

Ransom Paid

6-3-22

1 Peter 1:17–19 (ESV)

¹⁷ ... Conduct yourselves with fear..., ¹⁸ knowing that you were **ransomed** ... not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

Ransomed – the release of a prisoner by paying the demanded price. We were separated from God held in the bondage of sin. Our demanded price is death. Jesus, who is of infinite value, gave himself as our ransom. HE died in our place. We are free because we had our RANSOM PAID by HIS death! When Israel was in bondage in Egypt, the Passover lamb was killed, and the blood was spread over the entrance of every Jewish home. When the death angel came, it passed over every home where it saw the blood. The death of the lamb and the spreading of the blood protected the people. This was a picture of Jesus. Because Jesus is without sin, he is unique, and his life is of infinite value as the Sacrificial Lamb of the Passover. Paul unequivocally identifies Christ as “our Passover Lamb”.

1 Corinthians 5:7 (ESV)

For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

Only the blood of the spotless Son of God could ever be sufficient to deal with the problem of sin and thus have our Ransom Paid. To make the association crystal clear, the NT not only likens the Son of God to a lamb without blemish or defect, but also reveals that Jesus has the *title* of The Lamb.

John 1:29 (ESV)

John the Baptist said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

Because of this glorious Ransom Paid for us we are instructed to conduct ourselves with fear. We see fear as when a robber jumps out of a dark alley and grabs us. Thus, we are afraid. But this is a different kind of fear. Isaiah 7:25 helps us understand Biblical fear of God for a believer.

Isaiah 7:25 (ESV)

You will not come to the hills for fear of briers and thorns.

People were to fear Briers and Thorns. However, Briers and Thorns do not jump out and grab us like a robber. Briers and Thorns only hurt us when we walk into a thorn bush. Therefore, the only time we have to fear is when we walk into a thorn bush. When the Bible says “conduct ourselves with fear” it means obey Jesus and don’t walk into thorn bushes. Our Ransom is Paid but don’t walk into thorn bushes. We have absolute trust because Jesus and HIS Words are eternal and will never pass away.

1 Peter 1:20 (ESV)

Jesus was foreknown before the foundation of the world!

The redemption was in the plan of God before Creation occurred. Revelation 13:8 refers to Jesus as “the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.”

Our acceptance of Christ as Savior includes that Jesus' holy life is now within us. This new spiritual life is constantly prompting us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord, that includes to grow more Christlike in moral purity. Without purification, which flows from the new birth, we could not show genuine Christian love for other believers. Being purified from sin enables us to show genuine family love for God's other children HE has died for.

1 Peter 1:23 (ESV)

You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding Word of God.

Peter explains that the new birth comes through the living and abiding word of God. By using the word *logos* meaning the total inspired Word, reveals that this is "God's self-revelation". *The Bible is the unfolding revelation of Christ and the Redemption of man.* God's Word is living because it is HIS self-revelation which imparts life. The Word we preach is living and enduring that gives us life. We are different. We are alive! Look at all the great, mighty, glamorous, brilliant people of the earth who have not been born again. They like grass withers, but the Word we possess is alive and eternal.

1 Peter 1:24–25 (ESV)

²⁴ "All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers, and the flower falls,
²⁵ but the WORD of the Lord remains forever."

The Scripture again says, “The Word of the Lord remains forever.” Here, for “Word” rhema is used, and not logos. Rhema means the specific Word. The rhema includes the specific Word for us including those promptings of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, having the power of Jesus within us, we need to conduct ourselves with fear and not walk into thorn bushes. God has clearly spoken.

Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)

MY WORD that goes out from my mouth shall not return to ME empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The Word of God spoken does not come back void even when spoken by us! With the Ransom Paid, we rejoice in Living Word of God!

1 Peter 1:23 (ESV)

You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding Word of God.