

30. Nov - Nov. 2, 1969 A.M.

REDEMPTION THROUGH THE BLOOD

I Peter 1:18-19

Carl F. Henry raised the question "Are we with them?"

The "them" is the New Testament Church.

Have we preserved or lost their insights and incentives. Are we trying to enlarge the place of our tent, lengthen our cords, and strengthen our stakes without looking to the rock from which we were hewn?

Christian (discipleship) for the early church involved more than ethical concern. What can I do for Christ or my fellow man?

New Testament Churchmen centered their faith in a doctrinal discernment of deep spiritual dimensions.

They had a gripping awareness of what great things Christ had done for them through his death.

They remembered him as one who gave his life as a "ransom for many".

They recalled that "while we were yet sinners Christ died for us".

John 3:16 was for them in Martin Luther's fine phrase, The Gospel in miniature. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son.

Early Christians were more Christ conscious than culture conscious.

The (monstrous movements) of our time would not have discouraged or disturbed them. They would not have been intimidated by the population explosion, the cults, the communism, youthful rebels.

They knew they had a crowned Christ whom God had highly exalted and given a name above every name.

Peter deals with the doctrine of redemption and with the stroke of his pen fills verses 18 and 19 not with humanism but Christo-centerism!

I. Describes Disciples As Redeemed.

Principle of Life.

It follows, there are those who are un-redeemed!

Peter - Christian man is as God meant him to be. The non-Christian are the opposite.

Redeemed is a Biblical term. What does it mean to the Christian? Who then are the redeemed?

The redeemed are those who stand good with God. They have peace and pardon from Him; union and blessed fellowship with him.

They are possessors of a Priesthood - able to speak to him for themselves and speak to him in behalf of their brothers and sisters.

The un-redeemed are those that are estranged from him. Sin is a sinister separation between man and his Maker.

Adam hides from God when he hears his footsteps in the garden because he loathes having contact with a God with whom he has no fellowship. His folly with the forbidden fruit has fractured relations. Sin pushed God out of the picture.

The redeemed are those who have well-being in the other world.

This is not to say they are free from anxieties and apprehensions common to man.

But they have a confidence - a contentment as psalmist -- "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof".

Some Negro Churches still chant - "If I don't wake up in the morning everything will be alright". This is their way of abbreviating faith and futuristic hope.

Paul - put it "for we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the

heavens".

The redeemed are those who have been delivered from servitude to Satan.

This is not to say that the redeemed are (not) tempted by the evil one.

But Satan does not direct the drama of his life. Sin may reside in this mortal body but it does not reign!

## II. The Disciples Were Not Redeemed By Perishables

Peter - not redeemed by corruptible things as silver and gold.

President Johnson spoke of a Great Society - more homes, jobs.

Church must sound the warning that these high hopes will end in disappointment, failure, frustration.

Jesus, "man shall not live by bread alone".

Moneyed man who is accustomed to look on his wealth as the key to every treasure-chest; is sometimes startled to find how little it can really do.

It fails to help redemption.

Gold cannot mend broken vows.

Gold cannot bring life back to dead body.

Gold can only purchase things which are as corruptible as itself!

In the sphere of the soul, currency will not pass.

God could have given sums of gold, stars of silver, constellations glowing with precious metals but none of these would have been sufficient to free one soul from the curse or penalty of sin.

Jesus spent his days on earth with scanty corruptible equipment. He was no home owner (he had no where to lay his head) could not furnish a formal education from any accredited academy, He did more borrowing than buying, using other peoples boats, colts, beds, upper rooms. Apparently the only material legacy to the living

at the time of his death was a seamless robe. He had no life insurance or burial policy, his funeral arrangements were taken care of by a secret and altruistic friend. This was his life by choice.

I am convinced he was not opposed to the possession of worldly goods. He made it plain it was possible for a rich man to be righteous.

Charged his followers to be responsible in material and physical welfare of their neighbors. Feed the sick and hungry, visit those in prison. He did not spot light or accentuate the perishable but things that survive time and tide.

Church spends much energy upon corruptible things. Buildings - budgets - order of worship.

Give redemption to sagging civilization.

### ✓ III. The Disciples Were Redeemed By Precious Blood

Central truth of all Christianity.

Hymns - not of supreme idea is here.

The blood is the life of all flesh. Life is mans possession and God's supreme gift.

When a man has given his blood that is all he can give.

Peter remembered the sacrificial system. Lambs were offered day by day for the sins of the people. As of a lamb without blemish and without spot. The suffer of calvary made atonement for sin.

Emphasis on the preciousness of the blood.

Perfect character without blemish, without personal sin without spot.

New Testament saints expressed faith in the redeeming power of the shed blood of the spotless lamb.

They were bold to say "The blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin". "We have redemption through his blood". "All things are by

law purged with blood, and without the shedding of blood is no remission".

One of the yardsticks of the early church was one's allegiance to the Lord's Supper.

New Testament speaks of a worshipper drinking unworthily and drinking damnation to himself.

It has in mind the doctrinal inadequacy; the failure to discern the significance of the Lord's death.

Some question why only three years of Jesus earthly life is recorded.

Dr. Hackett gives brilliant answer - The Gospel recorded only three years

not his life (but) His death was the great work of Christ.

It is death that is set forth in the ordinances. (Baptism) is not commemorative of his birth or his incarnation. It calls to mind his death.

"We are buried with him by baptism".

The (Lord's Supper) is not a memorial of the sermon on the mount or the example in daily life.

It brings to remembrance his death "This is my body which is broken for you". This is my blood which is shed for you".

The preciousness of his blood holds (cleansing power) for the peasant or prince, heroes or handicapped, high or low.

The preciousness of his blood is (interdispensational) and offers salvation to all who live by faith - patriarch, priest, king, prophet, those living today or unborn tomorrow can come to the waters and drink.

The preciousness of his blood (turns away wrath) and makes one acceptable. There is now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit.

The preciousness of his blood (is sanctifying) this redemptive power inspires one to grow in grace.

The preciousness of his blood is (eschatological) in its ultimate effects.

The saint can sing "I have a home prepared where the saints abide, over in the Glory Land".

He can be certain Christ had this in mind when he said "I go to prepare a place for you".

He can die with Paul's assurance "There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness".

The church's battle cry -

"There is a fountain filled with blood  
Drawn from Immanuel's veins,  
And sinners plunged beneath that flood  
Lose all their guilty stains".

Dr. Edwards May Bap. Assoc. Flood Ky - Deluc - appeared in the valleys, group of men with Broad Brim Hats, all trades, quietly helping to Rebuild Homes - Barnes -  
Reporter - interview - Where are you men from &  
What are you " doing &  
Why Are you " Here -

Midwites From Ohio Valley  
Explained fulfilling GAL. - BEAR ye one Another's burdens &  
Dunphy fulfil law of Christ!

Jesus to Cross Wad Bearing your Burden of sin  
Precious Blood redemmed -