

REDEMPTION

PURPOSED

PLANNED

FINALIZED

12 Lessons

Prepared by:
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2004

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Preface

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Redemption is a very good Bible term that has great significance to man. It is the means whereby God has taken sinful, fallen mankind and worked out a plan of redeeming him from his sinful condition through His Son, Jesus Christ.

God's redemption of man is presented in this study as an over-all view of how He purposed, planned, and finalized salvation for mankind through the means of Jesus' death on the cross, and promises the ultimate redemption of man for all eternity. Such a study shows that the course of human history was not left to sinful man, but was in the hands of an all-wise, all-knowing Creator, who had worked out His plan through human history. It is a study of God's religion! It tells the story of how God brought fallen man back to Himself.

The procedure of the study will be in the form of Scriptures to be read and questions to be answered, preferably outside of class, so that more time can be given for discussion in class. The questions are an effort to anticipate your questions ahead of time, but in case they do not, we hope you will ask them in class.

Paul E. Cantrell
2004

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Lesson One

“The Beginning of the Universe and Man”

“In the Beginning God created the heavens and the earth.....God created man in His Own image....”

(Genesis 1:1, 27)

The first three chapters of Genesis are critical to the rest of the Bible—they serve as a foundation upon which the Bible rests! These chapters give us some answers to basic questions, such as: (1) Where did I come from; (2) Why am I here; and (3) What is my destiny! There are a lot of questions left unanswered that man has to get down and dig to find the answers for himself. But we do get starting points from which we can proceed to find answers to additional questions.

Man’s origination is dealt with in the first two chapters of Genesis. How man came into being has everything to do concerning the question of Redemption. For if man merely evolved (as some would have us believe), he is then only a higher form of a brute and therefore has no need of Redemption—for there is no “Fall!” But, if man was created by God by design, then man is a responsible being, has free-will, and can make his choices in his life. If those choices lead to man’s separation from God, he will need “Redemption” from the just penalty of his wrong choices.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. How did the World (Universe) come into existence? (Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 1:3, 11:3; Colossians 1:17; John 1:3)**

- a) God called the world (universe) into being out of nothing. (Gen. 1:1; Heb. 1:3; 11:3)
- b) The world (universe) all adheres in Him, exists by His power. (Col. 1:17; Jn. 1:3)
- c) *“There is no statement in the cosmological teaching of other peoples which equals this first sentence in the Bible.”*

2. Why did God create the World? (Ephesians 1:5, 6, 9; Revelations 4:11; Isaiah 43:7; 60:21; 61:3; Psalm 143:11; Ezekiel 36:21-22; Romans 9:17, 22-23; Ephesians 3:9-10)

- a) It was created for His Own will and pleasure! (Eph. 1:5, 6, 9; Rev. 4:11)
- b) It was created for His Own glory! (Isa. 43:7; 60:21; 61:3)
- c) It was created to make known His wisdom, power, and uphold His Holy name, or to glorify it. (Ps. 143:11; Ezek. 36:21-22; Rom. 9:17, 22-23; Eph. 3:9-10)

3. How did God use the days of Creation and to what purpose? (Genesis 1:25, 26-31; Psalm 8:1-5)

- a) All that God did up to man’s creation is called “good.” (Gen. 1:25)
- b) After man’s creation, God calls it “very good.” (Gen. 1:31)
- c) Man is the reason for the world to be like it is.
- d) It was created for his living upon the earth and in this world.
- e) He is the crowning of all God’s creative acts. (Ps. 8:5)
- f) He is the summit and conclusion, the peak of the development of all life on earth.
- g) The days of creation are spent in preparing the world for man’s existence.

4. What was man's original condition in creation? (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:7-25; 3:8; 22-23; Colossians 3:10; Ephesians 4:24; John 7:37; 7:17; Matthew 11:28-30; Hebrews 5:8-9; Revelation 22:17; 1 Corinthians 11:7)

- a) Man was created full-grown male and female. (Gen. 1:27; 2:21-25)
- b) He was created flesh like the animal world, but above the animals.
- c) He was given a high, honorable, and influential position over all of God's creation. (Gen. 1:28)
- d) Man was created in the image of God and the glory of God. (1 Cor. 11:7)
- e) Woman was created in the image of God and the glory of man (1 Cor. 11:7)
- f) Man was made a responsible being with the power of choice. (Gen. 2:16-17)
- g) Indications of this choice elsewhere. (Jn. 7:37, 17; Matt. 11:28-30; Heb. 5:8-9; Rev. 11:17).
- h) Man had the right, the ability, and the obligation to choose to obey God.
- i) Man had direct communion with God. (Gen. 2:15-16)
- j) God manifested Himself to man and spoke to them directly (Gen. 3:8; 2:16).
- k) Man had provisions for testing his obedience to God. (Gen. 2:17)
- l) Man had opportunity to secure physical immortality by eating of the tree of life. (Gen. 2:9; 3:22-23)

Lesson Two

“The Concept of Law and Responsibility”

“For when Gentiles, who do not have the Law, by nature do the things in the Law, these, although not having the Law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the Law written in their hearts”

(Romans 2:14-15)

God created man a responsible being with the power of choice (Genesis 2:16-17). Man was created perfect and innocent, but God gave him responsibility to keep up or tend to the Garden (Genesis 2:15). In addition, God also gave a command (Law) that they were not to eat of the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil.” (Genesis 2:16-17). Thus, man was given the choice of whether to obey God’s commands (Law) or not. But Law is worthless unless there are consequences when man disobeys laws. The penalty in this case was to be “death!” Thus, if man disobeyed God and came under the threat of death, he would also be in need of “redemption.” There is an obvious fact: where there is no Law, there can be no sin; and where there is no sin, there can be no need for Redemption (Romans 4:15). Redemption is God’s means of working out a way for man to escape this penalty that His Law demands. Thus, the concept of Law and Responsibility is a key factor in the study on Redemption.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. What is Law in general? (1 Timothy 1:9)**

- a) It is a legislative system that expresses the Will of God to man.
- b) Law is not made for those who do “right,” but for those who do “wrong.”
- c) If man would automatically do right, there would be no need for a legislative system.

