

HOW CHRIST GAVE A RANSOM FOR ALL

A STUDY OF OUR DEBT AND ITS REMOVAL

"Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."

~ 1 Timothy 2:6

1. Jesus Paid it All

- a. Christ died for all. He died for our sins. 1 Cor 15:3-4
- b. Hymns and scripture use analogies to explain Christ's death for all (atonement)
- c. One commonly confused is that of Jesus making payment for all.
- d. *"Why does anyone pay for sins that Christ already paid for?"*
- e. *"If Jesus paid it all, is his blood wasted if all are not [forgiven, redeemed, saved]?"*

2. The Price of Redemption

- a. The language of payment - redeem Titus 2:14 price 1Cor 6:20 - ransom 1 Tim 2:6
- b. Ransom ~*def.* The redemption price to release from bondage and restored to liberty
- c. *What is the price? Who is it paid to? From what are we liberated?*
- d. Origin (3rd c. universalist) said the price was paid to Satan for men.
- e. A debt was paid by Christ and he purchased men back to God (ransom theory)
- f. The problem: the precious blood is not like gold and silver - 1 Pet 1:18-19

3. Money vs. Moral Debt

- a. Financial debt: e.g. "how much do I owe?" Paying your mortgage.
 - i. Once paid you are owed the consequence (not a gift, but an exchange)
 - ii. Once paid there is nothing else owed - you are free from obligation.
 - iii. Amount paid must be counted to ensure the exact quantity - compensation
 - iv. Must match the amount owed - greater amount owed, greater payment.
- b. Moral debt: e.g. "I owe you an apology" "I owe a debt of gratitude" "I owe my life"
 - i. Not measured in an amount to be counted in exact quantity (2.3 apologies)
 - ii. Owed due to moral responsibility - judicial reckoning - what is right.
 - iii. Addresses criminal and legal debts - like our sin to God - Rom 3:23
 - iv. Punitive damages are not calculated based on receipts but justice.
 - v. Satisfies the demand of justice - one settlement can be applied to many
- c. Ex. Theft of money vs. paying for something. 1st is criminal. 2nd is financial.

4. Imputation of Sin

- a. He was made sin for us - 2 Cor 5:20
- b. Christ was not made a sinner (who knew no sin), nor was he guilty
- c. Sin was not transferred to Christ like a financial transaction.
- d. We are not righteous, we are imputed righteousness - his righteousness - Rom 3:26
- e. Christ was made in the likeness of sinful flesh (as a man) - Rom 8:3

5. Christ Gave Himself

- a. Christ gave himself a ransom not due to financial debt, but sins against God Ro 6:23
- b. The atonement by Christ was a just value not numerical value (blood drops vs. sins)
- c. The constraining force is love and grace, not forced exchange - 2 Cor 5:14-15
- d. The price paid was his life, sinless blood - 'pays' justice for sin - Rom 3:24-25