

Prayer - Peter set free while others pray.
Words echo.

Hymn - 116(3) - 185 tune.

S. Item -

Reading - Matt 17.24-27

Christ & the Tribute Money.

- We shall be dealing with this passage

• But in order to do that adequately
must understand one word.

• We sang it in our Hymn

in fact was the first word! ^{What was it?}
You sang it!

- Look 116(3)

- REDEEMED

so our word is Redemption ^v - ^{what does it mean?}
^(to buy back - ransom from bondage)

- The doctrine of Redemption by Jesus Christ
is glorious!

• It is the core of the Gospel
~~which~~ the message of spiritual life
running through ~~the~~ Bible
like a line of red blood.

- In this word is where all the Christian's
comfort lies.

- Now, you know that a man cannot be
saved by his own good works.

Q • But in what way are we saved by
good works?

- Yes, Redemption is a work of God.
Greater even than His work of Creation!
~~It means simply to buy back~~ ^{it cost more to redeem}
us than to make us.

- Creation was done by the speaking of a word.
- Redemption by the shedding of precious blood.
- Creation, it is said, is the work of God's fingers
Redemption the work of His arm. (figuratively speaking)
- To understand this is our great business in CC
So let's break it down.
- If the Bible teaches us we need this redemption
(which is the payment of a great Ransom to be free)

Then what does it teach we are to be free from?

A. From Bondage - Namely the power of sin & the curse of the Law - Moral Laws to Com

- IV Col 3.13.
- Who is this 'Ransom' to be paid to?
Satan? No, he just takes advantage of our guilt and our bond will tempt us ever further.
In that sense we are his slave.
- But the Guilt is against God & His Law not Satan.
- So the payment must be made to God. Our Creator, to whom we are responsible. (He is just a fallen angel)
- How did we get this way?
we have sold ourselves into this slavery through Adam our representative & to prove it - our lives have been full of sin & rebellion.
- Who ever ^{here} is without sin may give the first objection to this...
- How is this Redemption to be paid?
Ah! Now we're getting to the core!

- The Purchaser is the 2nd Person of the Trinity of God - THE ETERNAL SON

- How?
- Well, He must have the best Right to do so.
Therefore He must be our Kin (made a man) 'Flesh of our Flesh'
- He would put Himself in our place and work redemption for us
- A substitute in life and death
- Under the same Law.

V Rom 3.24

- We are saved in Him by free Grace
- But He, by works, perfectly performed.
- Don't trust yourself (being very imperfect) trust the Perfect substitute.
- Then He'll represent you instead of Adam ^{doing so}

- Some say - "God, made a man? impossible"
- God can't change.
- True, but that's why we are careful we do not say he changed from God to man. But that He took upon Himself a fully human body & soul without any change to his ~~God~~ Divine nature

- He has two natures He is the God-Man. (The substitute must be a man, but only God could do the work and not fail)

- With what does Christ Redeem us ~~with~~?
(The promised Messiah) Anointed
- V Eph 1.7 'in whom we have Redemption through his blood' And again Col 1.14
- Not that we literally need physical blood but it is a sort of shorthand phrase to refer to His 'Life blood' ^{life & death} given.

- So those who are bought - are bought with a Great & terrible at a terrible price

[ill] The man who's friend's died in a 'suicide mission' to bomb German Ships. It was a 'success' but at a terrible price!


- If we know the Lord Jesus as our Saviour we are bought with a price

Read [V] Cor 6.20. 7.23. a legal term.

- So Christ is our 'Surety' - He takes upon Himself the legal obligations of another.

- Is this not what men need?
Is this not the most astounding truth?
Is this not the truth we need?

- Are your sins great?
Is your guilt written large in Heaven?
It can be taken away

[ill]  Nailed to the cross. Blotted out by blood. You don't believe me?
[V] Col 2.14

- So how does the Great Redeemer picture this truth to us.

- See our passage. Matt 17. 24-27.

- What was this tribute?
It was a half-shekel religious payment based originally on law but enlarged upon by custom & had no basis in scripture to be paid yearly.

