

Sunday, April 12, 2020—Colossians 1:14 Redemption Through His Blood (Easter Message 2020)

### Announcements

- Welcome to the Grace Life Bible Church live stream.
  - Teaching directly to the saints of GLBC & others who want to join in.
  - Feel free to comment on the video but I will not be engaging with the audience in real time.
  - Focus on my notes and delivering the message.
  
- I would like to begin with some announcements.
  - Corona Comfort Playlist on the Church YouTube playlist
  - Don't Passover Easter: A New Defense of Easter in Acts 12:4 was released by Dispensational Publishing House.
    - An order today comes with immediate access to the eBook.
  - Day of the Lord chart translated into Norwegian.
  - Planning on adding our adult Sunday School class back into our programing lineup on Sunday, April 19.
  - Jason and Jaclyn Brzezinski and their children welcomed baby girl Alaythia Ann into their family last Tuesday. She was 8 lb even and 20". Everyone is doing fine.
  - Fred Curtis is not doing well. Since visitors are not allowed and he does not hear his phone ring, cards would be most welcome. Send them to Fred Curtis, SKLD Healthcare, 2320 East Beltline SE, Grand Rapids MI 49546, Room 201.
  - Jeff De Wit's nephew has been diagnosed with the Coronavirus.
  - Pray for those in our church family that are out of work at this time or may have other needs.
  
- Things to keep in mind this week.
  - Wednesday evening @ 7, we are going to have a mid-week Bible study that will be live streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

- Friday evening @ 7, the Living the Transformed Life Group is going to meet again via Zoom. This meeting is for the saints of GLBC. It is great way to connect and have fellowship with the saints during this time of social distancing. If you haven't tried it yet I strongly encourage you to do so. If you wish to participate in the meeting you need to send me your active email address by Noon on Friday, April 10.
- Offerings can be made on the church's website via PayPal by clicking on the Donate button under Support of Ministry. Checks can be mailed Daryl Doornbos our treasurer at his home. He can deposit them using technology without leaving his home.

### **God Cancelled Easter: So Should We**

- This article came across my Newsfeed this week on Facebook from Purely Presbyterian. It is written by an unnamed pastor member of the North American Presbyterian & Reformed Council.
- The article claims that God has cancelled public worship during the Easter season to judge the church for the superstitions practice of Easter.
  - Read portions of the article.
- I share this article with you to highlight yet again why right division is an absolute necessity.
- Read excerpt from pages 16 and 17 of *Don't Passover Easter*.

### **Colossians 1:14**

- **In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:**
- **In whom**—is referring to “his dear Son” i.e., Jesus Christ from the end of verse 13. Recall the God the Father has done for us in the previous two verses:
  - Col. 1:12—“. . . made us meet [fitting, suitable, qualified] to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.”
  - Col. 1:13—“. . . hath delivered us from darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:”
- How was God the Father able to accomplish these things for us? Because of whom we have been made in His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.
- **we have redemption**—the verb translated “we have” is in the present tense, active voice and the indicative mood (present active indicative) which means that the believers in Colosse had already received redemption before they ever received this epistle from Paul.

- When Paul uses the pronoun “we” he is including himself and Timothy along with the Colossians as the recipients of “redemption.” All members of the body of Christ “have redemption” as a present possession.
- According to *Strong’s Concordance*, the Greek word rendered “redemption” carries the following meanings:
  - a releasing effected by payment of ransom
    - redemption, deliverance
    - liberation procured by the payment of a ransom
- Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* list the following relevant meanings of the English word “redemption:”
  - Repurchase of captured goods or prisoners; the act of procuring the deliverance of persons or things from the possession and power of captors by the payment of an equivalent; ransom; release; as the redemption of prisoners taken in war; the redemption of a ship and cargo.
    - This in definition is interesting to think about in light of Col. 1:13
  - In theology, the purchase of God's favor by the death and sufferings of Christ; the ransom or deliverance of sinners from the bondage of sin and the penalties of God's violated law by the atonement of Christ.
    - In whom we have redemption through his blood. Ephesians 1:7.
    - Colossians 1:14.
- Romans 3:24—“redemption” is only “in Christ Jesus.”
  - Romans 3:23
  - Ephesians 2:1—we “were dead in trespasses and sins” and could not save ourselves. We need a redeemer i.e., someone to do for us what we could not do for ourselves.
- Ephesians 1:7—“redemption” is one of the spiritual blessings that we have in Christ.
- I Corinthians 1:30
- Galatians 3:13-14—Christ “redeemed” us from the sentence of death that was upon us through the law. How? By hanging upon the tree and being made a curse for us. Christ did for us what