2. What is inferred with the concept of Law? (James 4:12; 2 Timothy 1:8; John 15:14; Romans 6:23)

- a) James 4:12—A Lawgiver or Authoritative Will.
- b) 2 Timothy 1:8—Subjects or beings to whom this Will is expressed.
- c) John 15:14—An expectation of willingness to abide in this will.
- d) Romans 6:23—The power to enforce penalty for disobedience.
- e) Probably reflects the Nature of the one giving the Laws—in harmony with His Nature.

3. What Law did man have from God until the written Law was given through Moses to the Jewish Nation? (Romans 1:18; 2:14-15).

- a) “Inwrought Law” or “Inwrought in the Nature of man”
- b) “Works of Law written in their hearts”
- c) Man is a rational and moral being, able to understand, draw conclusions, etc.
- d) God’s condemnation of the Gentile World shows this (Rom. 1:18).
- e) What are some characteristics of this Law?
 - 1) It is a revelation of God, but not a complete revelation. (Rom. 1:19-20)
 - 2) It is basically a moral understanding of right and wrong.

4. What Law did Adam and Eve first have? (Genesis 2:15-17)

- a) The Law of tending to the Garden.
- b) The Law of not eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- c) This would seem to indicate that they would have no ability to know it was wrong to eat of the tree until God revealed it to them.

5. What relationship does the Law given through Moses have with this original law of God to Adam and Eve? (Genesis 4:4-7; Colossians 2:14)

- a) Both were a legal system given by God to show the people what to do and not to do, and the consequences when God's Law was broken.
- b) At first, the Law to Adam and Eve had no means of forgiveness—this came evidently later (Genesis 4:4-7)
- c) The Law of Moses contained a means of forgiveness along with the legal code from God.
 - 1) It contained ceremonies, special injunctions, various sacrificial offerings, along with Priests to officiate for the people.
 - 2) These things were all temporary in contrast to the moral responsibilities—until God decided to change them (Col. 2:14).
 - 3) Both the special Laws under the “Patriarchal System” and the “Mosaic System” were only shadows of the real to come.

6. After Adam's sin, what place did law have for them? (Romans 7:12; 3:23 Galatians 3:24)

- a) The basic Law of God was able to reflect God's holiness to man (Rom. 7:12).
 - 1) If the law was broken, punishment was threatened to uphold God's holiness or justice.
 - 2) But law, as such, did not reflect God's love and mercy—but, rather his justice.
- b) Law helps us to realize we are sinners (Rom. 3:23).
- c) It teaches us of our need of Christ (forgiveness) (Gal. 3:24).
- d) Law is God's means of helping us see our need of Redemption!

Lesson Three

“The Penalty of Breaking the Law of God”***“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.....For the wages of sin is death....”****(Romans 3:23; 6:23)*

The record of man’s fall as recorded in Genesis 3 has raised a number of question—some of which can be answered. But one thing—among others—that this record does is to give meaning and purpose to the rest of the Bible. The sad thing is that when Adam sinned, sin became rampant. The terribleness of sin is vividly described in Genesis 6. It was so bad that God destroyed all mankind, except eight, and started all over again with mankind. Not only has all men sinned since the beginning, but all men have come under the curse for breaking God’s Law—death, both physically and spiritually.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. What Law did Adam and Eve break to be called sinners? (Genesis 2:15-17; Romans 3:9-10)**

- a) We know that God gave them a revealed, spoken set of rules to go by.
- b) How much more they were responsible for is hard to say!
- c) But, they did not need more in order for them to become sinners, for they broke what Law God gave them.
- d) Sin is defined as:
 - 1) CHATA—Old Testament word for sin—“to miss.”
 - 2) HARMARTANO—New Testament word for sin—“to miss the mark.”
- e) Sin is a matter of choice (Romans 3:9-10).

2. Who is the serpent and how is he described? (Genesis 3:1-5; 2 Corinthians 11:3; Revelation 12:9; 20:2)

- a) An actual snake.
- b) More subtle than other beasts of the field.
- c) Identified in Rev. 12:9 as the Devil.
- d) Why the identity?

3. How did the Devil originate? (Ezekiel 28:13; 1 Peter 3:22; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6; Revelation 12:7-9; 20:2)

- a) Not told directly—we assume he was a created angel with position, power, and responsibility.
- b) But he fell by rebellion against God, with many angels.
- c) Jesus’ recognition of the Devil (Matt. 4:3, 5, 11; 12:26; Lk. 4:4; Jn. 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)

4. How is his fall described? (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:14-18; John 8:44; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6; Revelation 12:7)

- a) His beauty and pride (Isa. 14:12-15)
- b) He exalted himself, full of pride, fell through pride (1 Tim. 3:6)
- c) Rebellion—war in heaven (Revelation 12:7)

- d) An anointed cherub.
- e) High position, wisdom, beauty.

5. Who originated Sin on the earth? (Genesis 3:6-8; 4:7; Romans 5:12; John 8:44; 1 John 3:8; James 1:13; Proverbs 19:3)

- a) Sin originated in the Devil, not with God! (Jn. 8:44; 1 Jn. 3:8)
- b) Sin entered the world of man through Satan's efforts and man's yielding.(Rom. 5:12)
- c) God allowed Satan to bring this about.
- d) God neither works evil nor causes His creatures to work evil (James 1:13).
- e) All sin is chargeable to the self-will and perversity of man (Prov. 19:3)
- f) First mention of word "sin" is in Gen. 4:7.

