

REDEMPTION

Romans 3:23-25 ... "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation [appeasing God] by his blood..."

Christianity has some terms and language that we seldom use in everyday conversation. Redemption is one such word. The best definition is: The payment of a ransom. We are born into sin and are held hostages or prisoners by it until we accept God's payment of a ransom for our release. He paid that by having his own son sacrificed in our place. Looking back on organized slavery many decades ago, slaves could purchase their freedom, which was also considered redemption. We, too, are slaves of sin until we are redeemed, except that we do not have to purchase our own freedom; Christ has already done that.

Now that we understand what redemption is, how do we obtain it? Can you earn it, or win it, or borrow it? No. Can you get it by being born to Godly parents, or by just going to church? No. Can you look for it and find it? No. The act of our redemption by Christ is not secured by us going to God and asking for it, nor can we inherit it from our parents. Romans 5:8 tells us that "... God demonstrates his own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

God comes to you. He let his son die for you without any guarantee that you would be grateful for that and surrender your life to him. While you were still a sinner and rejecting God, he reached down to offer you redemption that you can never buy, earn, or obtain in any other way. If God could do that much for you when you were still lost in sin, you can at least accept his gift and enjoy the friendship he offers you.

Copyright © 2017 Datu Wali Mission Foundation