

Redemption & Reconciliation
(appropriate for Mid-Schoolers and older)
Michael R. Daily February 2018
(two 30 minute lessons)

Other youth bible studies by Michael Daily available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

Reference: J. Dwight Pentecost, Things Which Become Sound Doctrine, Zondervan, 1970.

Redemption

Redemption is one of the fourteen foundational doctrines of the Christian faith according to Dwight Pentecost.

II Timothy 2:24-26

The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,²⁵ with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,²⁶ and they may come to their senses *and escape* from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

Before we became Christians we were captives of satan and we did his will.

Romans 6:17

But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,

And we were slaves of sin.

(Hebrews 2:14-15)

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,¹⁵ and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

Our fear of death also enslaved us.

Jesus redeemed us from this slavery

Redemption: *to buy back, repurchase, win back, free from distress or harm, free from captivity by payment of a ransom, extricate from a detrimental situation, release from blame or debt*

The Bible uses four different Greek words or phrases that are translated as "redeem" or "purchased for God" or "redemption" in the New Testament. These variations in meaning help us understand the doctrine of Redemption more completely.

Revelation 5:9

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

- 1) The phrase translated "purchased for God" means to "go into the marketplace and purchase".**
The picture is one of Jesus going into a slave market. satan was standing there laughing and smiling because he owned all the slaves and there were billions of them. All the slaves stood in the market naked and dirty, staring at the ground, wrapped in chains. Jesus pointed at you and said, "I'm buying this one". He paid for you, took you to home, cleaned you up, put new clothes on you, and took ownership of you as His property. There is nothing you or the other slaves could do, other than stand there and hope to have their freedom purchased by a benevolent person who is rich enough to buy them and kind enough to give them a better life.

(Acts 20:28)

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

(I Corinthians 6:19-20)

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰ For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Galatians 3:10&13

For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM.”

¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE”

2) In verse 13, the word “redeemed” means “to purchase out of so that it can never return”.

The sale was final! Its one thing to be purchased by a kind master who will take care of you for the rest of your life. Its another thing to be purchased by a master who may decide, ten years later, to take you back to the slave market and sell you back to satan. God makes it clear in this passage that your purchase from the slave market was permanent. You are never going back to that miserable situation you used to be in!

(Hebrews 9:11-12)

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; ¹² and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

Romans 3:23-24

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

3) In verse 24, the phrase translated “redemption” means “to redeem thoroughly and completely”.

Jesus purchased you permanently and completely, through and through. Jesus did not just purchase a 51% controlling interest in you. He did not purchase 99% of you. Satan cannot pop out of the shadows ten years from now and say, “Wait, I still own 1% of them and I’m calling it in!” No, Jesus’ purchase of you was so thorough and complete that no one and no thing has any claim on you now or ever again.

I Peter 1:18-19

knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood of Christ*.

4) In verse 18 above, the word translated “redeemed” means “the act of setting free”.

When Jesus purchased you He didn’t buy you in order to enslave you again. He purchased you in order to set you free!

Redemption Summary (if you are a Christian)

- 1) Jesus went into the slave market and purchased you so that you are now His property and no longer satan's property.
- 2) Jesus purchased you permanently, with no chance of you ever being sold back to satan or anyone else. The sale was final.
- 3) Jesus' purchase of you was 100% complete, it was not 99%. No one, including satan, can ever make any claim of ownership of you, not even a little bit.
- 4) Although Jesus purchased you, He purchased you in order to set you free, not to enslave you again.

The Results of Redemption

Now that we have been redeemed, what does God have planned for us?

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, ⁵ so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶ Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

You are no longer a slave but God's adopted child and His heir. You have an inheritance in heaven.

Titus 2:13-14

looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

God has freed you from slavery to be His own possession, a person zealous for good deeds.

Zealous: *feeling or showing strong and energetic support for a person or cause*

John 15:15

No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.

You are now God's friend. He likes you and wants to share life with you.

Ephesians 1:7-8

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight

Because He redeemed you, your sins have been forgiven and are no longer a barrier between you and God.

END OF PART 1

Reconciliation

Reconciliation: *To bring into conformity with a standard, cause to conform to a standard, to be adjusted to a specified standard, to restore friendship or harmony, resolve differences.*

For example, we may reconcile our watch with a clock that is known to be accurate. The world's most accurate clock, at the present time, is an atomic clock that can remain accurate to within one second even over a 15 billion year theoretical time period. Since our watch is known to be less accurate than that, we can, at any time, compare the two clocks and reconcile them by adjusting our watch to match the atomic clock. What we would never do is adjust the atomic clock to match our watch. Why? Because that would corrupt the perfection of the atomic clock.

Since God is perfect and we are not, being reconciled to God always means that men must be adjusted to meet God's standards, God is not going to lower His standards for us.

Romans 5:6

For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

(Romans 3:23)

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Before we were reconciled to God, we were living lives that fell short of meeting His standards. In addition, we were helpless, we did not have the ability or the strength to meet His standards, even if we wanted to. We knew what His standards were but we could not meet them. We were ungodly.

What are God's standards?

Matthew 5:48

Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Ephesians 1:4

just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

God's standards that man must meet in order to have a relationship with Him are: man must be totally perfect, holy, and blameless! This is not possible unless God helps us somehow.

God took action to reconcile us to Himself

Romans 5:8-11

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. ¹¹ And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

God did not wait for us to try to reconcile ourselves to His standards because He knew we could not do it. So, even while we were immersed in sin and His enemies, deserving of His wrath, He took the action that resulted in men being able to be reconciled to Him.

Colossians 1:19-22

For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, 20 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. 21 And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, 22 yet He has now **reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach**

Hebrews 12:22-24

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to **the spirits of the righteous made perfect**,

Because God is a just God, He cannot arbitrarily lower His standards of perfection that is required from man. But because He loves us, He made us perfect in His sight through the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ. Because of Christ's payment on the cross, we can now be viewed by God as sinless and perfect.

Romans 3:26

for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

As a result God is both just and the justifier of the man who has faith in Jesus.

II Corinthians 5:18-20

Now all these things are from God, who **reconciled us to Himself** through Christ and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**, 19 namely, that God was in Christ **reconciling the world to Himself**, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of **reconciliation**. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be **reconciled to God**.

An ambassador is the personal representative of the person who has authority over a country. As Christ's ambassadors we are the personal representatives of Jesus Christ to a world that is hostile to Him. Every Christian is, by definition, His ambassador. Are you a good one?

Conclusion

God has made a way for sinful man to be reconciled to God's standard of perfection. That way is through faith in Christ's payment for sin on the cross. There is no other action man can take that will make man perfect, holy, and blameless in God's sight and a just God cannot lower His standards. Therefore, each person must make a choice: Be reconciled to God through faith in Christ or be banished from God's presence forever.

As ambassadors of Christ our job is to share these truths with people so that they can be reconciled to God.

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Redemption*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Timothy 2:24-26, Romans 6:17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Hebrews 2:14-15*

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Peter 1:18-19*

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Revelation 5:9, Acts 20:28, I Corinthians 6:19-20*

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When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Galatians 3:10&13, Hebrews 9:11-12*

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Romans 3:23-24*

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Titus 2:13-14*

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *John 15:15, Ephesians 1:7-8*

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THEME: *Reconciliation*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Romans 5:6, Romans 3:23*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 5:48, Ephesians 1:4*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Romans 5:8-11*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Colossians 1:19-22*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Hebrews 12:22-24, Romans 3:26*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Corinthians 5:18-20*

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