



Jesus our Redeemer

Gal 5:16-25 Rom 12:3-8 John 8:31-38

January 23, 2022

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One the ways that the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is taught to us is in terms of **redemption**. Redemption has the idea of a *purchase*, it has roots that mean to “*buy back*.” **Redemption** is one of the ways that the Bible talks about our Salvation.

In Christ we have **redemption** through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace Ephesians 1:7

I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have **redeemed** you.” Isaiah 44:22

Because of Christ, and His work as Savior of the world, you have been **redeemed**; you have been **purchased and brought back** to God. In this image, you were lost in sin, stolen by Satan, taken captive in guilt and death. There is no way out for you; *you could never redeem yourself*. You have no way to pay the ransom; the price is too high for you. Because of the power and destruction of sin in your life, you are bankrupt in God's eyes. You could never obey God's Law *good enough* for Him to accept you. You cannot save yourself by your own good works, sincere effort, or noble accomplishments.

- ⇒ The **poison of sin** *corrupts* you *so badly* that you chase after all kinds of **rebellion** and **immorality**.
- ⇒ The **penalty of sin** is *so heavy* that it *judges and condemns* you and leaves you standing *guilty* in God's courtroom.

You cannot stop the **poison of sin**; nor can you escape the **penalty of sin**. The *long arm* of God's Law condemns you. There is no price you could pay; nor anything good thing you could do, that would ever gain God's love, or approval, or acceptance. *Even if you wanted to, you could never redeem yourself.*

But that is why Jesus is our Redeemer!

Christ gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good. <small>Titus 2:14</small>
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If the Son sets you free , you will be free indeed. <small>John 8:36</small>

Jesus is your Redeemer! He has **set you free** from that *impossible burden* of paying for your sins! You have been **set free** from *even trying* to save yourself from the **poison** and **penalty** of sin! You have been **set free** because God sent Jesus to take that burden from you. The **poison** and **penalty** of sin has been placed on Him! God considered His Son **corrupt and guilty** on the cross – He was there, taking your place! **You have been set free! You can rest in Jesus! He does the work of salvation for you! He is your Redeemer!**

You can now rest; the work of salvation is complete!

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest . Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." <small>Matthew 11:28-30</small>

You have been **redeemed** through faith in the Son of God! His life, death, and resurrection **sets you free**! You now have a life of freedom to live!

This freedom, though, *does not mean* **independence**. You are **not** free to be self-centered, you are **not** free to fall back into sin again, you are **not** free to disobey God, **nor** are you free to disregard your neighbor. Freedom in Christ is **not** a *license* to indulge your sinful nature, or to chase after the things of the world, or to live, think, speak, and act like an unbeliever! *You are not independent! Your freedom is in Christ!* Your freedom is lived out in God's Kingdom! Your freedom is in the realm of the Gospel! *Your freedom is focused on glorifying God and serving your neighbor!*¹

It is the Holy Spirit who guides you to live out your freedom in Christ! The same Holy Spirit who creates *faith in your heart* leads you to *live in the freedom of Christ*. Your **redemption** brings great **joy** with it! Your *freedom and joy* glorifies God as it serves your neighbor!

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. Galatians 5:16
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The Holy Spirit guides and directs your freedom in Christ! He leads you away from sin and the things of the world – things that will enslave you and rob you of Christ and His freedom. Slavery to sin means engaging in and being tangled up in such things as *sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies*, and other forms of rebellion and immorality. Those things will enslave you! The Lord is clear: *those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

¹ You have been set free from looking inward, and striving to come up with a way to please God. God is pleased with you through His Son Jesus Christ. You are free from looking inward! You can now look outward, with pure joy and freedom; **you are free to glorify God by serving your neighbor!** Your freedom in Christ is now “other” centered, rather than “self” centered!

Rather, the freedom that you have now is Spirit driven: it is lived out in the joy of serving others! Rather than being self-centered, you are “other-centered.” In Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, you have been made new. You have been given **new affections**, a **new attitude**, a **new mindset**. In Christ, the old is gone and the new is here! Your freedom is directed towards your neighbor and marked by the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

You are free to put **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control** into all of your relationships, and into all of your vocations! Put these things into your marriage! Treat your kids with these virtues. Children, this is how you treat your parents. This is how brothers and sisters interact with each other. If you work or are a student, treat the people around you with these things! **Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control** --> this is what freedom in Christ looks like! These are the things that godly living cultivates! This is the work of the Holy Spirit in your life! This is glorifying God as you focus on other people! **Live and move and have your being** in **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control** !

The Son of God has **redeemed** you --> you are free indeed!

- ⇒ Walk in the Spirit: and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.
- ⇒ Glorify God by serving your neighbor!

That is **true Freedom and great joy** ... it's the redemption you have in the Lord Jesus Christ!

Amen!