

PETE BUMGARNER MINISTRIES

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**THE LEGAL SIDE
OF REDEMPTION
STUDY GUIDE**



THE LEGAL SIDE OF REDEMPTION

SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 3:13

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, “Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.”

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, “Abba, Father.” Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Colossians 1:14

In Whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins.

Hebrews 9:11-12

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

I Peter 1:18-19

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

THEME

The legal side of redemption encompasses all that God has done for us. The practical side of redemption is the operation of these spiritual truths in the physical realm where we live. In order to function properly in the practical side of redemption, we must first have a good working knowledge of the legal side of redemption. By knowing what has legally taken place concerning redemption, we can make much better decisions when implementing the practical side of redemption.

Many people become frustrated and discouraged when they do not experience the redemption benefits, not realizing that these benefits must be received spiritually before they can manifest physically.

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The word “redeem” means to buy up, or to ransom. It also means to rescue from loss.
- B. From what do we need to be redeemed?
 - 1. We need to be redeemed from sin and death.
 - 2. We need to be redeemed from sickness and lack.
- C. Who can redeem us?
 - 1. No man is capable of redeeming himself.
 - 2. Jesus is the only One Who has the ability to redeem humanity; no one else can meet the requirements.
- D. How can we be redeemed?
 - 1. In order to be redeemed, we must recognize our need for redemption.
 - 2. After recognizing the need for redemption, we must realize that we do not have the ability to redeem ourselves.
 - 3. Jesus is the only One Who is capable of redeeming us; therefore, we must accept the redemption He has provided through His death, burial, and resurrection.
 - 4. Believing that Jesus is the Son of God and our personal Savior is our only means of obtaining redemption.
- E. Redemption involved three parties: God; man; and Satan.
- F. God created man; therefore, God became involved in the redemption of man.
 - 1. God created both heaven and earth; they belong to Him. Heaven is His throne, and the earth is His footstool. (Matthew 5:34-35)

2. God gave Adam **dominion** over the earth, but He did not give him ownership of the earth. (Genesis 1:26; Psalm 24:1; I Corinthians 10:26)
 3. God is just, true, and honest; therefore, He had to devise a legal method of redemption.
 - a. God does not exercise His power illegally.
 - b. God skillfully and accurately followed the plan which He had devised before the foundation of the world. (Ephesians 1:4; Revelation 13:8; Revelation 17:8)
- G. Man was the focus of redemption. Man fell; consequently, man had to be the redeemer.
1. God created man in His own image and gave him dominion over the earth and the things on the earth. (Genesis 1:26)
 - a. God made a legal transaction with man; He gave him authority in earth.
 - b. Dominion, or authority, in earth legally belonged to Adam, but God still owned the earth. (Psalm 24:1)
 - c. Adam had the legal right to do what he pleased with his dominion, but he was accountable to God for his actions.
 2. Adam submitted to Satan when he ate the forbidden fruit, thereby yielding his dominion to Satan. Adam placed Satan above himself by submitting to him.
 - a. Adam had the authority to remove Satan from the garden of Eden. Instead, he allowed Satan to tempt and deceive the woman, who, in turn, influenced Adam's submission to Satan's suggestion. Adam made a legal transaction with Satan by yielding to his suggestion. (Genesis 2:15)
 - b. Adam had dominion over Satan until he submitted to him. Through submission, Adam made Satan his lord. (Romans 6:16)
 - c. When Adam yielded to the desires of the flesh, the flesh gained control and began to dominate the creation of God.

