

# Redemption



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## OPENING COMMENT

The bleak reality of the fall leaves us in rightful despair. We look at the testimony of sinful people throughout scripture and find ourselves mirrored in their failures. Our lives so closely resemble those whom God punished, that it is a wonder we are still alive. Yet, as we survey God's patience and mercy with those rebels, we cannot help but see a God who longs to redeem His people. Even from the outset of the curse there is a hint of a redemption to come. There will be a greater Noah, a greater Abraham, a greater Moses, a greater David. Someone who can reconcile us to God in a miraculous and unbelievable manner. As we continue in the grand story we wait with baited breath for one who can save us.

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## READ THE TEXT: Ephesians 1:7-10

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

## UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1. Where is redemption found according to this text?
2. What is redemption defined as?
3. Where does the overflow of redemption come from?
4. Where is the purpose of God found?
5. What is the purpose of God through Christ?
6. Does the text make any hint at a future reality?

## APPLYING THE TEXT

1. What is challenging about understanding God's redemption to be sourced "in the riches of his grace"? How does this challenge our typical understanding of redemption?
2. "Lavished" is a rich and meaningful word. What does it indicate about the redemption granted us in Christ?



3. What is significant about redemption being lavished in “wisdom and insight”?
4. What does it mean that God’s will has been “set forth in Christ”? What implications does that have for us in our day to day lives?
5. The union of things of heaven with the things of earth in the final statement of this section hints at a future reality. How might this impact our current disposition as followers of Christ and recipients of his grace-filled redemption?

## BIBLICAL THREAD

1. Genesis 3:15 – A hint in the curse of a redeemer to come.
2. Psalm 107 – An encouragement to praise for those who have been redeemed.
3. Psalm 111 – The great works of the Lord in redemption.
4. Isaiah 53:4-6 – someone to be crushed for our sins.
5. Luke 4:16-21 – Jesus declares his mission using Isaiah’s prophecy.
6. Romans 5:6-11 – While we were still sinners Christ died for us.
7. Ephesians 2:1-10 – Death to life by grace through faith.
8. Colossians 1:12-23 – delivered from the domain of darkness.
9. Hebrews 9:11-28 – redemption through the blood of Christ.

## CONCLUSION

God is so merciful! He purposed, at the right time, to send Christ to redeem a lost and broken world so that we could have access to Him again. Instead of wrath we receive grace, instead of judgement we receive pardon, instead of guilt we are set free, instead of death we have life. It is no wonder scripture talks about God lavishing grace upon us. In Christ all the brokenness of the fall is dealt with. Our sin is paid for and we can approach this Holy God as children. Redemption ought to be celebrate. Redemption ought to be regularly remembered. Redemption ought to be regularly preached. Redemption ought to motivate us to live as changed people, as a holy nation, as a blood bought bride; pure and holy.

## SHARE & PRAY

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### LIFE GROUP VISION:

The goal to meeting together around the word of God is three-fold. First, we want to more clearly understand what God is saying to us through his Word and apply it to our own hearts and minds. Secondly, we want to build a loving community with each other to disciple one another toward maturity in Christ. Thirdly, we desire each of us, as ambassadors of Christ, to look outwards to our community and ask how we can bring the truth of the gospel to bear on those whom God has placed in our lives.

