



The Messenger of Peace

2011



Peace Lutheran Church
Established in 1962
Cincinnati, Ohio

From the Pastor:

REDEEMED

As a boy I pasted my mother's S&H green stamps or her yellow Top Value stamps into booklets. She took them to a "redemption" center to *redeem* them – swap them – for a household item, a small appliance or even a toy. Today we redeem our frequent flyer miles.

For the people of the Old Testament the idea of redeem was also colored by exchange; the swapping that went on in the market place and also the sacrifices that were *redeemed* for the people. Paul speaks to this redemption, several places in his Epistles.

- He writes, "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us (Galatians 3:13);
- "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus (Romans 3:23-24);
- "In him (Jesus Christ) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace (Ephesians 1:7).

The author of Hebrews recognizes this swapping was done as the high priest would enter into the Holy of Holies, but that Christ enters not by the blood of goats, lambs or ox but by His own sacrifice.

"When Christ came as high priest He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! (Hebrews 9:11-13)

St. Paul also wrote to Titus that Christ swapped himself for us "to redeem us from iniquity and purify for himself for a people of his own, zealous for good works." (Titus 2:14)

Take a look at the last 2 references. Christ's transaction redeems us both from and for.

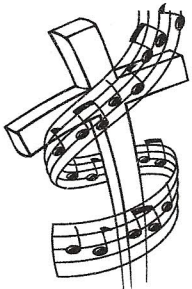
Christ deals to save us from our slavery to Satan and the bondage of our sins.

Christ deals to save us for a people of his very own who desire to follow and serve their Redeemer as His disciples.

Is it any wonder that Martin Luther penned those beautiful words in his explanation to the Second Article:

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,
that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

Pastor Larry



Redeemed, restored, forgiven,
Through Jesus' precious blood,
Heirs of His home in heaven,
Oh, praise our pardoning God!
Praise Him in tuneful measures
Who gave His Son to die;
Praise Him whose sevenfold treasures
Enrich and sanctify.

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Pastor Larry J. Rodencal

Sunday Morning Schedule
Christian Education Hour
9:15 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