6. What was the immediate and long range results of man's sin? (Genesis 3:14-24; 4:3-6; 5:1; 9:6; Romans 5:12)

- a) The serpent was cursed.
- b) The woman was cursed with problems in childbirth—her husband to rule over her.
- c) The ground was cursed to make it harder for man to get produce from the ground.
- d) Man was denied access to the tree of life, thus, bringing on physical death!
- e) Man was driven from the Garden of Eden—not allowed back in.
- f) Spiritual death (separation from God) (Rom. 5:12).
- g) However, after the fall:
 - 1) Man still had communication with God (Gen. 4:6).
 - 2) Man was still said to be in the image of God (Gen. 5:1; 9:6).
 - 3) There was forgiveness for man through sacrifices (Gen. 4:3-4).

7. Why did God allow man to sin and come into a lost condition? (Romans 6:16; Joshua 24:14-15)

- a) God has imposed limitations upon Himself towards man.
- b) Man had to have something to choose between to prove his devotion to God.
- c) Without choice, he is not really man, but a brute animal.
- d) He had to have complete freedom to make that choice.

8. What is meant by the expression: "The Law of Sin and Death?" (Romans 3:20-23; 8:2)

- a) God has held man accountable for his choices from the beginning.
- b) Because all men break God's Law, they are under its curse of death.
- c) Thus, the expression—Law that points out man's sin and passes the sentence of death upon him for breaking the Law.
- d) We don't need to inherit Adam's sin to be a sinner....we all sin (Rom. 3:23).
- e) The Law condemns all lawbreakers (Rom. 3:20).

9. What is Redemption? (Hebrews 9:15; Colossians 1:14; Romans 8:23; John 8:32)

- a) To be made free from the hold or bondage of sin and freedom from its penalty.
- b) A re-uniting in fellowship with God.
- c) It is deliverance!

Lesson Four

“REDEMPTION: Purposed and Promised”

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.”

(Genesis 3:15)

Even though man has rebelled against his Maker, he is allowed through a penitent spirit to come before God with a sacrificial offering that figuratively atones for his sinfulness and lets him have access to his Maker again. But in reality, the blood sacrifices had no merit in and of themselves to make that atonement. A perfect sacrifice had to be offered that would completely satisfy the justice of God—this is the concept of Redemption! And God purposed and promised that this redemption would be made possible for man.

Several terms are used connected with this concept that have become a problem for men because of the very terms themselves and the misuse of them by well-known religious people. Such terms as: Foreknowledge, Foreordained, Predestined, Elect, etc., are among those that need to be looked at carefully in proper context. We hope that these terms will be much easier to understand after this lesson.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. When did God purpose or plan for man’s Redemption? (1 Peter 1:19-20; Acts 15:18; 2:23; Ephesians 1:4-5; 3:11; 2 Timothy 1:8-9; Revelation 13:8; 1 Corinthians 2:7-8)**

- a) From the above Scriptures, it would seem obvious that before God even created the world, he had purposed and planned for man’s Redemption.
- b) That means that God foreknew man would sin and He made arrangement to atone for such before He created man.
- c) Remember, we are in time—God is in timelessness. In His mind, Christ was offered for sin before the world began (Rev. 13:8).

2. If God knew man would sin, and He made man anyway, did this not make it impossible for man to avoid sinning? (Romans 8:28-30; Isaiah 46:9-10)

- a) No! Man still had free-will to make his choice.
- b) God’s foreknowledge is not the same as God’s predestination or foreordaining man to sin.
- c) God foreknew what man would chose to do—to sin—and foreordained (predestined) a plan to save man.
- d) God’s ultimate plan is for man’s glorification (Rom. 8:28-30).
- e) All of this did not just happen (Isa. 46:9-10).

3. To whom and through whom was the promised Redeemer to come? (Genesis 3:15-16; 12:3; 22:18; Galatians 3:8, 16; Genesis 26:3-5; 28:10-15; (John 14:6; Genesis 49:8-10; Hebrews 7:14; 2 Samuel 7:11-16; Psalm 89:26-37; Matthew 1:1; Acts 2:30-31; 26:7-8; Hebrews 11:39-40)

- a) The promised Redeemer was to come through the seed of woman.
- b) He was to come through the lineage of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, and David.

- c) The flood destroyed all but the seed lineage. Without this preservation, the promise could not have been fulfilled.

4. Why did Jesus come? (1 John 3:8; Matthew 1:21; John 1:17; 10:10; 1 Timothy 1:10)

- a) He came to destroy the works of the Devil.
- b) He came to save his people from their sins.
- c) He came to bring Grace and Truth.
- d) He came to give life abundantly.
- e) He came to bring life and immortality to light.

NOTE:

- 1) It is thrilling to be a part of something that is older than the world.
- 2) God has a plan...we must seek to know that plan and do our part to help accomplish such.

Lesson Five

“REDEMPTION: Foretold by the Prophets”

“For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6)

Man left to himself only goes deeper into sinfulness (Jeremiah 10:23). His inability to direct his life correctly is obvious. But, even more obvious (or should be) is his inability to save himself. God allowed man time for him to see his helplessness in these areas (1 Corinthians 1:18-21). But God also gave a Revelation to the Jewish Nation to prepare them for his purposes of Redemption in Christ Jesus. And in that Revelation is contained many prophecies that foretold of the coming of a Redeemer, the Anointed One, the Messiah, or the Christ. In this lesson we want to see some of the more important prophecies about the Redeemer.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. What do the Prophets say the Redeemer is to bring to men?**

- a) **Peace**—Isaiah 9:6-7; John 14:17; Micah 5:2, 5; Luke 2:14; Ephesians 2:14-17; Romans 5:1; Colossians 3:15.
- b) **Forgiveness, Remission, Cleansing**—Isaiah 53:1-12; Romans 5:1; Matthew 26:28; Acts 3:18-19, 24; 26:16-18.
- c) **Light to the Gentiles**—Isaiah 42:1-4; Acts 26:22-23.
- d) **Salvation**—Isaiah 62:11; Jeremiah 33:16; Matthew 1:21
- e) **New Covenant—a better one**—Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:6-13.

