

Key, Christ's Work - 3, 2 pgs

The New Testament reveals Christ at the center of all revelation. It has been said that History is really His story. The difficulty in finding Him in the Old Testament is explained by the old expression, **Christ is in the Old Testament concealed and in the New revealed**. The whole OT anticipates the coming of Jesus Christ and finds its fulfillment in Him. His work in accomplishing redemption is the pervasive theme of the Bible. The history of **redemption** has recovery and restoration of the creation as its ultimate goal.

Christ's Work, what God has done for us

A. **REDEMPTION**: deliverance, release effected by the payment of a ransom

When, where, and how was **redemption** accomplished?

At the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, ... *In a little while you will see me no more [crucifixion], and then after a little while you will see me [resurrection], Jn.16:16 ... you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices [Jesus died]. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy [he is risen], v.20 ... I have been speaking figuratively, v.25 ... I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father, v.28 ... Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him ... I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do, 17:1-4 >> Later, knowing that everything had now been finished ... Jesus said, It is finished. With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit, 19:28-30*

Rom.4:25, Jesus our lord was delivered up for our trespasses [substituted for us] and raised for our justification [so we could be declared righteous].

2 Cor.5:21, It was for our sake that God made Christ to be sin for us [in our place, substitution] that in Him we might become the righteousness of God

Ex.6:6-7, say to the Israelites ... I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you ... I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God.

Ex.3:11-13, I have taken the Levites from among the Israelites in place of the first male offspring of every Israelite woman ... all the firstborn are mine. When I struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, I set apart for myself every firstborn in Israel, whether human or animal. They are to be mine.

B. **RANSOM**: price paid to secure the release of a captive

Mk.10:45, The Son of man ... [came] to give His life a ransom for many

1 Tim.2:6, He gave Himself a ransom for all [NLT - purchase freedom]

At the Exodus, God judged everyone and bought [ransomed] the firstborn males (representatives of the whole family and God's claim on all) by taking the lamb in their place [substitution]. This was a demonstration of God's sovereignty - that judgment falls upon all, Egyptians and Israelites, and that mercy was available to all. **Ex.30:11-16**, when you take a census ... each shall give a ransom [lit. atonement] for his life to the Lord (v.12) the rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less (v.15). The lesson of the Passover was that the sentence of death upon the firstborn was put off [atonement - covered over for the time being, a temporary measure until actual redemption was

accomplished at the cross] through the acceptance of a specific sacrifice is now expanded to apply to the whole community. Later, God took the Levites in place of the firstborn males of Israel (**Num.3:11-13**).

Hosea's ransom of his unfaithful wife (**Hos.3:1-2**) served as an illustration of God's ransom of unfaithful Israel, and of mankind.

C. Salvation: refers to the entire process of Justification, sanctification, glorification. It describes our rescue, our deliverance from sin and its ultimate consequence, eternal damnation [see True Spirituality, **p.73-75**]

Titus 2:11, for the grace of God has appeared bringing salvation for all people [people of all nations, not just the Jews, not every individual]

What do we need to be saved from? **1 Thes.1:10**, the wrath to come **5:9**, God has not destined us [Christians] for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ex.14:30; 15:2, (after God destroyed Pharaoh's army in the sea) *The Lord ... has become my salvation* from the song of Moses

In the OT, to make atonement meant *to cover* . In the NT, **Atonement** is used generally to refer to the work of Christ that accomplishes our salvation.

D. Justified: declared to be **righteous; vindicated**

Rom.5:1-2, having been justified by faith, **we** [Christians] have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have gained **access** into this **grace** in which we stand ...

Titus 3:7a, having been justified by His **grace** [NLT - He declared us not guilty] we might become **heirs** having the hope of eternal life **v.7b**

Zech.2:10-3:4 , [addressed to exiles in Babylon which invaded Judah from the north, **Zech.2:6**] Shout and be glad, Daughter Zion. For I am coming, and I will live among you, declares the Lord. **Many nations will be joined with the Lord in that day and will become my people** [see **3:10** , in fulfillment of the promise to Abram, **Gen.12:3**] ... and you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you ... Be still before the Lord, all mankind, because he has roused himself from his holy dwelling [to judge] .

A courtroom scene where Satan accused Joshua the high priest of unworthiness for the priesthood: *Then he showed me **Joshua the high priest** [Jeshua, Gk. Jesus, the lord saves, represents the sinful nation of Israel] standing before the angel of the LORD and Satan [mng. accuser] standing at his right side to accuse him. The LORD said to Satan, The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you [repeated for emphasis] ! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire [rescued, delivered, saved] ? Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. The angel said to those who were standing before him, **Take off his filthy clothes. Then he said to Joshua, See, I have [symbolically] taken away your sin , and I will put fine garments on you [depicting righteousness]** ...*