



Grace restoration

Update

"Restoring people in God's grace and making disciples"

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JESUS' INCARNATION IS "REDEMPTOCENTRIC"

"God did not leave man alone to beat his music out, but He came forth from heaven and became a man in order to *redeem*. God became a man and came close to us for purposes of *redemption*. The universe is also, as Henry Mabie put it "*redemptocentric*." This enables man to retain his mental equilibrium in a universe suffering from the sting of sin." (J. Vernon McGee)

"Nature is full of great restorative [*redemptive*] processes. Directly a rent is made in her hillsides she begins to festoon it with grasses, ferns and creepers. [Here in Colorado, the aspen tree sprouts up to replace the burned-out conifers]. When a wound is caused in our flesh, and the red blood breaks through the broken rampart as it passes, it begins to build up the breach, so that presently soundness takes the place of the lacerated aperture.

"So spiritually, the blessed Spirit of God is ever brooding over human hearts to do His choice and beloved work of reparation [*redemption*] and restoration. When the sheep is

missing from the flock, He goes after the truant until He finds it, and restores it to its place among the rest." (F. B. Meyer)



"Thou shall call His name JESUS, for He shall save His people from their sins" (Matt. 1:20-21).

"By the Shepherd's staff we are also extricated from the circumstances of peril and disaster into which we may have fallen through our own folly and sin. At such times He is not unmindful of His own; and though we may seem to have forfeited all claim to His care, yet He is "*a very present help in time of trouble*" (Ps. 46:1).

"He does not permit us to reap as we have sown; He averts the full penalty of our own mistakes and misdeeds; He comes after us in the wilderness, not staying His foot until He has discovered the pit into which we

have fallen, from which He does not fail to drag us forth, placing us on His shoulders if we are too weak to walk, and bringing us back; satisfied with no other recompense than that we are **safe**.

"*Thus saith the Lord God, Behold I, even I will both search My sheep and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day*" (Ezek. 34:11-12). Oh, the long-suffering patience of Christ, who will not permit us to be overwhelmed by the sorrows and penalties which we may have incurred, but will reach out His crook to drag us back from the death that we had courted!" (F. B. Meyer)

The prophet Isaiah prophesied of the hope of the coming *Redeemer* 12 times, some of which are, "*He was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors*" (Isa. 53:12). "*And all flesh will know that I, the Lord, am your Savior and your Redeemer...*"

(Isa. 49:26b). And again, “*For your husband is your Maker, Whose name is the LORD of hosts; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, Who is called the God of all the earth*” (Isa. 54:5).

Job emphatically stated, “*I know that my Redeemer liveth...*” (Job. 19:25).

The angel appeared to Joseph and told him to call his name JESUS, for he shall save [redeem] his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:20-21). The prophetess Anna spoke to those looking for the redemption of Israel (Luke 2:38). Upon seeing Jesus, John the Baptist called out, ‘*Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world*’ (John 1:29).

The Apostle Peter reminded Christ’s followers that we were *redeemed* with the precious blood of the Lamb (1 Peter 1:18)

The Apostle Paul in Romans 3:24 speaks freely of the *redemption* that is in Christ Jesus. Later in his epistles, for added emphasis, Paul repeats the same truth in both Colossians 1:14 and in Ephesians 1:7, “*In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.*”

Truly the Scriptures are “*redemptocentric*” from beginning to end—from the Garden of Eden to the **Incarnation** to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb! **WORTHY, WORTHY IS THE LAMB!**

***TO CREATE HE HAD
ONLY TO SPEAK;
BUT TO REDEEM HE
HAD TO BLEED!***

(Roy Hession)

***There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God’s own Son;
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, Holy One.***

Chorus

***Thank You, O my Father,
For giving us Your Son;
And leaving Your Spirit
’Til the work on earth is done.***

***Jesus, my Redeemer,
Name above all names;
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, hope for sinners
slain.***

Chorus (repeat)

***When I stand in glory,
I will see His face;
And there I’ll serve my King
forever,
In that holy place.***

(By Melody Green)

A “**Redemptocentric**” Game is available for Family Enjoyment entitled **God’s Remedy**--the Story of Redemption.

You may e-mail us at:
www.shepherdgrace.org

From our family to yours, we wish you a very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

FAMILY UPDATE:

“*Children are an heritage from the Lord*” (Ps. 127:3). How grateful we are to have been blessed with a wonderful “blended” family. Our prayer is that they all will continue on in the “*nurture and admonition of the Lord*” (Eph. 6:4).

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