

01/24/15 - Redeemed By His Blood

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1 Peter 1:13-25

What does "redeemed by His blood" mean? With regard to Christ's shed blood, redemption essentially means *deliverance from death by means of payment of a very high price*. The imagery emerges from the marketplace. To redeem is to *buy back*, whether as a purchase or a ransom price.

Although ancient Israel's deliverance from Egypt was national in scope, God's deliverance is also very personal. Elisha Hoffman wrote, "We are redeemed; the price is paid." The Apostle Paul affirms this fact, "In him [Jesus Christ] we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us (Ephesians 1:7-8a).

Jesus Christ, through His atoning sacrifice on the cross, provides complete redemption for all who place their faith fully in Him. John Wesley commented, "All our faith and hope proceed from the power of his resurrection. . . . Without Christ we should only dread God; whereas through him we believe, hope, and love."*

* John Wesley, *Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament*, London: Epworth Press, 1966 (reprint), 1 Peter 1:21, 876.

Author: Phil Pinckard