

God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27

Store In My Heart 2Timothy 2:15

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

KJV - Study ...

ESV - Do your best ...

Paul tells us it takes work and focus to be the kind of worker that pleases God. Reading, listening and meditating on God's Word so that we can understand what He wants of us is only the beginning. We must act in accordance with the teaching of the Word. We need to use it to change our life. Failing to apply it to our life would lead to dire eternal consequences.

We must be careful with the Word also. We need to make sure that we do not misapply what He has said. This will cause us shame before God and may cause us, or others, to turn from the way of salvation.

God wants to see us as faithful workmen in the Kingdom.



Jesus the Great Redeemer

Doy Moyer

To be redeemed is to be set free from an oppressive circumstance, generally by payment of a ransom price. The story of Scripture is a story of redemption where people are set free from sin, purchased by the blood of Christ, and created again into a new creation fit for God's service.

Many passages claim the Lord as the Redeemer. For example, **Isaiah 48:17** identifies Yahweh as the "Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah refers to God this way several times (cf. **Isaiah 43:14; 44:6, 24; 47:4; 48:17; 49:7**). God had redeemed Israel from their oppressive situation in Egypt, brought them out and made them His people. Jeremiah describes God as the Redeemer who is strong and will plead the cause of His people and judge Babylon (**Jeremiah 50:33-34**).

Redemption is a significant theme. For example, the idea of a redeemer is an important part of the story of Ruth and Boaz. After securing permission, Boaz became Ruth's redeemer and married her. In the book of Job, Job said, "I know that my Redeemer lives..." (**Job 19:25**). The concept of redemption runs throughout Scripture. Why? Because it points to the ultimate Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

The redeemer (sometimes called the kinsman-redeemer) was important for various reasons. These are also fulfilled in Jesus.

1. The redeemer would pay a ransom price to purchase a kinsman out of bondage or slavery. One could sell himself into slavery to pay off a debt, for example, but the redeemer could pay off debts and buy the kin out of bondage. See **Leviticus 25:47-49**.

2. The redeemer could buy back family land that had been sold by a relative (see **Ruth 4:1-5**).

3. The redeemer could marry a widow of a kinsman who had passed (**Deuteronomy 25:5-6**). This was known as the levirate law of marriage, and is also seen in the book of Ruth. This made sure the inheritance would stay in the family.

4. The redeemer could avenge the blood of a relative who had been murdered by another. See **Numbers 35:16-21**.

These four points associated with the redeemer help us understand more what Jesus has done for us as our great Redeemer.

First, Jesus has released us from the bondage of sin by the price of His blood. Christians have been "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” (1Peter 1:18-19).

Second, Jesus provides a reclamation of an inheritance. Jesus is called the mediator of the new covenant “so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant” (**Hebrews 9:15**). Peter says that Christians have been “born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you” (**1Peter 1:3-4**). God’s people are redeemed so that they can received the inheritance promised by God.

Third, Jesus is the bridegroom of His bride, the church (**Revelation 19:6-8**), and raised up the children of God so that they become the rightful heirs of God’s promise (this coincides with the previous point). We have been adopted by God (**Ephesians 1:5; Galatians 4:1-7**). The price for this was the blood of Jesus, which is far more precious than silver or gold (**1Peter 1:18-19**).

Fourth, Jesus is our blood avenger. The book of Revelation highlights this. Jesus is presented as the One who avenges His people and brings judgment on those who opposed God and His people. See, for example, **Revelation 16:4-6. Chapters 16-19** demonstrate Christ’s authority to judge and redeem. Paul also writes that the Lord would bring vengeance on those who afflicted God’s people as evidence of the righteous judgment of God (**2Thessalonians 1:5-12**).

The redemption provided by Jesus is a manifestation of God’s grace. Paul affirmed that the grace of God has appeared and teaches us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly as we await the coming of “our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works” (**Titus 2:11-14**). What we do for the Lord is gratitude for what He has done for us.

When Paul spoke about the sting of death and the victory we have in Christ (**1Corinthians 15:54-55**), he referenced **Hosea 13:14**, wherein God promised to ransom His people from Sheol and redeem His people from death. This is fulfilled in Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for many (**Mark 10:45**). By paying the ransom price of blood, we are redeemed from sin and death, for “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace” (**Ephesians 1:7**).

Sing it: “How I love the Great Redeemer.”

Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

Church of Christ

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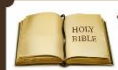
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The
CHURCH OF CHRIST
MEETS HERE



10:20 AM • Sunday Worship Service
5:00 PM • Sunday Night Bible Study
7:00 PM • Wednesday Bible Study

For Our Information

Annette & Adene Gray have been dealing with a cold & cough.

Vickie McNeas is using an inhaler for breathing issues.

Sue Soliday is doing physical therapy for her lymphedema.

Jim Soliday is having heart rhythm problems still.

Jon Ross Simpson is doing PT for his leg injury.

Shannon Soliday is in Indiana this weekend.

Paula Laubach’s great-nephew, **Tanner Trombly** (15), will soon start intensive chemotherapy for Burkett Lymphoma.

Sunday Evening – **Psalm 148** Wednesday - **John 9**

Gospel Meeting with Jared Hagan – Starts Next Sunday

Announcements are available in the Foyer