2. What do the Prophets state He will do when He comes?

- a) **Be a Standard for the Nations**—Isaiah 11:10
- b) **Establish the Lord’s House**—Isaiah 2:1-4
- c) **Be a means of blessing all nations**—Genesis 22:18
- d) **To bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners; to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, to grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, etc.**—Isaiah 61:1-3
- e) **To execute judgment and righteousness**—Jeremiah 33:15
- f) **To set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed**—Daniel 2:44; Acts 2:22-36; Colossians 1:13-14.

3. What was the purpose of Old Testament Prophecies about Christ?

- a) **To reveal that Christ was to suffer death and then enter into His glory**—Luke 24:25-27, 44.
- b) **To give strong basis for our hope**—Romans 15:4

4. Was God’s plan of Redemption plainly revealed in the Old Testament Prophecies?

- a) **It was called a mystery, but now fully revealed**—Ephesians 3:1-7
- b) **Even the Prophets inquired into what these things meant**—1 Peter 1:10-12
- c) **It was not God’s intentions to give clearly at that time.**

- d) He couched His message in figurative and idealistic language.
- e) Illustration: Amos 9:11-12 (Acts 15:7-18)
- f) Illustration: Isaiah 11:1-10
 - 1) Who...the Messiah (1-5)
 - 2) What...Peace (6-9a)
 - 3) Where...in the church (9b)
 - 4) Why...Because Gospel to be taught throughout the world (9c)
 - 5) When...The Christian age (10)

Lesson Six

“Preparations for Redemption”

“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29)

We have already briefly seen the preparation of God for man’s redemption even before the foundation of the world. However, the continuing extent of God’s effort **in time** to accomplish this great feat may never be fully known by man on earth. We do have insight in places as to the extent of that preparation. This lesson will try to get a brief over-view of what God has done in preparation for the coming of the Messiah Redeemer.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. What is inferred by the statement that Jesus came in the “fullness of time?”** (Galatians

4:4).

- a) It infers that Jesus could only come at a set time in history for God’s plan to be worked out.
- b) That elaborate preparations were made for His coming.
- c) And that His coming was to accomplish God’s will for man.

2. What was the purpose of His coming? (Galatians 4:5)

- a) To redeem us from the Law (a system of justification by Law).
- b) To receive an adoption as sons of God

3. What kind of preparations had been made up to the actual time of Jesus’ birth?

- a) From previous lessons:
 - 1) A great plan conceived and worked out by God.
 - 2) The promises that were made to certain ones of the coming of this Redeemer.
 - 3) Prophecies that give detailed information about this coming Redeemer.
- b) But God gave a Law to the Jewish people that had many types and shadows to help prepare the way for the Redeemer:
 - 1) Sacrifices....blood atonement....life for life!
 - 2) Temple (Tabernacle)—Holy place, Most Holy place, Priesthood, High priesthood.
 - 3) Day of Atonement—scape goat.
 - 4) The Passover feast.
- c) In General—allowing the Gentile world to learn by experience the need of a Redeemer (Romans 1:18-32)
- d) To choose a special nation of people and work with them to survive as a people—through which the Messiah could come—and have people prepared to receive Him.

4. What special preparations were made as recorded in the Gospels before Jesus could begin His work towards Redemption?

- a) **Luke 1:5-25**—Announcement of birth of Jesus’ by forerunner, John the Baptist.
- b) **Luke 1:39-46, 67-79**—Inspired statements from both parents of John about his work.
- c) **Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-25**—Announcement of birth of Jesus as the Redeemer.

- d) **Luke 1:46-55**—Inspired insight as to Jesus’ work among men by Mary.
- e) **Matthew 1:21**—Even the Angel giving the name for Jesus indicated His work.
- f) **Luke 2:8-20**—Angels announcing Jesus work to Shepherds.
- g) **Matthew 2:1-12**—Conformation through the wise men of Jesus’ work.
- h) **Luke 2:21-38**—Prophets confirm His great work among men.
- i) **Matthew 2:13-23**—God’s protection of Jesus from Herod’s fury.
- j) **Isaiah 40:3; Matthew 3:3; Mark 1:2-3; Luke 1:76; 3:2-6; John 1:23**—The coming of John the Baptist preaching to prepare the people for the coming of the kingdom of God.

5. How did John identify the Redeemer? (John 1:20-34; 3:30)

- a) In relationship to himself:
 - 1) He was not the Christ, Jesus was.
 - 2) He was not the Elijah, but in reality the one who came in the spirit of Elijah as a forerunner.
 - 3) He was not that Prophet, Jesus was.
 - 4) ***“I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness....”***
- b) Concerning Jesus:
 - 1) Lamb of God. (John 1:29)
 - 2) He was before John. (John 1:30)
 - 3) The Holy Spirit was his assurance of Jesus. (John 1:31-34)

6. How effective was John’s preparatory work? (Matthew 3:5-6; Mark 1:3-8; Luke 3:3-18)

- a) People from Jerusalem, Judea and regions round about the Jordan River heard John preach and many confessed their sins and were baptized.
- b) They were even questioning if John were the Messiah. (Luke 3:15)

7. What was Jesus’ preparation for Redemption?

- a) **Matthew 3:13-17**—His baptism and anointing.
- b) **Matthew 4:1-11**—His successfully overcoming all temptations.
- c) **Matthew 4:12-17**—His successful public ministry:
 - 1) His works proved Him to be the Redeemer (Matt. 12:22-29).
 - 2) His Teachings proved Him to be the Redeemer.
 - 3) God’s witness of Jesus proved Him to be the Redeemer.