3. In order to operate within the legal parameters, God had to redeem man through a man.
- H. Satan's authority, which is exercised through the flesh, had to be removed in a legal manner.
1. Satan did not steal Adam's dominion, nor did he take it by deception; Adam was not deceived. (I Timothy 2:14)
 2. Satan legally received dominion from Adam by an act of Adam's will; therefore, Satan's dominion had to be legally removed through an act of Satan's will. (Romans 6:16; I Corinthians 2:7-8)
 - a. The dominion Satan exercises over man comes through flesh dominance.
 - b. Satan still has dominion over the sinner, and he also dominates the Christians who walk according to the flesh. He is called the god of this age. (II Corinthians 4:4)
 - c. Satan's dominion came through a legal transaction between Adam and Satan. Adam yielded to Satan's suggestion.
 - (1) This transaction was just as legal as God's transaction with Adam.
 - (2) Every human being has a "garden of Eden" experience; he must choose between right and wrong, obedience or disobedience, flesh or spirit.
- I. Jesus met the three requirements mandatory for a redeemer.
1. He was related to the human race.
 2. He was willing to redeem the human race.
 3. He had the ability to redeem the human race.

II. GOD'S PLAN

- A. God's redemption plan had to be legal.

- B. God had to devise a way to judge and punish sin, yet restore dominion to man.
- C. Legally, the restoration of dominion had to be accomplished by man.
- D. God's master plan was to produce a second man, One like unto the first Adam, with the exception of sin.
- E. This "second man" had to be born of a woman.
- F. Jesus, the second man, made legal entry into earth as God in flesh through the womb of Mary. (John 1:14; I Corinthians 15:47)
- G. Mary gave God permission to enter into her body, thereby making the birth of Jesus legal. (Luke 1:28-35, 38)
- H. The fall of man did not take God by surprise. God's plan of redemption was already instituted before the creation of Adam. (Matthew 13:34-35; Ephesians 1:4; Hebrews 4:3; I Peter 1:19-21)
 - 1. It is imperative that we understand this truth.
 - 2. God does not have alternate plans. He knows what is going to take place before it happens, so He is never taken by surprise.
 - 3. The foreknowledge of God sees into the future; consequently, He can foretell the destiny of man.

III. THE REVELATION OF GOD'S PLAN

- A. God Himself came into the earth in the form of Jesus. (John 1:1-4, 14)
- B. God took full responsibility for man's failure.
- C. God provided a Man with both the power and ability to redeem humanity.
- D. Jesus was sent into the world as a sinless sacrifice. (John 1:29; John 14:30; Hebrews 9:14)
- E. Jesus was and is both God and man. (John 1:1-14)

1. The physical body of Jesus represented His humanity, which gave Him the legal right to redeem mankind.
2. The divinity of Jesus gave Him the power and the ability to redeem mankind.

IV. THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S PLAN

- A. The cross was the instrument God chose to play a major role in the redemption plan. The cross consummated the "law" and initiated redemption. (Colossians 2:13-14)
 1. Jesus fulfilled that which the law symbolized and the prophets foretold.
 2. The cross itself did not redeem man; it was a tool used in the redemption process.
- B. Jesus had to be sinless in order to redeem us.
 1. Jesus was tempted in all areas, just as other men are tempted, but He did not sin. Jesus never submitted to the desires of the flesh; consequently, He was never dominated by the flesh. (Hebrews 4:15)
 2. Jesus established the pattern for us by overcoming temptation in a physical body.
 - a. We do not have to submit to temptation, but we must do what Jesus did if we expect to overcome temptation—be led by the Spirit and refer to the Word of God. (Matthew 4:4,7,10; I Corinthians 10:13)
 - b. All temptation can be placed into one of three categories: the lust of the flesh; the lust of the eyes; and the pride of life. (I John 2:15-16)
 - c. In His weakness (forty days of fasting), Jesus overcame the devil in these three areas; this accomplishment should give us great consolation and encouragement so that we, too, might resist the devil, realizing that he must flee from us. (Matthew 4:1-11; James 4:7)

