

But God will redeem my soul from the power of Sheol, For He will receive me. **Psalms 49:15**

Store In My Heart 1Corinthians 13:1-7

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Selfless charitable love should govern all our activity. It looks to the needs of others with focus on helping them see God and Truth. It does not ignore sin but remembers my own weakness. God expects charitable love. It demonstrates Christ.



Redemption In The New Testament

Randy Harshbarger

The Apostle Paul gives us perhaps the most comprehensive, concise statement concerning redemption in all the New Testament in **Romans 3:21-26**, *"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being purified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."* Consider what Paul says.

First, a righteousness has been made known or made manifest apart from the law. Whether this is the law of Moses or any law system, one's salvation is not dependent upon perfect lawkeeping. Paul is speaking of a righteousness that is possible for sinners. That is the condition all men find themselves to be in (**Romans 3:10**). If a man sought justification on the basis of law, he was obligated to keep the law perfectly; it then became a matter of debt, not grace (**Romans 4:4**). Paul tells us that this righteousness made possible in Christ was not a new thing; the Old Testament writers anticipated the time when God's Son would come to bring about our salvation. The Jew should not have been surprised, as this is the goal the Old Testament pointed toward.

Second, this righteousness of God is possible through Jesus Christ. That is, Christ is the means or the instrument through which this righteousness is appropriated. **Philippians 3:9** is a good commentary on this point. Paul wanted to be "... *found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.*" By faith would include everything that is needful in accepting who Jesus Christ is. He is our Savior, our great High Priest, our King, our Lord. The good news is that while all have sinned, all men, whether Jew or Gentile, can enjoy the blessings Christ provides. This justification is not upon the basis of law or works.

Third, men are redeemed in Christ. To be redeemed is to be justified, or judged to be righteous. In Christ, you are now free from guilt. This gift is freely bestowed. It is by God's grace. His loving kindness, His favor, His goodwill has been bestowed on each of us. We do not deserve it and we cannot merit the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. The ransom price has been paid. Christ paid with His own precious blood. We are delivered, liberated, released from sin and its effects. God can justify sinners because the price has been paid.

Fourth, Christ is the propitiation for our sins. He makes it possible for the wrath of God to be averted. God's wrath is not capricious or arbitrary. It grows out of His righteousness. In Christ, God can now justify sinners. At the cross, God did not wink at sin; He forgave sin. Christ is the adequate basis for doing so. That God that Jesus paid it all.

(This is one of the many writings I found as I studied for today's sermon. There may be overlap, but I thought it would be useful as a supplement to the lesson. This message of redemption through Christ is important for us to study and understand. It is a message that needs to be proclaimed to the lost and dying in the world around us. Obedience to the law of Christ is the only way to obtain this redemption as it is only found in Christ and obedient baptism for the remission of sins is the only way "*into Christ.*" DLH)

Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

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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

Deberah Brooks has knee surgery this Tuesday, April 14.

JoBeth Henderson has done well this week. She has a chemo treatment on Tuesday. A lower dose and extra fluids should make this treatment easier on her.

Tommy Robinson is taking treatment 5 days a week.

Sue Soliday is improving and getting around much better.

Sunday evening - **Isaiah 52:13** Wednesday - **Revelation 16:8**

Spring Meeting - Terry Summerlin - April 26-29

Announcements are on the front bench and in the hall.