

Redeemed by the Blood of Christ

1 Peter 1:18-21

Peter reminds his readers that they have been redeemed, purchased, and set free by the atoning sacrifice of Christ. This is in keeping with the subject Peter has been writing about, our identity. Who are you? Peter has been reminding his readers of their true identity in Christ.

“Redemption” is a solid Biblical term used in both the Old Testament and the New. Consider these verses: Psalm 107:2, Isaiah 43:1, Isaiah 44:22, Isaiah 62:12, Luke 1:68, and Galatians 3:13.

- **The high price of our redemption: by _____ Alone! (18-19)** The storyline of the Bible is the story of God’s redeeming grace and love. We see it vividly portrayed in the history of Israel, especially in the Exodus account. God redeemed His people from the slavery and bondage in Egypt.

Anthony Carter, writing for Ligonier ministry, “It is important to see that the Bible portrays sin not just as an action, but also as a tyrannical master (Rom. 6:16). Jesus said in John 8:34: ‘Everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.’”

Note: We often only think of sin’s grip of power, of sin’s bondage with such sin as addiction. The reality is we are all addicted, in bondage to sin, whether it is lust, greed, pride, power, or any other sin.

- _____ Verse 18 details why we need to be redeemed: “the futile way of life inherited from your forefathers.” What did we inherit from Adam? A corrupted, fallen, sin nature!

What does the latest Texas school shooting confirm? The “radical depravity of man.” Sin has affected us to the very root or to the core of our being. We are not inherently good; we are inherently evil and sinful.

This understanding is foundational to everything we understand about the gospel. We do not simply need a better environment, better education system, better economic policies; we need a new birth!

- _____ Verse 19 tells us how God redeemed us. To set us free, to redeem us, God did not simply pay a monetary price such as silver or gold. He did not write a check or an IOU; He sent His Son!

The atoning work of Christ was “foreknown” before the foundation of the world, (20) but was actualized in the coming of Christ into the world. The sufferings of Christ were not unplanned, unfortunate events. They were orchestrated to the smallest, minutest detail. **(John 19:10-11)**

- **The appropriation of our redemption; by _____ Alone. (21)** It is not sufficient that Christ shed His precious blood on the cross at Calvary; the sacrifice of Christ must be personally appropriated and applied!

The Passover in the Exodus story reveals the necessity of personal responsibility. The Passover lamb might be slain at the right time, but if a family did not put the blood on the door post, the firstborn would die. The bronze serpent on the pole would bring deliverance only to those that had the faith to look!

Application: Have you looked to Jesus? Have you, by faith, committed your all to the all-sufficient sacrifice of Christ?

If you have been redeemed, then rejoice and live in freedom! Only do not allow your liberty to cause you to be careless and casual concerning sin. Be holy for your Father is holy!