

In order to appropriately address authentic, Biblical love, sexual purity, temptation, sex, etc., we must first give the students a solid theological framework of who they are and whose they are. In week 1, we learned that our identity can only be found in Christ. We learned that we are created in the image of God, male and female, to reflect God's glory to His entire creation. If we find our identity in anything else this world has to offer, including our behavior or sexuality, we have missed the mark. This week we focus on our redemption. The fact that we were bought with a price, purchased out of slavery to fear and sin, and adopted into the family of God. We are not our own, in fact, we are to be slaves to righteousness as Paul declares in Romans 6. As those redeemed, our lives of sanctification, of holiness, honor the high price that God the Father paid, His only Son, for the forgiveness of our sins. God knows that one of our biggest struggles will be controlling our bodies, our eyes, our tongues, our sexual passions. He reminds us over and over that as a part of our becoming more like him, we have to fight for sexual purity.

Ephesians 1:7-10

⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known^{ed} to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

I. Introduction

II. Redemption

A. **Redemption of Our Souls: Forgiveness & Salvation - Ephesians 1:7-10** (Redemption through his blood)

1. What is Redemption?

- a. Culture's Definition - Personally attainable, works based
- b. Christ's Definition - High Price (Blood), Free Gift (Grace), personally unattainable

2. Redemption Transforms Us: From Slaves to Slaves - **Romans 6**

- a. We presented ourselves to sin, and became slaves to sin and death
- b. Christ purchased us out of slavery and called us to new life in Christ
- c. We must present our whole selves to Christ, in obedience, becoming willing slaves

to righteousness

B. **Redemption of Our Bodies: How the Redeemed Live** (according to his riches of grace, lavished upon us)

1. Sanctification - We live according to the value of the gift we *have* received.

(forgiveness and relationship, Holy Spirit)

- a. Obedience Honors Christ's Sacrifice
- b. Obedience Brings God Glory
- c. Sexual Purity plays a major role in our Sanctification - **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8**

2. Resurrection - We live according to the value of the gift we *will* receive (promises fulfilled)

- a. Living As Citizens of Heaven
- b. The Hope of Resurrection

C. **Redemption of Creation: Our Role in God's Redemptive Plan** (according to his purpose, a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things..)

1. The eternal insignificance of fleeting pleasures

2. The eternal satisfaction found in earthly obedience

III. Conclusion

A. Have you Been Redeemed?

B. Are you Living Like It?