3. In reality, Jesus' sinless life proved to be Satan's defeat. If Jesus' life had not been sinless, Satan could have legally held Him in hell. Therefore, Satan's defeat took place in the earth, and it was manifested in hell when Jesus came forth with the keys of death and hell and a multitude of former captives.
- C. Jesus had to redeem humanity as the Seed of woman. (Adam sinned; Eve was deceived.) (Genesis 3:14-15; Matthew 1:18-23; I Timothy 2:14)
 - D. It was mandatory that Jesus die two deaths (physical and spiritual), thus fulfilling Leviticus 16.
 1. In order to redeem mankind, Jesus had to fulfil every aspect of the law that governed the day of Atonement. (Leviticus 16:1-22)
 - a. Atonement required two goats: the Lord's goat and *azazel*, the scapegoat.
 - b. The body of Jesus, nailed to the cross, fulfilled the requirement of the Lord's goat, which was slain for the sins of the people.
 - c. The slain goat alone could not fulfil the atonement.
 - d. Jesus' spirit man went into hell, thus fulfilling the requirement of *azazel*, which is the goat of separation. Jesus was separated from God, just as the scapegoat was separated from the people.
 - (1) During Jesus' life there was no division between Himself and His Father, but on the cross Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" (Mark 15:34)
 - (2) The travail of Jesus' spirit man is seen in Isaiah 53:10 and Psalm 88.
 2. It is imperative that we understand the difference between physical death and spiritual death.
 - a. Physical death is cessation of life.

- b. Spiritual death is separation from the life of God, which is caused by sin.
 - (1) God made Jesus to be sin for us. (II Corinthians 5:21)
 - (a) God made Jesus sin, then judged and punished sin once and for all.
 - (b) God judged and punished our sins in Jesus.
 - (c) The punishment for sin is death or separation from the life of God. Jesus bore this penalty for us. (Psalm 16:10; Matthew 12:40; Acts 2:25-28; I Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 2:9; I Peter 3:18-20)
 - (2) Jesus fulfilled the requirement of *azazel* and removed the sin nature, which is manifested through flesh dominance.
 - (a) It is vital that we understand the difference between sin nature and sin acts.
 - (b) Jesus' removal of the sin nature has given power over the flesh to all those who will believe in Him and identify with Him.
 - (c) Power over the flesh is available only to those who are led by the Spirit.
 - (d) One who is led by reasoning and senses will not overcome flesh dominance.
 - (e) Redemption is a spiritual act that must be manifested in the physical realm.
 - (3) Once and for all, Jesus took care of the sin problem. (There is, however, a sinner problem.)
- 3. Jesus fulfilled the requirement of the Lord's goat, in that He was slain. He fulfilled *azazel*, in that He went into hell, a land of separation.

- E. When God was satisfied that justice had been accomplished, He raised Jesus from the dead, thereby making Him the first person to ever be “born again.” (Psalm 2:7; Acts 13:33; Colossians 1:18; Revelation 1:5)
- F. Jesus came out of hell victorious over death and hell. (Revelation 1:18)
- G. Jesus then returned to the tomb and re-entered His body, uniting the inward man with the outward man.
- H. Jesus left the tomb and ascended into the Holy of Holies in heaven, carrying His own blood with which He purified the heavenly vessels. (John 20:17; Hebrews 9:12)
- I. Jesus’ blood was applied to the mercy seat in heaven. (Hebrews 9:11-28)
- J. When Jesus applied His blood and the Father accepted this great sacrifice, redemption was complete.
- K. Jesus’ blood did not cover sin; it remitted sin.
- L. Jesus has ascended back into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father, acting as the Mediator between God and man. (Hebrews 10:12)
 - 1. God and man have been brought together through Jesus.
 - 2. Adam’s sin separated God and man; Jesus’ sacrifice restored fellowship between God and man.
- M. We can now go to the “throne of grace” boldly. (Hebrews 4:16; Hebrews 10:19)
- N. Except for the redemption of the physical body, God’s redemption plan for mankind has now been fulfilled.
 - 1. The redemption of man is threefold: (Isaiah 53)
 - a. We are redeemed from sin and death.
 - b. We are redeemed from sickness and disease.
 - c. We are redeemed from poverty.