Lesson Seven

“Redemption Procured”

“But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed.”

(Isaiah 53:5)

The story of Redemption is the unfolding or revealing of the moral grandeur of Jehovah, and it shows Jesus to be the “effulgence” of His glory. A part of the necessary nature of God is the concept of Justice. When Law is given, it must be upheld, or else there is chaos. The lawgiver must not only be able to wisely give good laws, but has the power and ability to uphold these laws by rewarding the obedient and punishing the disobedient. This is one of the paradoxical concepts in Scripture. The justice of God demanded punishment for disobedient man, but God’s love for His creatures motivated Him to want to forgive them and accept them back into His fellowship. So, how can God justly forgive sinful man and restore the fellowship between them? This lesson is intended to clarify and show that this paradox is one of the great truths of the Bible.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. In what sense was Jesus to bless all nations? (Genesis 22:18)**

- a) His death on the cross would benefit all people.
- b) He died for all.

2. How did Jesus become man’s sin offering? (Isaiah 53:5-6; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Matthew 27:46)

- a) He took our sins upon Himself, he became sin for us.
- b) He became our sin substitute—the Lamb of God—God’s sacrifice for us.

3. How is Jesus our propitiation? (Isaiah 53:11; Romans 3:24, 25; 1 John 2:2; 4:10)

- a) He paid our penalty—one who suffered in our stead.
- b) “In behalf of another.”
- c) We deserved death, but He took it upon Himself to die in our stead.

4. What does Jesus’ death do for those under the first Testament? (Hebrews 9:15)

- a) The blood of Jesus was for their benefit as well as our’s today.
- b) “flows backwards and forwards” figuratively.

5. If the blood of bulls and goats could not take away sin, why did God require such? (Hebrews 10:1-10).

- a) They could not take away sin.
- b) They served as a “concept” to help man see the need of the perfect sacrifice to come.
- c) To show that man could not save himself.
- d) “Death for a death”—“Life for a life.”
- e) “All animal sacrifices were like promissory notes—stayed off the debt of sin another year until Christ could come and pay the note for us.”

6. How do we know when a sacrifice is able to truly redeem us? (Hebrews 10:11-18)

- a) If it has to be offered continually, it shows it has no avail.
- b) But if it can be offered once for all, then it has validity.

7. What did Jesus mean when He said, “It is finished?” (Hebrew 10:11-18; John 19:30)

- a) All things have been completed for man’s redemption.
- b) Jesus’ suffering and death was the ransom price paid for man’s release.
- c) He gave up His Spirit willingly because the job was done!

8. How does Jesus prove God’s justice in forgiving sins under the first Covenant? (Romans 3:21-26)

- a) That God was just in forgiving people before Christ’s death because He knew that Jesus would die for the sins of the people.
- b) They were forgiven in view of the shedding of Jesus’ blood in TIME.

9. What did the resurrection show in regards to Satan’s power? (Hebrews 2:14-15; 1 John 5:18; Revelation 1:18; Romans 8:1-2)

- a) He had destroyed the power of Satan upon His resurrection.
- b) Jesus now possesses the keys (power) of Hades and Death.
- c) Matthew 12:29

10. Where is Redemption to be found? (Romans 3:24; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Ephesians 1:4, 7, 11; Colossians 1:13-14)

- a) In Christ Jesus.
- b) In the Kingdom of His Dear Son.

11. What makes men free from the Law of sin and death? (Romans 8:1-4)

- a) God’s Law states, If you sin, you die!
- b) The death of Jesus has made it possible to be freed from that law and live under the law of the Spirit.

12. Why does man need Christ? (Romans 3:23; 6:23; Galatians 3:10-12; 2:16; 1 Corinthians 1:20-21).

- a) He is a sinner under the curse of Law-breaking.
- b) He has no ability to deliver himself without God’s help.

13. What is the purpose of Law? (Romans 3:20; 5:20; 7:7-8; Galatians 3:19, 24; 1 Timothy 1:8-11)

- a) To make us see sin for what it is...its true nature.
- b) To compel us to turn to Christ for mercy.

14. Why is the New Testament called the perfect law of liberty? (James 1:25; 2:12)

- a) It is a means of setting us free, not enslaving us.
- b) Rom. 8:2; 3:27—The Law of the Spirit and the Law of Faith.
- c) Christianity is not a legal system.
- d) It is a system of faith that deals with sin correctly.

Lesson Eight

“Man’s Part in Redemption”

“But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.” (Romans 6:17-18)

Extremism is a constant mistake of mankind. It usually occurs when a person reacts to something and goes to an extreme position to fight against an idea. Religion is no exception to this way of thinking and acting. History has continually illustrated these extremes to which man has gone in the name of “Christianity.” And, as you would expect, extremism has occurred in the realm of being justified before God. The two extremes are:

- 1) Man doesn’t need God and can be justified by his own good life.
- 2) Man can do nothing in regards to his justification, it is all done by God.

Men have had a hard time trying to harmonizing Grace and Works and Faith and Works from their extreme positions. The harmony is simple—they need to realize that man is a responsible being and accountable before God. He is free to choose his destiny, not forced by man or God. The purpose of this lesson is to show that extremes are wrong—the truth is a balance between the two extremes.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. How does man come to realize his need of a Redeemer? (Romans 1:16)**

- a) Through his own reasoning processes (Romans 1:18ff).
- b) Through hearing the message of the Gospel that tells and reminds him of such (Romans 1:16).

2. Why is Eternal Life referred to as a gift of God? (Romans 6:23)

- a) Because man cannot earn it; thus, it is a gift.
- b) It is something God offers to man freely—to all.

3. Are gifts conditional or unconditional when given to people? Can you illustrate both?

- a) We believe that all gifts are conditional upon man’s willingness to accept the gift.
- b) No gift can be given without acceptance!
- c) The conditions of acceptance is what the real issue is.

