

**Series: What does it mean to be saved?**

**Message: Redeemed.**

**Speaker: Pastor Patrick Hughes**

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Introduction:

**1. Definition**

The release of people, animals, or property from bondage through the payment of a price. To buy back, to buy the freedom of

**2. The idea begins in the Old Testament**

**A. Redemption of property and slaves by a kinsman-redeemer.**

**1. The land was to be redeemed.**

- a. Land was redeemed because it was an inheritance from God

Leviticus 25:23–24 ‘The land, moreover, shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are *but* aliens and sojourners with Me. 24 ‘Thus for every piece of your property, you are to provide for the redemption of the land.

- b. The law prohibited Israelites from permanently selling land outside the family. Every 50th year, the Year of Jubilee, the land was to revert back to the original heirs.

Leviticus 25:27 Then he shall calculate the years since its sale and refund the balance to the man to whom he sold it, and so return to his property.

Houses in a walled city could only be redeemed for one year, then they became the permanent property of the buyer.

**2. People were to be redeemed.**

A kinsman-redeemer was also obliged to redeem relatives sold into slavery

Leviticus 25:47–48 ‘Now if the means of a stranger or of a sojourner with you becomes sufficient, and a countryman of yours becomes so poor with regard to him as **to sell himself** to a stranger who is sojourning with you, or to the descendants of a stranger’s family, 48 then he shall have redemption right after he has been sold. One of his brothers may redeem him,

The amount to be paid was calculated in light of the years to the next Jubilee. Similarly to the land, if the Israelite was not redeemed, he was to be released at the Year of Jubilee (Lev 25:54–55).

### **3. A close relative was to redeem.**

This kinsman-redeemer was a close male relative from the same clan. The closer the familial relation, the greater the obligation to redeem on behalf of the family member in need

Leviticus 25:25 ‘If a fellow countryman of yours becomes so poor he has to sell part of his property, then his nearest kinsman is to come and buy back what his relative has sold.

Leviticus 25:48–49 Then he shall have redemption right after he has been sold. One of his brothers may redeem him, 49 or his uncle, or his uncle’s son, may redeem him, or one of his blood relatives from his family may redeem him; or if he prospers, he may redeem himself.

The story of Ruth is an example of a relative redeeming the land. Marriage was not required. In the story of Ruth, a second law was followed called the levirate law (Deut 25:5–10) which required a son to be raised up to perpetuate his father’s name.

## **B. Redemption of first born**

1. All firstborn people and animals were understood as belonging to God.

Exodus 13:2 “Sanctify to Me every firstborn, the first offspring of every womb among the sons of Israel, both of man and beast; it belongs to Me.”

2. Some could be redeemed by giving God a sacrifice of an animal.

When firstborn Israelite sons were one month old, they were to be redeemed by a payment of five shekels to the priests (Num 3:47–48).

3. Some were not redeemable and had to be killed as a sacrifice.

Unredeemable firstborn animals (an ox, a sheep, or a goat) were to be used either as a sacrifice or as meat for the priests (Num. 18:17–18)

## **C. Redeemer of blood**

Called the avenger of blood.

The elders of the city handed over the murderer (Deut. 19:12) so that the redeemer of blood could put him to death (Num. 35:16–21).

If the death was deemed accidental by the city, the killer could find protection from the redeemer of blood in a city of refuge (Num. 35:12–15, 22–28)

**D. God as the Redeemer**

1. God is the redeemer of the Nation of Israel from Egypt and from Babylon

Exodus 6:6 “Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.

2. God is the personal redeemer of people in trouble.

Psalms 69:18 Oh draw near to my soul *and* redeem it; Ransom me because of my enemies!

3. God is the near Kinsman-Redeemer of Israel.

Isaiah 63:16 For You are our Father, though Abraham does not know us And Israel does not recognize us. You, O LORD, are our Father, Our Redeemer from of old is Your name.

**3. New Testament Redemption**

The New Testament idea is based on the concept from the Old Testament.

**A. Jesus came to be the price paid for us.**

Matthew 20:28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

**B. It is through Jesus blood that we are forgiven**

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

Colossians 1:13–14 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**C. We are redeemed from the curse of the Law**

Galatians 3:13 Christ 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”—

Galatians 4:4–5 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, 5 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Galatians 4:6–7 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

**D. We are redeemed by God so that we may serve God**

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?  
20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Titus 2:13–14 ...Christ Jesus, 14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.