



# **INVISIBLE POWERS AND PLACES**

Lesson 6

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# WORD FOR THE JOURNEY

- **Ephesians 6:10-12** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.
- We have learned that people were enslaved to sin as a result of willful disobedience to God
- We have also learned that there is an enemy who wants to keep us enslaved and who will use whatever methodology works  
**BUT GOD HAD A PLAN**
- **Ephesians 1:3-4** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him.

# GOD'S ADMINISTRATION

- **Ephesians 1:9-11** He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will...
- **Administration:** *oikonomia*: a plan for how things will happen; by definition, this requires an administrator
- **Predestined:** *proorizo*: to determine in advance by limiting factor; to limit in advance

**God limited in advance who could be saved**

**The limiting factor: accepting Jesus as savior**

- God has never, ever been out of control; His plan was in place before the foundation of the world!

# ENTER THE GA'AL

- A kinsman redeemer, or go'el (or ga'al) had the legal right under Jewish law to buy back a relative or relative's property that had been lost through death or debt
- Cautious look at "redeem"
  - **Padah:** transfer ownership through outright payment by the owner (think mortgage) you can do this yourself
  - **Koper:** ransom or redeem through something of equal value (think airline miles) you can do this yourself
  - **Ga'al:** redemption by a third party when the person is unable to help himself/herself
- We see examples of this law being carried out in many instances in the Old Testament
  - Ruth and Boaz (redemption of woman and land)
  - Jeremiah redeeming land
- But nowhere are all of the redemptive rights so clearly seen as in Jesus redemption of us!

# WHY REDEMPTION WAS NEEDED

1. Adam's sin had permeated mankind; everyone was lost in sin—Jesus said that everyone who sins is a **slave** of sin
  2. When sin entered, Adam chose the headship of Satan over the headship of God; the earth that man was to rule over and subdue became under the headship of Satan; **mankind lost its land**
  3. No one would spend eternity with God, who called Himself a husband to His people; His **bride is lost** and can't live with Him or have peace with Him
  4. People are spiritual dead – a **murder** plotted by the enemy of our souls; Jesus called Satan a murderer from the beginning
- This was a desperate situation and people literally had no way out. Why? Because of the requirements God placed on the ability of a ga'al

# WHO COULD BE 3<sup>rd</sup> PARTY GA'AL

## 1. ABILITY TO PAY THE PRICE

The redeemer had to have sufficient means available to make the purchase. AND he could not be a slave – a slave could not redeem another slave. Since every one living on earth is in slavery to sin because of the imputed sin of Adam, we have a problem. What we need is someone not born of the seed of Adam therefore not enslavement to sin

## 2. BLOOD RELATIVE

A person who could be a *ga'al* had to be related by blood. **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, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

**JESUS WAS A FLESH AND BLOOD RELATIVE OF MANKIND, NOT BORN OF ADAM'S SEED. BUT....**

# THE THIRD REQUIREMENT

## 3. WILLINGNESS TO PAY THE PRICE

We would be seriously in error if we thought that it was easy for Jesus come to redeem us

- **Philippians 2:2-8** ...make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

# THE SACRIFICE OF JESUS

- **Hebrews 10:4-10** For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, "SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME; IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND *sacrifices* FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE. "THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.'" After saying above, "SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND *sacrifices* FOR SIN YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, NOR HAVE YOU TAKEN PLEASURE *in them*" (which are offered according to the Law), then He said, "BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL." He takes away the first in order to establish the second. By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.



# WHAT JESUS PURCHASED 1

- **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.
- The church: us! **He redeemed us from our slavery to sin**; He established our peace **with** God if we will accept His completed work—the purchase made with His blood
- **John 8:34** Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.
- For Christians, the bonds of slavery have been broken
- **Romans 6:6** ...knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;
- We have positional sanctification; but we are a work in progress: our bodies aren't yet redeemed; they are awaiting the rapture
- Jesus hasn't transacted business yet with all of the purchase

# WHAT JESUS PURCHASED 2

- Jesus purchased redemption rights for the land we lost: Earth
- Jesus hasn't yet transacted business with the earth he purchased, but He will! Really! For Sure!
- **Revelation 21:1-2** Then I saw a new heaven and a **new earth**; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer *any* sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.
- **2 Peter 3:12-13** ...looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.
- **Jeremiah 32:9-14** compare **Revelation 6:9** Jesus begins to transact business with what He purchased by breaking the seals on the deed!

# WHAT JESUS PURCHASED

3

- Jesus purchased redemption rights for the woman who produced no heirs (accomplished by marriage)
- **Romans 4:14** For if those who are of the Law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise is nullified;
- Ruth and Boaz: Ruth had no heirs; land had been lost; the nearest kinsman "passed the sandal;" he was unwilling (or unable) to redeem Ruth by marriage and redeem the land
- **Revelation 19:7-9** "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean.... he said to me, "Write 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" He said to me, "These are true words of God."
- THE CHURCH IS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST: HE IS COMING FOR US! THE CONTRACTUAL CUP HAS BEEN DRUNK; THE GIFTS HAVE BEEN LEFT; HE HAS GONE TO PREPARE THE PLACE; HE IS COMING WITH A SHOUT, VOICE, TRUMPET

# WHAT JESUS PURCHASED 4

- Jesus purchased the right to be the avenger of blood: The avenger was a guiltless executioner of the murderer of his kinsman
- **John 8:44** "You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a **murderer** from the beginning....
- **Revelation 20:10** And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.  
**Revelation 20:14** Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the **second death**, the lake of fire.
- Jesus purchased all of the ga'al redemption rights; He has begun transacting business with the souls and spirits of those who believe; next He will transact business with our bodies; next the marriage; next the murderer goes to the lake of fire; next the new earth and heaven