we could not do for ourselves. Christ paid the purchase price to deliver and redeemed us from our sins.

- **through his blood**—this important expression is missing from the Critical Text and Modern Versions in Colossians 1:14. In my feeble understanding leaving out “through his blood” in Colossians 1:14 is theologically significant.
  - Hebrews 9:22—“. . . without the shedding of blood there is no remission.”
  - Romans 3:25—“. . . propitiation through faith in his blood. . .”
  - Romans 5:9—“. . . being now justified by his blood. . .”
  - Ephesians 2:13—the “blood” of Christ is the basis upon which God can form the church the body of Christ in the first place.
- Ephesians 1:7—modern version advocates will say that it doesn’t matter that the blood of Christ is removed from Colossians 1:14 because it can be found in Ephesians 1:7 a parallel passage. Critics such as James R. White argue that overzealous scribes added “through his blood” to Colossians 1:14 to “harmonize” it with Ephesians 1:7. Therefore, we shouldn’t worry that the blood of Christ is not in Colossians 1:14 because its in Ephesians 1:7.
  - To read more about “harmonization” and “parallelism” in the Bible version debate interest parties are encouraged to see the notes from [Lesson 10](#) from our current adult Sunday School class From This Generation For Ever.
- Colossians 1:14—the Bible you chose to use does impact one’s doctrine and theology. I believe that “through his blood” needs to be in Colossians 1:14 for the following reasons.
  - Colossians 2:1—Paul had never been to Colosse. He had never taught them in them flesh. Would he really leave something a foundationally basic as the mechanics of redemption open to interpretation?
  - Colossians 1:14—without the blood of Christ in this verse there is not sufficient theological grounding for understanding how one’s sins are forgiven.
  - Colossians 1:20—the “blood of his cross” is theologically pivotal elsewhere in the context for understanding how all things in heaven and earth could be reconciled back under the headship of Christ.
  - Colossians 2:13-15—the mechanics of redemption and the forgiveness of sins are wrapped up in the cross work of the Lord Jesus Christ. The blood that Christ shed on Calvary fulfilled the righteous requirements of the law thereby taking it out of the way.

- **even the forgiveness of sins**—all of our sins have been forgiven through the blood of Christ. The believer today is totally forgiven.
  - I Corinthians 15:3-4—Christ died for our sins.
  - Ephesians 1:7
  - Colossians 2:13
  - Romans 5:1—we have peace with God.
- Colossians 1:14—explains how God the Father is able to make us “partakers of the inheritance of the saints” (Col. 1:12) and “deliver us from the power of darkness” and translate “us into the kingdom of his dear Son.” In Jesus Christ “we have redemption through his blood” and are possessors of “the forgiveness of sins.”
- God the Father likes you. Here is where we find our joyfulness (Col. 1:11) despite our present circumstances. God loves you and Christ died for your sins. We are “saints” i.e., holy ones in Christ Jesus.

### **Reminders**

- Wednesday @ 7—Mid-Week Bible Study Live Stream
- Friday @ 7—Living the Transformed Life Friday Fellowship on Zoom
  - Need your email by Noon on Friday if you want to participate.
- Please remember the church in your financial planning
  - Give online or via snail mail.