

Therefore the Redeemed

Scripture:

Galatians 3:13-14 “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), ¹⁴that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”

I. Redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

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

- A. The word “redeemed” in the Old Testament means “to sever, i.e. ransom, to release, preserve”
- B. The New Testament adds “to buy up, rescue from loss.”

Title: Hidden Value

A gem dealer was strolling the aisles at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show when he noticed a blue-violet stone the size and shape of a potato. He looked it over, then, as calmly as possible, asked the vendor, "You want \$15 for this?" The seller, realizing the rock wasn't as pretty as others in the bin, lowered the price to \$10.

The stone has since been certified as a 1,905-carat natural star sapphire, about 800 carats larger than the largest stone of its kind. It was appraised at \$2.28 million.

It took a lover of stones to recognize the sapphire's worth. It took the Lover of Souls to recognize the true value of ordinary-looking people like us.

II. Promises to the redeemed.

Isaiah 43:1-7 “But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you. ³ for I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I gave Egypt for your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in your place. ⁴ Since you were precious in My sight, you have been honored, and I have loved you; therefore I will give men for you, and people for your life. ⁵ Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, and gather you from the west; ⁶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ And to the south, ‘Do not keep them back!’ Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth— ⁷ Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”

- A. No need to fear, God is with the redeemed.
- B. God knows the redeemed for they are His.
- C. Troubles cannot separate the redeemed from God. (See Romans 8)
- D. The call goes out to the north, south, east and west for the returning of the redeemed.
- E. The redeemed are created for the glory of God.

III. Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return.

Isaiah 51:11 “Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.”

- A. They shall return with singing in their spirits.
- B. They shall return full of joy.

C. They shall be delivered of mourning.

Isaiah 51:16 “*And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people.*”

D. They shall return with God’s word in their mouth.

E. They shall know that they are protected.

F. They shall have the assurance that they are God’s people.

IV. The response of the redeemed.

Psalms 107:1-7 “*Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.² Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,³ and gathered out of the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. They wandered in the wilderness in a desolate way; they found no city to dwell in.⁵ Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.⁶ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses.⁷ And He led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city for a dwelling place.*”

A. A people of worship and praise.

B. A people that know what God brought them from.

C. A people of prayer.

D. A people happy to be in the city (church) of God.