4. If Salvation is a gift offered from God, can man refuse that gift? (Acts 13:46)

- a) Yes.
- b) Man can determine to put Salvation away from himself.

5. If Salvation is a “cleansing of one’s sins” (which God does), then, why can’t God do that without man’s consent? (Romans 3:25-26)

- a) It evidently involves the justness of God and man’s will or choice.
- b) Even if God cleansed him, his heart is not turned to God (Romans 6:18, 16).

6. What is the purpose of Redeeming man from the hold of sin? (Romans 6:1-2, 6, 11, 12-13, 14-18, 22; 8:17-18, 28-30)

- a) To turn him from the way of sin so he no longer will serve sin.
- b) To put to death desires of the body to sin.
- c) To be alive unto God's will.
- d) To become servants of God unto righteousness.
- e) To receive everlasting life.

7. How does God allow man's will to be involved in the question of Redemption? (Romans 6:16; Matthew 11:28-30)

- a) By giving him a choice of accepting or rejecting God's offer.
- b) By placing certain conditions he must meet in order to accept the offer.
- c) To answer Jesus' invitation, realizing why he needs to come.

8. Why is there so much stress in the Bible laid upon man believing? (John 3:16; Romans 4:13-16, 23-24; Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 10:14-17)

- a) Our salvation depends upon our belief.
- b) Our surviving the great challenges of life depends upon faith in God.
- c) Faith is belief of testimony about facts.
 - 1) Without testimony, there is no basis for faith (Hebrews 11:1).
 - 2) To believe something is to regard it as true (John 8:32).
 - 3) We act upon what we hear and accept as true.
- d) It is the NATURE of what is believed that makes the difference.
 - 1) Man can believe truth and be saved or believe a lie and be damned (2 Thessalonians 2:12)
 - 2) It is belief in the truth about Jesus that can save us, not believing a lie.
 - 3) It is not faith itself that saves, but the belief in Jesus that saves.
 - 4) Truth (about Jesus) makes us free (John 8:32)
 - 5) Without faith we cannot please God (Hebrews 11:6).

9. Why is there also a stress laid on man being obedient to God if we are saved by faith and not works? (John 3:16, 36; Acts 2:38; 6:7; Romans 6:17-18; Hebrews 5:8-9; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:7)

- a) The natural outcome of faith is action!
- b) Acts 2:37—*"What shall we do?"*—A natural question.
- c) Acts 16:30—The Jailer believed Paul & Silas could show him the way of Salvation.
- e) To do what God commands shows our faith...perfects it! (James 2:17-24)
- f) To fail to do what God commands shows our lack of faith.
- g) Obedience is an expression of one's faith (belief in the message).

10. How would you explain man's part in his own Salvation?

- a) Men must hear the Gospel message correctly.
- b) They must act upon the knowledge of God's directions (Acts 2:38).
- c) Whatever God requires of man to do, he must do in order to receive the gift.

Lesson Nine

“The New Covenant of Redemption”

“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt....”

(Hebrews 8:8-9)

The Old Covenant was given to the Israelite people through Moses on Mount Sinai some 1500 years before Christ. To many of the Jewish people, it was a Covenant that would have no end, but last until the end of the world. But God’s Scheme of things involved several factors along with Redemption through Christ. It involved: (1) A new sacrificial system; (2) A new approach to God in worship; (3) A Covenant based on better promises. Thus, a New Covenant was a part of the Redemptive concept. This lesson is designed to show the change over from one Covenant to a second Covenant.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. God made a promise to Abraham to bless all nations through His seed. Was that promise superceded by the giving of the Law or was the Law (Old Covenant) the fulfillment of that promise? (Genesis 22;18; Galatians 3:15-18)

- a) No.
- b) If the promise was fulfilled through the Law, then Redemption would be by Law, not a promise.
- c) The Law did not replace the promise—but served a temporary purpose.
- d) The Old Covenant was given to Israel because of sin (transgressions) to help them see their need of Christ.

2. What happened to the Old Covenant when Christ came? (Matthew 5:17-18; Galatians 3:19-21, 24; Colossians 2:14-16; Hebrews 8:6-13; Jeremiah 31:31-34)

- a) Jesus did not come to destroy the Law, but to fulfill the Law’s demands!
- b) He lived it perfectly—answered its demands—made Redemption possible through a perfect sacrifice on the cross.
- c) It was there that Jesus took the Old Covenant out of the way.
- d) He then, gave us a new and better Covenant.

3. Of what value is the Old Covenant to men today? (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:11-12; Colossians 2:16; Hebrews 10:1)

- a) To make our hope sure.
- b) To serve as examples for us to profit by.
- c) As a shadow of things under the New Covenant to help us understand better.
- d) As a forerunner of the New Covenant.

4. What made the New Covenant possible? (Hebrews 9:15-26)

- a) The shedding of Jesus’ blood that made an atonement for sin.
- b) His blood ratified the New Covenant.

5. Can Redemption be found outside of the New Covenant today? (Hebrews 8:6-13; 10:15-18, 29; 9:15-17)

- a) No—forgiveness is promised under the New Covenant only now.
- b) Christ’s death provided the means.
- c) The New Covenant was dedicated by Christ’s blood (Hebrews 12:24).
- d) All men need to come under the New Covenant to enjoy it’s promises.

6. What are the terms (conditions) in order to come under this New Covenant? (Hebrews 10:15-18; Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7)

- a) Hear, believe the message.
- b) Act on message—repent and be baptized.
- c) Receive remission of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- d) And then begin to walk in the light of God’s Word where there is continual cleansing.

