is paid in full."

▶▶ Jesus came to die in the place of sinners. ~~ The mission was accomplished/finished.

▶▶ Forgiveness of sin is comparable to, ~ although much more significant than, ~ a financial debt being erased.

▷▷ The debt we owed due to sin and could not pay ourselves, ~ ㄱㄱ

↪↪ Jesus, ~ and Jesus alone, ~ paid in full.

▷▷ Jesus took the punishment we deserved.

▶▶ So, ~ when God forgives us of our sins, ~ we are free.

▷▷ We no longer live under that debt.

▷▷ We are permanently released from the punishment of sin.

▷▷ Our sins are wiped out. ~~ God will never hold our sins against us.

SCRIPTURE MAKES ALL OF THIS CRYSTAL CLEAR. ㄱㄱ 10/13

▶▶Rom. ~ 8: ~ 1. ~ ~ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

▷▷"condemnation" ~ designates the state of "lost-ness," ~ of estrangement from God that, ~ apart from Christ, ~ ¶¶

↳↳every person will experience for eternity.

▷▷Those "in Christ Jesus" ~ are removed from this state.

↳↳And are removed forever from it, ~ as the emphatic "no" indicates.

▷▷No more will condemnation of any kind ~ be a threat for those ~ ¶¶

↳↳who have confessed with their mouth that "Jesus is Lord" ~ and believe in their "heart that God raised him from the dead."

▶▶In 1 Pet. ~ 2: ~ 6 ~ LEB, ~ Peter tells us ~ that those who believe in Jesus ~ "will never be put to shame. ~ ~ οὐ μή

▷▷"put to shame" ~ is an OT expression ~ referring to being condemned by God at the last judgment, ~ ¶¶

↳↳the ultimate disgrace one can undergo, ~ ¶¶

→→which results in shame rather than honor for the person involved.

▷▷Because Jesus did what was required to redeem and forgive us, ~ ¶¶

↳↳believers will never ~ experience this shame.

▶▶And in a very familiar verse, ~ Ps. 103:12, ~ David writes, ⇨⇨ as far as the east is from the west, ~ so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

▷▷Where does the east begin, ~ where does the west end? ¶¶ 11/13

▷▷ When our sins are so far removed from us, ~ 77

↳ ↳ sent away so far from us by God himself, ~ they are removed from us forever.

▷▷ David properly names the east and the west ~ and not the north and the south ~ 77

↳ ↳ in case someone thinks of the distance between the north and south poles, ~ which is a ~ measurable distance.

▷▷ In saying ~ "as far as the east is from the west," ~ David was indicating an ~ immeasurable ~ distance.

▷▷ This ~ is the great distance that God removes our sins from us ~ the instant we are brought to faith in Jesus.

NOW, ~ BEFORE WE CONTINUE IN THESE VERSES IN EPHESIANS, ~ 77

▶▶ we should note ~ that the practical side of redemption which we talked about earlier applies here as well.

▶▶ We won't go over that again now, ~ except to say this to bring it home.

▶▶ What then. ~ Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? ~ 77

▷▷ You should never conclude such a thing! ~ 77

↳ ↳ God forbid that you should think this! ~ No way!

LASTLY IN EPH. ~ 1: ~ 7-8a, ~ PAUL REMINDS US ~ THAT THE SOURCE OF OUR redemption and forgiveness ~ is God's grace.

▶▶ Redemption and forgiveness ~ are not granted because a person deserves them. 11 12/13

▶▶ Absolutely no one ~ deserves redemption and forgiveness.

▷▷ Remember, ~ Paul tells us ~~ that "None is righteous, no, not one," ~~ that "there is no one who seeks God," ~~ that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

▷▷ And Isaiah tells us ~ that "All we like sheep have gone astray," ~ and that "all our righteous acts are like filthy rags."

▶▶ Our redemption and forgiveness ~ are both ~ totally ~ acts of God's grace.

CONCLUSION.

MARVELOUS GRACE OF OUR LOVING LORD, ~ GRACE THAT EXCEEDS OUR SIN AND OUR guilt!

▶▶ Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, ~ There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled.

▶▶ Grace, grace, ~ God's grace, ~~ Grace that will pardon and cleanse within; ~~ Grace, grace, God's grace, ~~ Grace that is greater than all our sin.

▶▶ Marvelous, ~ infinite, ~ matchless grace, ~~ Freely bestowed on all who believe! ~~ You that are longing to see His face, ~ Will you this moment His grace receive?

LET'S PRAY 13/13