

# The work of God in our world

The work of Christ is to bring lots of things to our life.

- ◆ Sanctification
- ◆ Justification
- ◆ Atonement
- ◆ Salvation
- ◆ Baptism

But today I want to focus our attention on the work of Christ in 'redemption'.

Let's read

Galatians 3: 10-14

10. For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.'
11. But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith.
12. Yet the law is not of faith, but 'the man who does them shall live by them'.
13. Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.')
14. That the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

## What is redemption?

Redemption is the buying back of something or someone.

This means you or I, if we were redeeming something, use to own it and we are buying it back.

## How does this apply to our world?

God created us in His image and likeness. Genesis 1:26. God is our creator. He made us.

Man did something wrong which broke the connection between God and man. Let me explain.

**God and man had a close connection.** God is good. He doesn't just contain goodness **He is Goodness**. All of His goodness was for us to take and have. It was ours. We could do with it what ever we wanted. We live under the blessings of God's presence.

**Man is connected to God and thus goodness.**

When Adam sinned he separated himself away from God. He had too. God is Good! No darkness dwells in Him. A veil now exists between God and man.

## What has changed?

**Man is still inherently the same.** Some things have changed but we can't see them yet because fruit takes time to grow. An investment, even a bad one, usually takes time before it gives us a return. **There seems to be no visible difference in man.** He looks the same, talks the same, acts the same. God is still the same.

**So what has changed? Man has lost connection with God. Man no longer has connection with the goodness of God.**

**Sin is bad – but the results of sin are far worse.** Man is unable to restore the connection He had with God. He tries all sorts of things. He tries attending church. Nope. He tries giving more. Nope. He tries a whole myriad of things. Being good, helping others, not swearing, not lying, being faithful to people, being friendly, but none of them give him the internal everlasting satisfaction he needs. He tries mediating, exposing his body to various substances, getting fit but still the connection with God is not there.

God is Good! God sees that man is unable to get the connection happening again. God makes a way for that connection to be reestablished through His son. He pays the price for the veil and removes its power and place. The only thing man has to do is accept it.

## How do we accept it?

Sometimes we operate the same way. We swallow our pride and do something to restore the connection, friendship with someone hoping that they will respond. Do they have to respond? No. Do we want them to respond? Yes. **For a person to respond to what ever we do they must have faith or trust in the person who is offering the connection again.**

It's the same with God and what he did for us. He brought us back. He brought the connection back so that Man could have connection with the Goodness of God. **God buys back for man the connection and in doing so he buys back mans right to the blessing and presence of God.**

Redemption's point is to restore the connection that was always meant to be.

Redemption is not about being more religious but more blessed.

## Man then has two responses

1. He can think I still need to do certain things to get to God or to get God in my world.
2. He can accept what God has done for him in faith. In trust that God will continue to fulfill his side of the bargain.

God's principles don't exist outside of the world, they are the very fabric that underlies society. Understanding God's principles helps us have a better life.

## **So returning to the scripture we read at the beginning...**

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The works of the law things we try to do to get the connection with God running again. If we choose this path it is complicated and requires 24/7 attention to the letter of every law written by God. Failure in one law disconnects us from God.

**But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith.**

**Yet the law is not of faith, but 'the man who does them shall live by them'.**

What becomes obvious is that it is impossible to do everything right. So God offers a better, a different way – the way of faith.

**Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us ( for it is written, "cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.")**

That way of faith, or trusting in God is the redeeming back of the connection. We are no longer blocked from God's Goodness and presence, the bible calls this no longer being cursed.

**That the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

Once the connection with God is reestablished the blessing is reestablished. We receive things from God not because we have or are doing things but because we are in connection with God.

Today we have a choice to accept what God has done for us by faith or to continue to walk in the way we are right now.

Father, I ask that everyone here would right now get a glimpse of your presence, a touch from heaven for every person here today. A foretaste of what you have for them always when they walk with you. I pray that everyone here would be able to walk in faith towards you knowing that you are a God who wants to have that connection open.