

1:9-13 – Paul’s Prayer for Spiritual Growth

1:14-20 – Incredible description of the Lord Jesus Christ

- The Logos – the essence of truth/logic and the Image of God
- Possibly the most worshipful description of our Lord Jesus Christ

Relative Pronouns – who, whom referring to the Lord Jesus Christ

Prepositional Phrases - in whom, in Him, by Him, thru Him, for Him

### Col 1:14-20

<sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- Redemption & forgiveness

<sup>15</sup> And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation.

- Image of invisible God, firstborn of all creation

<sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created by Him and for Him.

- Creation – all things, in heave, on earth, visible & invisible
- Thrones..... – fallen angels
- By Him and for Him

<sup>17</sup> And He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together.

- He existed before the creation
- By Him all things stay together

<sup>18</sup> He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything.

- Head of His body
- The beginning of the creation
- Firstborn from the dead so that He can be first

<sup>19</sup> For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell

- Fullness of God was pleased to dwell in Him

<sup>20</sup> and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, *I say*, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

- Reconciliation – to Himself

<sup>NAS</sup> **Col 1:12** giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. **13** For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, **14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## Redemption

<sup>NAS</sup> **Psalm 130:7** O Israel, hope in the LORD; For with the LORD there is lovingkindness, And with Him is abundant redemption.

**Psalm 49:8** For the redemption of his soul is costly, no payment is ever enough

According to the Mosaic Law, if a man lost his inheritance through debt or sold himself into slavery, he and his property could be redeemed if one near of kin came forward to provide the redemption price (Lev. 25:25-27, 47-54; cf. Ruth 4:1-12). The one who redeemed him was called the kinsman-redeemer. Having taken a human nature upon Himself, Christ became our Kinsman-Redeemer

The Lord said in Ps 22, "I am a worm." The type of worm mentioned was that type which was collected, put into a bowl, and crushed. The blood of such worms was used to make the crimson dye for the robes of kings in the ancient world. So by analogy, because our sins were imputed to Christ on the cross, we can believe in Him and receive the robe of divine righteousness at the moment of salvation.

- coccus ilicis yielding scarlet or crimson color, used to make the robes of royalty and some of the curtains in the tabernacle

Progressive Revelation – All through history God has continued to roll out more and more information about His plan. As history progressed, He gave the writers of scripture more insights and those who received these insights, more wisdom about what they meant. Abraham – Isaac – Jacob – Judah – David – Solomon & Nathan – Mary – Jesus. The same is true for the concept of redemption. What began in Israel with the meaning to buy back land or freedom, to be rescued from slavery by paying a ransom, came to mean a spiritual ransom and rescue.

### 1. **Definition and Description.**

- a. The basic idea of redemption is to be rescued from danger or peril, to be ransomed from slavery & set free.
- b. Greek: *lutrosis* means to pay a ransom to release someone from slavery
- c. The back story being that Adam, having sinned in Eden, had become a slave to penalty of sin which the Righteous Judge was forced to enforce.
- d. Sin, like a deadly virus infected his body & he also acquired a sin nature that he passed down to all of the generations coming after him.

*The righteousness (+R) of God requires that all creatures meet His standard of perfection to be qualified (Col 1:13) to receive His blessings or else be cursed.*

- *Whoever meets His +R standard is qualified to only be blessed forever*
  - *Whoever fails to meet God's +R standard qualifies to only be cursed forever*
- For Bel's: "What the righteousness of God demands, the justice of God executes through the love of God expressed by the grace of God." RBT
- e. Once Adam lost his created +R standing, he came under the cursing aspect of God's Justice – destined for the Lake of Fire
  - f. The pronouncement of the "seed of the woman" who would rescue them from their sins, enabled them to believe & be saved - Gen 3:15

## 2. **Redemption & Salvation.**

- a. In the doctrine of soteriology (salvation), there are three key concepts: redemption, reconciliation, and propitiation. The phrase "the blood of Christ" applies to all three as an analogy to the literal blood of OT sacrifices.
  - The blood of Christ was not literal like it was with the blood of animals.
  - Christ did not have his throat cut nor did He bleed to death on the cross
- b. Redemption is toward sin. There are three theological words that actually describe this concept:
  - Redemption – to buy a slave to set him free Eph 1:7, Col 1:14
  - Expiation – removal of sin – Heb 8:12  
**Isaiah 43:25** "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.
  - Unlimited atonement – an exchange of enemy status to RFG
  - These always deal with sin as a problem in our relationship with God.
- c. Reconciliation is always directed toward mankind. Man is reconciled to God by the death of His Son.
- d. Propitiation (satisfaction) is directed toward God, meaning that the justice of God the Father is satisfied with the work of Christ on the cross.

## 3. **Redemption emphasizes the condemnation of AOS imputed to all mankind at birth so that we qualify for God's grace at the moment of birth.**

- a. Condemnation precedes salvation, qualifying us for grace at birth
- b. Condemnation in Adam at birth enables God to give grace to those who die before the age of accountability or are mentally unable to reach the point of accountability.
- c. The ransom paid by Christ removes the sin (expiation), satisfies the Judge (propitiation), enables an exchange of status (atonement) and allows us to be fully re-joined with God (reconciliation).

**4. Redemption envisions AOS causing mankind to be born as slaves to sin in the kingdom of darkness, with an OSN, destined to adjust our beliefs, thoughts, feelings & actions to the devil's world.**

- a. Slaves to the condemnation caused by sin – Rom 5:16,18, 8:1
- b. Slaves to the addictions of the OSN – compulsive behaviours
  - Lascivious Trend – pleasure seeking to escape the pressures of life
  - Ascetic Trend – pleasures of being right, proper, organized, compliant
- c. Christ has redeemed us from the penalties of sin (eternal condemnation) & given us the Spirit to be free from our experiential addictions

**5. The Redeemer was required to be perfectly +R to be qualified for acceptance by the +R of God for the payment to acceptable.**

- a. Hypostatic Union – undiminished deity & true humanity in one person forever - 2nd member of the Godhead took on a human nature
- b. Virgin Birth – GHS provided 23 males chromosomes to fertilize Mary's egg
  - Bypass AOS, the condemnation and OSN
- c. Impeccable – perfect beliefs, thoughts ad decisions.

**6. Christ our Redeemer, willingly obeyed GF to pay the ransom price to redeem us from the Slave Market of Sin.**

**Phil 2:5** Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

- a. As deity He humbled Himself, joining deity to humanity forever – He sits at the right hand of GF as the God-Man – we are in union with Him.
- b. Kenosis: He voluntarily restrained the use of His deity to take on the challenges of the devil's world and endure the payment for sins.
- c. He asked GF for another way but when GF said no, He surrendered Himself to the plan, allowed Himself to be taken & crucified.
- d. Heb 12:2 – for the joy set before Him (eternity with us) He willingly endured the cross.