

Welcome friends to another broadcast of “Morsels for Zion’s Poor”

Redemption is not an afterthought with the LORD nor is it a means to another end. It is not a partial solution to a terrible problem which GOD is trying to solve. It is not something man can in any way “participate in.” In fact the scriptures indicate that the redemption of sinners was the very reason GOD created the world and ordained that Adam should fall in the Garden. HE had prepared the provider of Adam’s covering long before Adam disobeyed HIM and incurred the curse of sin. GOD will bring glory to HIS name through the redemption of HIS elect children, and it is for this end that HE created man and this world in which we dwell. *“That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.” “Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory..”*

It is impossible to preach the gospel without preaching redemption, there is no gospel if there is no redemption. Sadly much of what is purported to be the preaching of the gospel, today, is no gospel at all since the scriptural concept of redemption is ignored or misunderstood. The word “redeem” means to “buy back” and to “deliver”. In order to preach scriptural redemption one must teach that redemption involves:

The purchase of a former possession which was lost. Something cannot be bought “back” if it was never possessed in the first place. The scripture plainly indicates that CHRIST had an elect bride given to HIM before the foundation of the world. *“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world.”* By the same token it was necessary that this “possession” be lost in order that it might be redeemed. Though never appointed unto wrath nonetheless GOD’s elect children fell under the curse of the law and were separated from HIM by their sin.

A particular object to be purchased. There can be no such thing as a general redemption because redemption involves the purchase of a particular object. Under the “law” a man could buy back a house he sold in a walled city up to a year afterward or a sibling could buy back his brother out of slavery. These were not general purchases but very specific ones. The LORD JESUS CHRIST has bought HIS people with HIS own blood. In v.7 of Eph 1 Paul says *“we have redemption”*, the we has reference to the “chosen” in v.4.

A particular time for the purchase. We read in Leviticus about the laws of “redemption.” There was a specific timeframe for this “redemption” to take place. The LORD JESUS came into the world at the specific time which was ordained for HIM to come. But make no mistake about it, it was “necessary” that HE come at that time and perform the exact requirement in order for redemption to occur. *“But now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.”* This is not an ongoing transaction.

A definite price. HE has paid the exact price necessary for the redemption of HIS people. The law demands the death of a sinner, HE has poured out HIS life’s blood to purchase our redemption. *“we have redemption through his blood”*

Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain,
 Could give the guilty conscience peace , Or wash away the stain.
 But Christ, the heavenly Lamb, Takes all our sins away;
 A sacrifice of nobler name And richer blood than they.

A completed transaction. Where there is no finished work, there can be no redemption. The LORD has accomplished exactly what HE set out to do. *“By his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.” “But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God.”* The glorious message of the gospel is that JESUS CHRIST has taken our sins by imputation upon HIS back and paid our sin debt imputing HIS righteousness to us, therein do we rejoice in a finished salvation and await HIS glorious return.

Blow ye the trumpet, blow The gladly solemn sound!
 Let poor insolvents know To earth’s remotest bound:

The year of jubilee is come; Return, ye ransomed sinners, home.

Do you rejoice in the complete redemption which CHRIST has purchased?

*“Thy free grace alone,”#11 **If you would like a free transcript of this broadcast email us at forthepoor@windstream.net***