- It was ordained to be paid for each person to the ~~king~~ GOD once when the people were counted in OT.

- Peter foolishly said that Jesus paid this tribute to which He was not liable. So the Lord uses this occasion ~~to teach~~ as a grand 'visual aid' of Redemption..

- He knew what his servant Peter had been saying and as soon as he enters the house ^{Jesus} ~~he~~ ~~says~~ 'prevented him' speaking and questions him graciously "What thinkest thou, Simon?"

• He will make him Judge the case. "Do kings take poll tax of their own children, or of strangers?"

- Of course the family of the Prince was always free of the charge.

- The subjects & those under ^{the KING'S} rule. Yes they pay but not of His family. If they don't pay they must go to a debtors prison until they can. ^{Hell is that place Math 18.34}
- Should Jesus pay 'Redemption Money' for himself to God? The Son to the Father?

No. 'The children are free'. But look, what a remarkable thing is this 'Notwithstanding, lest we should offend.. take a fish... open his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money.' Take, and give unto them for me and thee

- Rather than cause offence - He uses this as a lesson.
- What a remarkable providence which caused the ~~the~~ 'piece of money' to fall into the sea and make the fish to first swallow it (probably before the conversation)

and then to rise to the hook as Peter began his fishing. He is the God ~~of~~ Over His Creation

- Does this not teach God's sovereignty over all things small to large ^(the orders of events of life)
How much we should commit to Him in prayer and trust His hand in small things & great.

- But see Redemption.

The Great Son puts Himself under the law and pays the tax.

But exercises His royal prerogative in the act and takes the coin from the royal treasury! ^{Provision made well before we need it paid.}

- He pays for himself and Peter.

In the same way, if we ~~are~~ have faith in Him

- we can know He has paid for our sake and in association with us;

• We ~~can~~ are redeemed by his act (calvary) and in union with him.

Poem

- "He bore on the tree the sentence for me,
And now both the Surety and sinner are free"

- The coin was probably the Roman 'aer' equal to two and half shekels. V

• It was silver.

- Silver ~~was~~ represents the 'redemption money'
Silver was the material for the OT tabernacle's 'sockets' for the posts and it was called 'Redemption ground'

- So we have our lessons:-


Trust the Lord the Perfect Redeemer who has bought His and our glorious freedom ^{- T. HAW.}
By coming under tribute for our sakes and cleared himself and us by the one payment which He provided on the cross. We cannot earn it - But He has done.

- This is how salvation is purchased.
And it is freely given.

- But, our situation is grave after the great fall.

You must reach out and take it.

- The covenant of Grace is as a plank after a shipwreck.

Grab it! By faith!  It will bring you safely to shore.

- Then look at your account
See! it has been credited with Righteousness

And a Ransom Paid!

An inheritance promised

The prison doors opened

The chains of bondage to sin drop.

The power broken (we may still be Free from the world ^{entangled but the lock is broken!})

- ~~May~~ if you know this redemption
And may it give you much comfort for it is incorruptable.

- If you don't, may it spur you on even today to take of the water of life freely ~~given~~ given by Him who earned it.

Escape the debtors ^{prison} &
love your Redeemer.

- Give Handout.

- For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus.

• So, will you earn eternal punishment or will you accept a free gift of life ^{already paid for.}



Colossians 2:14

¹⁴Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

Matthew 18:34

³⁴ And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

Ephesians 1:7

⁷In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Colossians 1:14

¹⁴In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Galatians 3:13

13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

REDEMPTION

Romans 3:24

24 Being justified freely
by his grace through
the redemption that is
in Christ Jesus:

CALVIN

A watercolor illustration of a red unicorn with a horn and a purple mane, overlaid with the name 'CALVIN' in a bold, black, serif font. The unicorn is depicted in profile, facing right, with its body and legs in shades of red and pink. The mane is a vibrant purple. The name 'CALVIN' is written in a large, black, serif font across the middle of the unicorn's body. The background is white with faint, light purple and blue watercolor washes.