2. Although our bodies are awaiting redemption, the law of the Spirit of life is at work quickening these mortal bodies. (Romans 8)
3. The spirit man resides within the physical man. The spirit man has authority over the physical body, just as the resident of a house has authority over the house in which he dwells. (Romans 12:1)
4. Although the body has not yet experienced redemption, it can enjoy the benefits of redemption by submitting to the spirit man.

V. RESTORATION OF MAN'S DOMINION

- A. Jesus legally defeated Satan. He paid the penalty for sin, and He rose again possessing the dominion that man had submitted to Satan.
 1. Jesus obtained full dominion as a man.
 2. As a physical man, Jesus relied on the power and ability of God within Him in every aspect of His life.
 3. Jesus defeated sin in the flesh by refusing to submit to the flesh.
- B. Jesus has given dominion back to man, but only the believer who walks in the spirit actually enjoys the benefits and privileges of redemption.
 1. Satan can dominate only those who submit to the flesh.
 2. Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, but we must remember that He has divided the "spoil" among the strong. (Isaiah 53:12)
 - a. Every born-again believer has access to life, health, and prosperity, but not every believer is enjoying these benefits.
 - b. Only the strong in faith enjoy the benefits provided by Jesus through redemption.

3. The price for redemption has been paid; redemption is now a legal fact, but the practical side of redemption is our responsibility. We must practice walking in our provision.
 - a. Legally, our sins have been remitted.
 - b. Legally, healing is ours.
 - c. Legally, prosperity is ours.
 - d. The benefits of redemption are not automatic; therefore, we must be led by the Spirit instead of the flesh.
 - e. The benefits of redemption will be realized only by those who are led by the Spirit and refuse to submit to the flesh.

- C. First, we must understand the legal side of redemption; then, we will be in a position to walk in the practical side of redemption.

- D. Submission to God is the key to resisting temptation; therefore, we must constantly fellowship with God and obey His commands.
 1. Symptoms and unfavorable circumstances can be categorized as temptations.
 2. James 4:7-8 lays out a divine order which must be followed; otherwise, we will not overcome the temptations of the evil one.
 3. We must **submit** ourselves to God, then we can **resist** the devil; afterwards, we must **draw near** unto God.

- E. Our dominion is manifested when we walk in the Spirit; therefore, we must keep the flesh under subjection at all times.

VI. REDEMPTION PRODUCED RIGHTEOUSNESS

- A. According to II Corinthians 5:21, Jesus identified with our sin so that we might identify with His righteousness.

- B. Righteousness is a legal act that has already been accomplished by Jesus, but we must receive that legal act of righteousness by faith.

- C. Jesus is our righteousness; therefore, we must abide in Him. It is only in and through Jesus that we have right standing with God. (I Corinthians 1:30; II Corinthians 5:21)

VII. SUMMARY

- A. Jesus met all the legal demands of a redeemer.
- B. Jesus made a legal entry into earth.
- C. Jesus made a legal entry into hell.
- D. Jesus made a legal entry into heaven.
- E. Dominion has been reinstated to man through the redemptive work of Jesus.
- F. The dominion which has been legally reinstated to man is the ability to walk in the spirit, thereby overcoming the flesh.
- G. Sin, sickness, and lack have been conquered through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, but unless we walk in the spirit, we will not enjoy victory over sin, sickness, and lack.
- H. Those who believe and accept the redemptive work of Jesus are placed in right standing with God.

VIII. CONCLUSION

- A. The legal side of redemption encompasses all that Jesus Christ has done for us, thereby giving us the power to enjoy the practical side of redemption.
- B. We must understand the legal side of redemption so that we can receive all that God has provided for us.
- C. We cannot walk in the practical side of redemption until we understand the legal side of redemption.
- D. Walking in the spirit is the prerequisite to walking in the practical side of redemption.
- E. The flesh does not and cannot experience right standing with God; therefore, the body must constantly remain under the control of the Spirit.