7. If forgiveness was granted under the Old Covenant, why the stress on God not remembering sins no more connected with the New Covenant? (Romans 4:1-9; 3:24-26; Hebrews 8:6-13; 10:1-18)

- a) Even though forgiven under the Old Covenant—more of a symbolic concept.
- b) It was accomplished through the death of Jesus on the cross—not animal sacrifices.
- c) The Sacrificial System was set up as a type—to foreshadow what was to come.
- d) A remembrance made of sins by the very repeating of the sacrifices showed something was lacking.
 - 1) They were made daily, monthly, yearly—and even special ones.
 - 2) Then once a year, the High Priest went into the Most Holy Place to make atonement for himself and the people.
 - 3) Then, in addition, he confessed the sins of the people over a “scape” goat, placed his hands on him to symbolically impart their sins to the goat, then sent the goat away into the wilderness.
 - 4) The repetition of sacrifices should have shown the deficiency of animal sacrifices.

Lesson Ten

“The Church—Made up of the Redeemed”

“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with his own blood.”

(Acts 20:28)

God’s plan for the Redemption of mankind involves more than just Jesus coming to die on the cross! It also includes the giving of a New Covenant (Agreement) with those who want to come into a saving relationship with God. As well, it also involves the bringing together of all the Redeemed of God into ONE body—the church or kingdom of heaven. Both a New Covenant and the church or kingdom were prophesied of by the Prophets of the Jewish Nation. The writers of the New Testament point back to the fulfillment of these prophecies. Thus, the New Covenant and the church are inseparably tied together with the sacrifice of Christ and the redemption of mankind.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. What Old Testament prophecies foretell of the establishment of the church (kingdom) under the New Covenant?**

- a) **2 Samuel 7:12-16 (Acts 2:29-30)**
 - 1) One to sit on David’s throne.
 - 2) His kingdom will be forever
 - 3) Peter said it was fulfilled in Christ!
- b) **Daniel 2:44 (Luke 2:1-7)**
 - 1) The kingdom is to be set up during the 4th world kingdom (Romans).
 - 2) Jesus was born during the Roman kingdom.
 - 3) It was to be an everlasting kingdom
- c) **Isaiah 2:1-4 (Acts 2:16-17)**
 - 1) The Lord’s house to be established in the last days.
 - 2) All nations to flow into it.
 - 3) Word of the Lord to go forth from Jerusalem.
 - 4) Great peace to men from Jesus.

2. What relation does the church (kingdom) have with Redemption?

- a) **Acts 2:47**—Saved added to church.
- b) **Ephesians 2:16**—Both Jew and Gentile find reconciliation therein.
- c) **Ephesians 5:23**—They have Jesus as Savior.
- d) **Acts 20:28**—They are a purchased people by the blood of Jesus.
- e) **Hebrews 12:23**—They are re-born ones; Names written in heaven; spirits made perfect.
- d) The Redeemed and the church are the same.

3. What preaching and promise did Jesus make with reference to the church (kingdom)?

- a) **Matthew 4:17**—The kingdom is at hand.
- b) **Matthew 16:18-19**
 - 1) Jesus would build His church.

- 2) Even the gates of Hades (place of departed spirits) would not prevent it.
- 3) Keys of kingdom given to Apostles to open door.
- c) **Mark 9:1**—Kingdom to come with power during lifetime of those people.

4. Did God plan the church? (Ephesians 3:8-12; 1:9-12; Matthew 13:35)

- a) Yes...in the eternal purpose in Christ Jesus.
- b) To reconcile both Jew and Gentile in one body.
- c) Things kept secret is now made fully known

5. What connection does the church (kingdom) have with Christ?

- a) **Ephesians 5:25**—He loved the church and died for it.
- b) **Acts 20:28**—He purchased the church with His blood.
- c) **Titus 2:14**—He redeemed a peculiar people unto Himself.
- d) **Colossians 1:18**—He is the head of the church.
- e) **Ephesians 2:14-16**—He abolished the Law in order to redeem both in one body.

6. What is the purpose of Redemption? (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:16; 4:11-16; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Peter 2:21; Ephesians 5:1; 3:21; Romans 8:29-30)

- a) To let all men know God loves them.
- b) To bring all into one body.
- c) To develop this body to maturity:
 - 1) Take a ruin race and lift it up again.
 - 2) Be placed under a regenerating system (mind, understanding, will, affections)
 - 3) Transformation of man.
 - 4) Jesus is the model.
- d) To bring ultimately glory to man.
- e) All to be done unto the glory of God.

7. What special insights are given in Ephesians about the church?

- a) 1:3—blessed with all spiritual blessings (in the church—Christ).
- b) 1:4—Chosen us in Jesus before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blame before Him in love (in the church).
- c) 1:5—Predestinated us unto adoption of children according to the good pleasure of His Will.
- e) 1:10—In time to gather together in one all things in Christ (church).
- f) 1:22—He is the head over the church.
- g) 1:23—Church is fullness of Him
- h) 2:5—Made us (church) alive together with Christ.
- i) 2:6—Raised us up to sit in heavenly places in Christ (church).
- j) 2:16—Reconciled both in one body (church).
- k) 2:19—Fellow citizens with saints and household (church) of God.
- l) 2:20—(Church) built on foundation of Apostles and Prophets....
- m) 2:21-22—(Church) built into a holy temple in the Lord
- n) 3:4-6—Church to make known God’s manifold wisdom
- o) 3:21—God is glorified in the church by Christ Jesus

- p) 4:4—One body (church).
- q) 5:23—Christ is the head and savior of body (church).
- r) 5:25—Christ loved the church and died for it.
- s) 5:27—Made it a glorious church—coming back for it.

Lesson Eleven

“The Redeemed Preserved by God”
“He guards the paths of justice, and preserves the way of His saints.”

