

DOCTRINE

REGENERATION, PART TWO

LESSON #11

I. REDEMPTION

Within the general theme of Regeneration is the subject of Redemption. Its meaning is "To deliver by paying a price." The sacrifice of Christ was the redemption price. I Peter 1:18. He was as a Lamb without blemish and without spot. Redemption is the means by which we were justified. Rom. 3:24. The thought in redemption is that we were slaves to sin with no means of being loosed. We were totally unable to please God. God required a perfect sacrifice, and only Jesus was able to be that Sacrifice. Therefore, because of the blood of Jesus, we were cleansed and set free. We were redeemed to God by His blood. Rev. 5:9.

II. PROPITIATION

In redemption, man is served... in propitiation, God is served. It is God Who is propitiated by having His righteous character vindicated through the sacrifice of Christ. He thus dealt with sin so that He can show mercy to the sinner who believes, by removing his guilt and remitting his sins. Luke 18:13. He, God, could be merciful to the sinner. Heb. 2:17. Here the word "reconciliation" is used, but it should be propitiation – that is, a covering for our sins. Heb. 9:5. The term "mercy seat" is used, which is "The place of propitiation." The mercy seat was sprinkled with blood on the Day of Atonement, showing that the righteous sentence of the Law had been carried out, satisfying a righteous God so that He could show mercy to the sinner. See Lev. 16:14.

III. RECONCILIATION

"To change from enmity to friendship; to reconcile." With regard to the relationship between God and man, the use of this word shows that reconciliation is what God accomplishes in exercising His grace toward man on the basis of Jesus' death. The NOUN usage means "The change on the part of one party (man), induced by an action on the part of another (Jesus' sacrifice for us)." II Cor. 5:18-20. Vs. 18 shows the action of reconciling one party (man) by the other Party (God). This act on God's part was called propitiation, or providing a covering for the sin of man. Vs. 19 – the ministry of reconciliation is not the office of teaching the doctrine of remission or expiation of sins, but it is the office of advising, exhorting, beseeching men to be reconciled to God. It is not that God was an enemy of men, but men were enemies to God. To reconcile never means that God is conciliated or appeased, but that man's sin is covered and thereby God can draw him near.

IV. SANCTIFICATION

"To set apart unto God." Two thoughts are prominent in sanctification. (a) Separation from evil. (b) Dedication to God and His service. Sanctification has to do with our character and conduct. It is the product of the Holy Spirit worked in us as we yield to the Lord.

(1) Separation and Dedication – I Thess. 4:3. "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication." It is evident that in

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sanctification, there is a definite effort on our part of turning away from all that is sinful. Even Jesus, in John 17:19, said, "And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." The point here being that Jesus was setting Himself apart unto His Father's will, not that He had a problem with sin.

(2) Instantaneous Sanctification – When speaking of a sanctification that is completed, we are referring to that cleansing done to us at the time of salvation. References such as I Cor. 6:11, Heb. 10:10, 14, and any others that refer to an already finished work, would be referring to the work of cleansing at salvation.

(3) Progressive Sanctification – This is a work of the Holy Spirit going on every day of our lives, and will culminate when the Lord comes. Such verses as II Peter 3:18, "...grow in grace..." and II Cor. 3:18, "...are changed into the same image from glory to glory..." show this progressive work.

(4) Final and Complete Sanctification – I Thess. 5:23 and I Thess. 3:13 tell of the final or finishing of the work in our lives by the Holy Spirit.

(5) Faith in the Sanctifying Work of the Holy Spirit – I Cor. 1:30 teaches us "...Christ Jesus, Who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification..." This faith, and looking to Jesus, becomes the manner of our sanctification. The end result of this work will be to reign with Christ.

1. Tell the means by which Jesus was able to redeem us.
2. Tell what our condition was before and after being redeemed.
3. Give the meaning of the word "propitiation."
4. What does propitiation do for man? For God?
5. Give the meaning of reconciliation, and tell what it did for man.
6. Explain the ministry of reconciliation.
7. Give the meaning of sanctification.
8. What are the two parts of sanctification?
9. Explain how we are sanctified.
10. What is the meaning of instantaneous sanctification?
11. What is the meaning of progressive sanctification?
12. When will this work be completed?
13. Who is the Sanctifier?