REDEMPTION

Bought with a great price.

The word redemption is one of the great words of the Bible used to describe our Salvation in Christ.

To redeem something is to buy something back.

E.g. Someone who goes to 'Cash-Converters' to redeem an item which they pawned. To redeem it, full payment must be made.

Greek word for redemption is *apolutrosis* and always conveys the idea of a ransom or price paid - redemption by a *Lutron* (liberty price).

Think of a ransom paid to release a hostage. Once the ransom is paid the person is freed.

Jesus sacrifice was a ransom price to liberate us from our captivity to sin, Satan, and death and into God's family.

Mark 10:45 'For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many'.

Why is it that a price had to be paid for our salvation?

Surely God could just exercise His power alone to liberate humanity from sin and death?

The reason is that it is a matter of God's justice.

The reality is that we are guilty in the court of heaven.

'For all have sinned and fall short of God's glory; ...the wages of sin is death (Romans 3:23; 6:23)

The bad news: We cannot redeem ourselves. (Psalm 49:5-9)

The good news: God can (Psalms 49:12-15) How? Jesus!

Mark 10:45 'For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many'.

The greatness of that price is seen in the magnitude of what was accomplished.

100 billion people have lived. Imagine the number of sins committed? – trillions.

And we sin because of our sinful state (we are dead in our sins – Col 2:13).

Yet, the price Jesus paid was sufficient to redeem us from it all.

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. He forgives all our sins and removes the stain of sin.

Isaiah 43:25 "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more"

He delivers us from death and Satan's power

Colossians 1:13-14 For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Psalm 49:9 But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead; he will surely take me to himself.

Not only has **He liberated us from our sins** and sin's consequence, but **He brings us into a glorious inheritance in Christ**.

Ephesians 1 - He paid, not only for our personal redemption, but for the redemption of the whole of creation

Romans 8:20-23 - The greatness of that price is seen in the personal cost to Him.

I think it is not easy to even begin to grasp the personal cost to Jesus and to our Heavenly

Father. Do we think about how Jesus actually felt? how the Father felt? And what it cost our gracious God?

The personal injury to His body and mind was terrible. But what of the spiritual weight of our sin?

The relational cost as he hung on the Cross? 'My God, My God why have you forsaken me? Matthew 27:46

The greatness of that price is seen in the immense and extraordinary love which motivated Him. (*John 3:16*).

Ephesians 2:4-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-it is by grace you have been saved.

It's true that something is only valuable when it is loved. How valuable and loved are we to Him given the price He paid?

What is our response? How much do we value Jesus?

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from <u>God</u>, and you are not your own? <u>For you were bought</u> <u>at a price; therefore</u>, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.