

1Cor 6.20—For You Were Bought With a Price

From Captivity to Possession

- I. Paul's comment raises the idea of a slave market, something with which the early church was very familiar, cf. Eph 6.5-9; Col 3.22-4.1
 - A. But this idea perfectly captured the spiritual reality of all those whom Christ redeems/purchases to be His own possession.
 - B. The unavoidable thought that explains the nature of our redemption by Christ is the thought of captivity or a state of slavery. Look again at Isa 43.1 and Rom 8.31-32
- II. Four interrelated facts always surround the theme of redemption in Scripture.
 - A. Our natural fallen condition is one of captivity, Gal 4.8; Eph 4.8
When Christ comes for us, He finds us as slaves, Mt 12.29
 1. As sons of Adam, we're conceived as sinners and born enslaved to sin, Ps 51.5; 58.3
 - B. The One who holds us captive is God, as Judge. We're held captive by His divine justice.
 1. As captives to the divine justice, we fell captive to the penalties concomitant with such an estate of bondage: to sin, Satan, death, and hell, cf. 2Tim 2.26; Gal 3.10; Eph 2.1
 - C. The Redeemer is Jesus, the eternal Son of God, who took on flesh to be the curse-bearing Second Adam, our kinsman, Heb 2.14-15; Eph 1.7; Gal 3.13; Isa 59.20; Job 19.25; Lk 4.18-19
 - D. *The price then paid for us the very life of Jesus Himself. The great design of Jesus' birth on earth was His own death in the place of and for the deliverance of the Father's captives, Mt 20.28
 1. He came to live under the demands and die under the penalty of the law of God, to satisfy the divine justice, and purchase us for Himself, to be His own His possession, Isa 43.1; 41.14
 2. *This* is what our sin cost Him. *This* is the price of our forgiveness. Yet, He paid it:
 - a) Completely and fully, Jn 19.30
 - b) Victoriously, Rev 5.9-10
 - c) Acceptably and pleasingly, Acts 2.33; Jn 17.1-5
 - d) Unquestionably and irrevocably, Rom 5.1-2; Col 1.18-22
 - e) Effectively, Gal 4.4-5
 3. The Scriptures are therefore full of this grand truth, Acts 20.28; Eph 1.7; Col 1.19-20; Heb 2.14-15; 1Pet 1.18-19

- III. So *that's* the penetrating reality behind Paul's words, a reality that should *captivate* you and move you to live wholly and unreservedly for the glory of God in Christ, whose you are.

Reflections for Application

- I. Do you see how great a Redeemer your Jesus is?
 - A. Rom 5.8, 10
 - B. Heb 10.5-10
 - C. Eph 2.1-7
 - D. Rom 8.1-4
 - E. Rom 8.31-39

*There's no Saviour like this Saviour, no Redeemer like Jesus.
- II. And do you see how great a redemption He's accomplished for you?
 - A. Gal 5.1
 - B. Rom 8.14-15
 - C. Gal 3.13
 - D. Rom 7.24-25
 - E. 1Cor 15.55-57
 - F. Heb 2.14-15

*There's no freedom like this freedom; no Master so lovely as He, no slavery so blessed as under His yoke.
- III. Do you see your incalculable indebtedness to God the Father, to Christ the Son, and to the Spirit who proceeds from them both?
 - A. None is worthy of your worship, your love, and your submission, but your Father, your Redeemer, and your Sanctifier.
- IV. Oh, the misery of those who refuse this Redeemer! Heb 10.26-27
- V. But Oh, the happiness and blessedness of those who know Him! 1Jn 3.1-3