

**“What it Means to be Reformed”; Session # 43 –“Christ Redeems His Bride”,
the Church”, Prepared for the Adult Sunday School Class
on June 28th, 2015, by Pastor Paul Rendall.**

2. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Redeemer of all of God’s Elect People.

Redemption in the Bible is always of particular persons, or of Christ dying for a particular people as an entire group.

a. Christ Redeems “the world”.

b. Christ redeems His “sheep”

c. Christ redeems His Bride, the Church –

Ephesians 5: 22-33 – “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

Notice here that Christ loved the church and gave Himself specifically for her; all those people who make up the Universal Church composed of the elect of God from every nation and time in history; those whom the Father has chosen and called to Himself based upon the sacrificial work of Christ; Christ giving Himself to suffer in their place, them in particular. Those who Christ died for, He sanctifies and cleanses them in particular with the washing of water by the word, which is a description of the work of regeneration specifically applied to all of the elect of God at the time of their conversion, which is the time of His choosing. Christ having given His life for the Church shall present her to Himself on the last day, as a glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing. She shall be completely holy and without blemish; the church in particular, for whom He died. Therefore, because the application of redemption is particular, no others did He lay down His life for, or else they would also be sanctified and washed. He gives particular and saving grace to those for whom He died to save; those in particular and no others. His electing love toward His Bride, the church, is exclusive to them, as any husbands should be toward his wife.