



OUR COSTLY "REDEMPTION."

November 17, 2019

1 PETER 1:18-19 NKJV - (18) knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, **(19)** but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Christ's redemption has freed us from guilt, being "justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (**Romans 3:2**).

The word **redeem** means "**to buy out**." The term was used specifically in reference to the purchase of a slave's freedom. The application of this term to Christ's death on the cross is quite telling. If we are "redeemed," then our prior condition was one of slavery. God has purchased our freedom, and we are no longer in bondage to sin or to the Old Testament law. This metaphorical use of "redemption" is the teaching of **Galatians 3:13** and **4:5**.

Our redemption has been bought with a price (**1 Corinthians 6:20**). Nothing is more costly than the price that was paid for our redemption. The price—the currency—of our redemption, which released us from the captive hold of sin and death, is the blood of Jesus. Under the Old Covenant there were sacrifices of blood which temporarily atoned for sin; but under the New Covenant, Jesus' sinless blood paid the full price for all our sin for all time. Jesus was the sinless spotless lamb, the ultimate sacrificial Passover Lamb.

Only perfect lambs without defects and blemishes were allowed to be sacrificed for the Jewish feast of Passover (**Exodus 12:1; Leviticus 23:1; Leviticus 22:20-24; Malachi 1:8**). The Passover lamb was a symbol that Peter's Jewish audience would have readily understood. Jesus Christ as the Passover Lamb, however, was a concept widely taught in the church. The New Testament writers recognize Christ as the sacrificial Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world (**John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7; Revelation 5:6, 12; 13:8; Ephesians 1:4; 5:27; Colossians 1:22; Hebrews 9:14**). Jesus took on our sins and imperfections and redeemed us with the sacrifice of His innocent life blood on the cross.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 44:22

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: God knows how to teach us to pray. He puts us in situations where prayer is the only option.