**Ephesians 1:7**

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him: (Ephesians 1:7-10)

**Redemption through his blood**

* Redemption
  + apolutrosis (ap-ol-oo’-tro-sis)
  + AV-redemption 9, deliverance 1; 10

1) a releasing effected by payment of ransom

1a) redemption, deliverance

1b) liberation procured by the payment of a ransom

* + John MacArthur – “deliverance by payment of a price”
  + Roman Empire
    - Culture was a slave culture. Had millions of slaves
    - On occasion, a slaves freedom was purchased
* Deliverance from what? SIN
  + The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies. (Psalms 58:3)
  + Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. (John 8:34)
  + But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. (Romans 6:17)
  + For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. (Romans 7:14)
  + Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. (Romans 8:21)
* Freedom from sin through Christ
  + Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. (Galatians 5:1)
  + 3 Grace *be* to you and peace from God the Father, and *from* our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: (Gal 1:3-4)
  + 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 3:13)
  + Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: (Col 1:13)
  + Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. (Romans 6:18)
  + Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; (Hebrews 2:14)
* Through his Blood
  + 18 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; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: (1 Peter 1:18-19)
  + And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; (Revelation 5:9)
* Observations
  + Christ’s death was in place of ours – SUBSTITUION
    - See Gal 1:4 above
    - Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. (Titus 2:14)
  + Deliverance from sin results in a life lived for Christ
    - ….ye became servants of righteousness. Romans 6:18
    - ….be not entangled with the yoke of bondage. Galatians 5:1
  + Redemption or deliverance by payment of a price typically indicates:
    - Ownership
    - Purchase of a particular or specific item or items
    - PARTICULAR REDEMPTION
    - Consistent with this passage in Ephesians! God has a particular people!
      * Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. (Titus 2:14)
        + periousios (per-ee-oo’-see-os)
        + AV-peculiar 1; 1

1) that which is one’s own, belonging to one’s possessions

1a) a people selected by God from the other nations for his own possession

* + - * But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: (1 Peter 2:9)
      * A peculiar people = a purchased people
      * peripoiesis (per-ee-poy’-ay-sis)
        + AV-purchased possession 1, to obtain + 1519 1, obtaining 1, saving 1, peculiar + 1519 1; 5

1) a preserving, a preservation

2) possession, one’s own property

3) an obtaining

* + Controversial Passage
    - But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. (2 Pet 2:1)
    - Do ye thus requite the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? *is* not he thy father *that* hath bought thee? hath he not made thee, and established thee? (Deut 32:6)
    - Issues
      * Do the scriptures ever indicate God sells what he has redeemed? NO
        + Would seem to indicate the buying in 2 Peter 2:1 would not be dealing with eternal redemption.
  + Missionary Story of Redemption

A missionary in West Africa was trying to convey the meaning of the word redeem in the Bambara language. So he asked his African assistant to express it in his native tongue. "We say," the assistant replied, "that God took our heads out." "But how does that explain redemption?" the perplexed missionary asked.

The man told him that many years ago some of his ancestors had been captured by slave-traders, chained together, and driven to the seacoast. Each of the prisoners had a heavy iron collar around his neck. As the slaves passed through a village, a chief might notice a friend of his among the captives and offer to pay the slave-traders in gold, ivory, silver, or brass. The prisoner would be redeemed by the payment. His head then would be taken out of his iron collar.

What an unusual and graphic illustration of the word redeem! Ephesians 1:7 states, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." Jesus died on the cross to purchase our freedom from the bondage of sin.

Have you put your trust in Jesus as your Redeemer? Let Him take your head out of the enslaving collar of sin and set you free.

—Vernon C Grounds