



Jesus our Redemption

Defining Terms

The Greek word for “redeem” is derived from the Latin verb which translates as “to buy again.”¹

“A redeemer is someone who redeems another.” – Paul Washer

What Were We Redeemed From?

We were redeemed from the curse of the law. Paul explains in 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 hanged on a tree.””

How were we redeemed and ransomed?

First, we were redeemed by Jesus becoming a curse for us. Going back to Galatians 3:13, Paul wrote that Christ redeemed us, “by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.””

Secondly, Jesus redeemed us by purchasing us with his own blood. 1 Peter 1:18-19, “knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.”

What are the effects of Jesus’ Redemption?

First, Jesus canceled the record of our debt. in Colossians 2:14: “...by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.”

Second, Jesus secured for us an eternal redemption. Hebrews 9:12 says, “he [Jesus] entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.”

Christ our Liberation

From whom or what were we liberated?

Before we were in Christ, we were under Satan’s dominion. 1 John 5:19 says, “We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.” In Luke chapter 4, where Jesus is being tempted by Satan, we read in verses 5 and 6, “And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.”

- a. They are children of the devil—1 John 3:8, 10; John 8:44. Just as children look like their parents, so fallen mankind looks like their father the devil.

¹ Paul Washer, *Discovering the Glorious Gospel* page 66



- b. They live under the power of Satan—Acts 26:18. The word “power” comes from a Greek word that can be translated “dominion” or “authority.”
- c. They followed Satan—Eph 2:2. This means that fallen mankind walks in a way that is contrary to the will of God.
- d. They are blinded by the devil—2 Cor 4:4. Like the parable of the sower teaches us, some seed fall along the path and are snatched up by the devil. The seed of the gospel is quenched before it has a chance to flourish in people’s hearts because of the devil.
- e. They are caught in the snare of the Devil—2 Tim 2:26. The Greek word translated as snare can also be translated as “trap” or “noose” that animals can get entangled with. And mankind is unknowingly caught in that trap or noose of the devil.
- f. They have been captured by the devil—2 Tim 2:26. While captured is similar to being in a snare, the Greek word here means, “to capture or take alive.” This is less like an animal analogy like before and instead is more like a slave analogy. By rejecting God’s moral law, they find a “freedom” that is only bondage to sin and its consequence—death.
- g. They have strayed after Satan—1 Tim 5:15. “Strayed” translates literally as “to turn or twist out.” Paul washer elaborates:
 - i. “It was used to describe the act of turning aside to avoid meeting or associating with someone. In a medical context it was used to describe dislocated limbs. Those who turn a side from the will of God demonstrate that they want no part or association with Him. By default, they become “followers” of Satan. Although fallen man may follow Satan ignorantly, he does not follow unwillingly.”²

What do we know about Satan?

First, we know his different names. Satan is called 1) the ruler of this world, the god of this world, the prince of the power of the air and the spirit at work in the son of disobedience (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11 - 2 Cor 4:4 – Eph 2:2). From this, we glean that Satan has been given certain authority over the worldly systems that hate God and hate Christ. Indeed, as we stated before, all who are unregenerate are under Satan’s dominion.

Second, Satan has the power of death. Hebrews 2:14-15 says, “Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil.”

Third, John 8:44 says that Satan is a murderer and the father of lies. All the way back in the garden we Satan’s murderous hatred and deception play out.

Fourth, Satan only seeks to steal, kill, and destroy. It is in his very nature. 1 Peter 5:8 says that Satan is like a roaring lion who is looking for his next meal.

What has Jesus done to rescue us from our bondage?

First, Jesus disarmed the rulers and authorities. Colossian 2:15 states, “He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.” Paul washer again elaborates for us:

² Ibid page 73



“The phrase “rulers and authorities” is a reference to Satan and the fallen angels. The basis for Satan’s power over God’s people was their sin, which separated them from God, brought them under the curse, and exposed them to the penalty of death. When Christ interposed and paid the penalty or debt for His people’s sin, Satan’s power over them was undone.”

Second, Jesus took away the devil’s power over death. Hebrews 2:14 says, “Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil.”

“The devil had power over death in that he could rightly accuse mankind of sin and demand the just penalty of death.” – Paul Washer

Third and finally, Jesus has crushed Satan’s head. Romans 16:20, “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.” 1 John 3:8 supports this by saying, “The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.”

Discussion Questions

1. How does the world think about redemption and what’s a biblical understanding of it? How does true redemption humble us?
2. How much power does Satan have? How much should we fear him? How much should we not?
3. 2 Corinthians 2:11 says, “so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.” What are Satan’s designs and methods? What has Jesus done to disarm Satan?
4. How would you respond to an objection that God is evil since God created Satan?