



Redemption

Facilitator Notes

Note: Some of the answers in these Facilitator notes are taken from the study guide "Great Truths of the Bible" by Alan B. Stringfellow. Scripture references are the New International Version unless otherwise noted.

Both Redemption and Atonement are the result of the finished work of Christ on the cross. Redemption and the atonement are the basis for regeneration, justification, sanctification, reconciliation, and all the doctrines of grace.

What does redemption mean?

This is the act Christ did by paying the penalty for our sins thus recovering ownership of those who would respond to Him. The Bible is filled with redemption. The *theme* of all Scripture is Jesus Christ but the *message* of the Bible is redemption.

What does atonement mean?

This means to make amends or reparation for an injury or wrong. The price Christ paid on the cross was on our behalf, to pay the penalty that we would otherwise have to pay.

What does Hebrews 9:12 say that Christ gave to redeem us for Himself?

Hebrews 9:12 - He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

Redemption is based on the blood of Christ... The blood of Christ is to our eternal life what our own blood is to our physical life. The death of Christ is the ransom, or redemption, paid to the demands of God for the sin of the world.

What is the redemption spoken of in Genesis 3:15?

Genesis 3:15 - And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

This is the first promise of a Redeemer from God. This is the first instance where God promised an Anointed One who would defeat Satan.

Leviticus 25, Numbers 35 and Deuteronomy 19 and 25 give the law of the kinsman-redeemer. Recall the story of Boaz redeeming Ruth... How does the concept of the kinsman-redeemer foreshadow the Messiah?

There were three requirements of the kinsman-redeemer:

1. He must be *willing* to redeem (Leviticus 25:25).
2. He must be a kinsman, thus having the *right* to redeem (Leviticus 25:48-49).
3. He must have the means, or the *power* to redeem (Leviticus 25:52).

The meaning is pictured in the Old Testament.

1. We see that redemption was the promise of God.
2. It was written in the law by the Lord God.
3. It was put to practical use in the life of Israel.

What is the application on the teaching of the kinsman-redeemer for us today?

Romans 15:4 - For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Jesus Christ was our kinsman-redeemer. He was willing to redeem us since He came into the world for that mission, He was related to us in that He came as a man, and He had the ability to redeem us in that He was God.

A word study of the meaning of redemption in the Old Testament would reveal that there are three Hebrew words meaning similar truths. Various uses of the words translated "redemption" or "redeem" means (1) "to set free, to let go," (2) "out of bondage," and (3) "to ransom, recover."

What can we learn of the heart of God regarding our redemption from Exodus 6:6?

Exodus 6:6 - "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.'

God planned His redemption of us to set us free, ransom, rescue, and recover us out of the consequences of our sin.

How does the redemption of Christ set us free?

Having a relationship with Christ gives us the capacity to turn away from sin whereas before we had no choice but to follow the way of sin.

What role does blood have in redemption as portrayed in the original Passover?

Exodus 12:12-13 - "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn--both men and animals--and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood will be a sign

for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

The blood of the lamb was the price that had to be paid for the death angel to pass-over a family. The blood displayed on the door-posts of the Hebrew people was an act of faith on their part in God that He would protect their family from the plague. This distinguished God's people from the Egyptians who did not have this faith.

How do the stories of redemption in the Old Testament help us?

These stories help us to better understand the concept and they point to the true Redeemer, Christ...

1 Corinthians 10:11 - These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.

How does the New Testament add to our understanding of the concept of redemption?

Titus 2:13-14 - while we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who 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.

In the New Testament, we learn that redemption is by Jesus Christ who gave His life for us. We also learn that redemption means "the price paid," "to release by paying a ransom," and "to deliver by paying a price."

What does Ephesians 1:7 tell us about redemption?

Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

Our redemption is through the blood of Christ. This is the price Jesus paid for us, His own life.

What did Jesus redeem us from?

Galatians 3:13 - Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

Jesus redeemed us from the curse of the law... The law is what reveals our sin of pursuing independence from God; the curse of the law is the payment that we owe for that sin.

From the Old Testament, we learn that for a person to qualify to be kinsman-redeemer, he had to be willing to redeem, have the right to redeem and have the power to redeem. How did Jesus meet the requirements of the Kinsman-Redeemer in Galatians 4:4-5?

Galatians 4:4-5 - But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

Jesus was *willing* to redeem. This is why He was made flesh, to pay the price to redeem all who accept Him.

Philippians 2:6-8 - Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

Since God the Son was obedient to God the Father, this shows that both the Father and the Son had to want to redeem us.

How did Jesus meet the requirements of the Kinsman-Redeemer in Hebrews 2:11?

Hebrews 2:11 - Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So

Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

Since Jesus came as a man, He was our Kinsman, so He had the *right* to redeem us.

How did Jesus meet the requirements of the Kinsman-Redeemer in John 10:11?

John 10:11 - "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Jesus had the power or the *means* to redeem us. Regarding giving His life, Jesus said...

John 10:18 - No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

How high was the price of redemption that Christ paid for us?

1 Peter 1:18-19 - For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

The price of our redemption was high since it required the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ that was not blemished by sin.

How could the death of one man, Jesus Christ, pay the penalty for the sin of all who trust in Him?

God said that this would be the case...

Romans 5:15 - But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

Jesus was not just any man, He was the unique God-Man who lived a sinless life in His mortal body. This is something that none of us can do.

Hebrews 10:14 - because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

Why do we place such an emphasis on the blood of Christ?

Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.

The life of every living thing is **in** its blood. If there is no blood, there is no life. The significance of the blood of Christ is that it was innocent human blood. The blood of Christ had such power that it is still redeeming people today.

Does God make any distinctions between different races of people?

Acts 17:26 - From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.

The blood of human beings are all one blood. The Bible classifies humanity into nations, tribes, tongues and peoples. Never does the Scripture state that we are divided into many races. We all came from the same two parents, Adam and Eve, so there are no blood differences between people of different races. There are certainly compatibility differences but there are no racial differences.

What aspect of our redemption is addressed in Ephesians 1:13-14?

Ephesians 1:13-14 - ¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory.

Here Scripture indicates a future redemption. Notice that the gift of the Holy Spirit is a deposit that guarantees our future redemption as God's property. At the resurrection of our bodies, God will take possession of us as He has promised.

When will our full bodily redemption be realized?

Luke 21:28 - When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Our full and complete redemption will be at the return of our Lord Jesus Christ...

1 Corinthians 15:52 - in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

What else will be redeemed in the future?

Romans 8:20 - the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

God will redeem all of His creation so that it will not be subject to the Second Law of Thermodynamics.

Romans 8:19-22 - ¹⁹The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

This is the consequence of sin that we have accepted as normal in our day. But God will restore His creation so that it will be like the Garden of Eden and not subject to death and decay.

What has God already redeemed?

Romans 8:23 - Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

While the redemption of our bodies is in the future, God has redeemed the human spirit of believers. This is the firstfruits of our complete redemption of body, soul and spirit.

Ephesians 4:30 - And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Since God has redeemed us, how should we act?

1 Cor. 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Since we belong to God, we should do only those things with our body that pleases Him and brings honor to His name. We should be good stewards of our body because it belongs to Christ, not us.

What blessing of redemption is in Ephesians 1:7?

Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

By God's unmerited favor toward us, the blood of Christ has enabled us to have forgiveness of sins. There are many more blessings of redemption that we don't really have the time to go into here.