(Proverbs 2:8)

Jesus’ great commission to His Apostles was not to just teach and baptize people (Matthew 28:18-20), but they were to keep on teaching those baptized to observe all that Jesus had commanded. God does not want to Redeem us and then drop us! He wants us to continue to grow, mature, and become effective workers and fruit bearers in His kingdom (1 Peter 2:1-2; John 15:1-8). He wants us to be glorified someday with Him. Thus, it is important that we endure to the end so that we may have eternal life with God (Hebrews 3:14). The purpose of this lesson is to show that God has provided the means of our preservation unto the end.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Can any one or any thing pluck us out of God’s hand? (John 10:28-29)

a) No....no power is capable....God is all-powerful.

2. What assurance do we have of God’s love? (Romans 8:35-38)

a) Again emphasized....nothing can separate us from His love.

b) No power is capable.

c) He loves us even though we turn our backs on Him.

3. Define the use of the following terms (Romans 8:28-30):

a) **Foreknow**—To know something before hand...before it happens.

b) **Predestinate**—To predetermine something beforehand.

c) **Called**—Gathering in of the elect through the Gospel call.

d) **Justified**—Made to be right before God in spite of our sins.

e) **Glorified**—A state of glory for man.

4. Can we know we are children of God? (Romans 8:15-17; 1 John 2:3-5; 3:9-10; 3:14)

a) Yes...the Spirit bears witness that we are.

b) We can know by our obedience to God’s Will.

c) We can know by our love for the brethren.

d) If we are born of God, we will not continue in the way of sin.

5. What is Eternal Life that the Christian is given? (John 3:36)

a) It is a relationship with God that has quality that is unending....

b) As long as we have this relationship, we will enjoy Eternal Life.

6. Can this life be lost? (Hebrew 6:4-6; 10:26-31; 3:19; Revelation 3:16)

a) Heb. 6 indicates it is impossible to renew certain ones to repentance.

b) Heb. 10 talks about how terrible to fall into the hands of the living God, and he is talking about Christians who turn and make light of God’s grace.

c) Heb. 3 talks about God’s children losing their promises because of unbelief.

d) Rev. 3 warns of the danger of being spew out by the Lord.

7. What admonitions assure us that we will not lose this life?

- a) **Philippians 2:12-13**—If we work out our salvation with fear and trembling.
- b) **Revelation 2:10**—If we are faithful unto death.
- c) **1 Corinthians 15:58**—If we are steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.
- d) **Hebrews 3:12-14**—If we take heed, exhort one another, be steadfast to the end.
- e) **1 John 1:7, 9**—If we walk in the light, and confess our sins.
- f) **Philippians 4:13**—If we allow ourselves to be strengthened by Christ.
- g) **Romans 8:37**—If we conquer through Christ.
- h) **1 John 5:4-5**—If our faith overcomes the world.

8. How does God preserve the Redeemed unto Eternal Life? (1 Peter 1:5)

- a) Through His power and through our faith!

Lesson Twelve

“The Redeemed Glorified”

“Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.”

(Romans 8:30)

Without proper motivation man will not make it through life successfully. When love is gone, life is hard and often too dreary for enjoyment. We need proper motivation to do or accomplish anything worthwhile. God has provided all the motivation that man will need to live righteously all the way to the end. We need to seek to know these motivations so that we can be “faithful” to the end. God hasn’t redeemed us and dropped us, but rather He is challenging us to be “perfect” as He is (Matthew 5:48). Possibly man’s greatest motivation is what God holds out for us beyond death’s door—Eternal Life with Him! This lesson will be looking at some features of this hope.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**1. Is the Christian’s hope only for this life? (1 Corinthians 15:16-17)**

- a) If we only have hope connected with this life...it is not worth the price!
- b) Paul said, “we are of all men most miserable.”

2. What assurance do we have that we will be resurrected? (1 Corinthians 15:20-22)

- a) Jesus’ resurrection is our assurance.
- b) 1 Corinthians 15:1-7

3. What is raised? (1 Corinthians 15:35-50)

- a) The body is raised.
- b) It is sown in corruption, but raised in incorruption.
- c) It is sown a natural body, but raised a spiritual body.
- d) God is quite capable!

4. Will all men be raised? (1 Corinthians 15:22; John 5:28-29)

- a) Yes...all will be raised.
- b) But not all will be saved.

5. When will the Christian receive his Eternal Reward? (1 Corinthians 15:52-57; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

- a) When Jesus returns—resurrection and judgment.
- b) Hebrews 9:27

6. What will be done to this body? (1 Corinthians 15:44, 50, 52; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 John 3:2; Revelations 21:4; Romans 8:18; 2 Corinthians 4:17)

- a) Changed to a spiritual body upon being raised.
- b) Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.
- c) Dead are raised incorruptible—changed.
- d) Fashioned like unto Jesus’ glorious body.

- e) We shall be like Him.
- f) Nothing of the old body—all things will be new—glorified body.

7. What is the ultimate purpose of Redemption? (Romans 8:30; Ephesians 5:27; Revelation 21:2)

- a) Glorification
- b) A glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle—holy and without blemish.
- c) Holy city, as a bride adorned for her husband.

8. How can we be sure of a heavenly reward awaiting us? (John 14:1-3)

- a) Jesus' promise of going to prepare a place for us.

9. What are some descriptive terms of our glorified state?

- a) **Revelation 2:7; Luke 24:43**—paradise, garden of Eden.
- b) **2 Corinthians 12:2-4**—3rd heaven—paradise
- c) **Hebrews 11:10, 16; Revelation 21:2, 10-26**—Beautiful city
- d) **Revelation 21:8, 21; 22:3**—Place without sin and sorrow
- e) **2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1**—New heavens and earth
- f) **1 John 2:25; Revelation 2:10, 7, 18**—Crown of life, eternal life.
- g) **Hebrews 4:9**—Rest
- h) **2 Peter 1:11**—Everlasting kingdom of God
- i) **1 Corinthians 3:14**—Reward

10. Where will be our glorified state? (2 Peter 3:10-13)

- a) New heavens and earth.

