

A Study of The Epistle of 1st Peter

Theme: "A LIVING HOPE!"

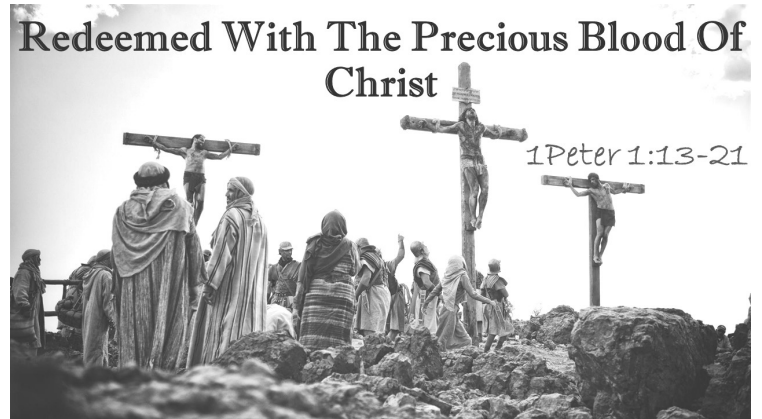
Trinity Lutheran Church - Norman, OK.

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Lesson: 8

Chapter 1:17-21

Date: 9-20-20



BIBLE TEXT:

(17) And if you call on him as **Father who judges impartially** according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, (18) knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, (19) but with **the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.**

(20) **He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake,** (21) who through him are believers in **God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory,** so that your faith and hope are in **God.**

STUDY NOTES:

(17) And if you call on him as **Father who judges impartially** according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, (18) knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, (19) but with **the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.**

(Ex 13:13; 21:30; Prov 1:7; 8:13; 16:6; Mt 20:28; Mk 10:45; Jn 1:29;
Rom 1:21; 2:11; 3:24; 10:13;
1 Cor 5:7; Gal 3:13; Eph 1:7; 4:17; Col 1:14; Titus 2:14;
Heb 6:1; 9:14, 15; Jas 2:1; Rev 5:9)

(20) **He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake,** (21) who through him are believers in **God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory,** so that your faith and hope are in **God.**

(Mt 25:34; Jn 7:39; 12:44; Ac 2:17,24; 3:13-15; Rom 4:24; 16:25,26; Eph 1:4;
Php 2:7-9; 1 Tim 4:1; 2 Tim 3:1; Heb 1:1,2; 2:9; 3:6; 9:26; 1 Jn 2:18; Rev 13:8)

“The apostle means that this should draw you to the fear of God with which you should conduct yourselves, that you think of **how much your redemption** has cost. Formerly you were citizens in the world and subjects of the devil, but now God has torn you from that kind of life and has put you in another position, so that you are citizens in heaven but strangers and guests on earth. And you see how much God has spent on you and how rich the treasure is with which you were ransomed and made children of God. Therefore conduct yourselves with fear, and see to it that you do not despise this and lose the noble, precious treasure.

Now what is the treasure with which we have been redeemed? It is not perishable gold or silver; it is the **precious blood of Christ, the Son of God**. This treasure is so costly and noble that the mind and reason of no man can comprehend it. Just one drop of **this innocent blood** would have been more than enough for the sin of the whole world

Yet the Father wanted to pour out His grace on us so abundantly and to spend so much that He let His Son Christ **shed all His blood** and gave us the entire treasure. Therefore He does not want us to make light of and think little of such great grace; but He wants us to be moved to conduct ourselves with fear, lest this treasure be taken away from us.

Mark well that St. Peter says: “You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers.” In this way he beats down every excuse on the basis of which we think that our position must be correct because it has existed from time immemorial and all our forefathers, among whom there were also wise and pious people, held this view.

For St. Peter says: Everything our fathers instituted and did was evil, and what you learned from them regarding the worship of God is also evil, so that it cost **the Son of God His blood** to redeem the people from it. Now everything that is not washed with the blood is poisoned and condemned because of the flesh. From this it follows that the more man presumes to acquire piety without Christ, the more he stands in his own way, and the deeper he sinks into blindness and wickedness and makes himself guilty of profaning **the precious blood** (cf. I Cor. 11:27).

External, gross sins are relatively insignificant when compared with the doctrine that one should become pious by means of works and by worshiping God according to our reason. For this dishonors and blasphemes **the innocent blood** more than anything else. The heathen committed a far greater sin by praying to the sun and the moon, which they regarded as the proper worship of God, than by sinning in any other way. Therefore the piety of man is sheer blasphemy of God and the greatest sin a man commits.

Thus the ways now current in the world—the ways which the world regards as worship of God and as piety—are worse in the eyes of God than any other sin. This applies to the priests and the monks and to what seems good in the eyes of the world yet is without faith. Therefore it is better for him who does not want to obtain grace from God **through the blood** never to appear before the eyes of God. For by doing so he only angers the Majesty more and more.”

LIFE APPLICATION:

1. Since we call on our Father as one who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, how can we conduct ourselves with fear throughout the time of our exile?
2. If we were ransomed from the futile ways not with perishable things such as silver or gold, what is the way we receive the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot?