

*GraceLife Church Presents . . .*

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# Soteriology

The Purpose,  
Accomplishment, Plan, and  
Application of Redemption

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# Soteriology

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## The Doctrine of Redemption

- ❖ Soteriology is the study of salvation
  - ❖ σωτηρία (*soteria*) = salvation
  - ❖ *logy* = word / study

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# Soteriology

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## The Doctrine of Redemption

- ❖ So far we have studied . . .
  - ❖ The Purpose of Redemption
  - ❖ The Plan of Redemption
  - ❖ The Accomplishment of Redemption

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# Soteriology

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## The Doctrine of Redemption

- ❖ Brief review today.
- ❖ Zoom out and see the bigger picture again.
  - ❖ The Purpose of Redemption
  - ❖ The Plan of Redemption
  - ❖ The Accomplishment of Redemption

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# Soteriology

The Purpose,  
Accomplishment, Plan, and  
Application of Redemption

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

- ❖ There was no requirement for God to save anyone.
- ❖ But God decided to save some sinners. The question is, 'Why did he do it?'
- ❖ We need to remind ourselves of God's great aim in our salvation.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

- ❖ We tend to think of salvation through the lens of how it benefits us.
- ❖ Salvation does benefit us but most ultimately salvation is about the Lord.



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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

- ❖ We saw a couple reasons that God saves us.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

*God Saves Us Because of His Great Love*

**John 3:16** “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

*God Saves Us Because of His Great Love*

**Eph 2:4** But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **5** even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), **6** and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

- ❖ But God has a more ultimate purpose in salvation.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

The driving purpose for which God saves his people is in accordance with his ultimate purpose for all things—namely, to bring glory and honor to himself.

MacArthur and Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 486.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

- ❖ God has designed salvation most ultimately to bring glory to himself.
- ❖ God intends salvation to put himself on display to his creatures.
  - ❖ He wants us to know who he is, what he is like, his name, his splendor, his majesty, his glory.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

- ❖ We saw this most recently in Romans 9.
- ❖ In unconditional election God chooses whom he will.
- ❖ He revealed himself to Moses as the one who has mercy on whom he will have mercy and compassion on whom he will have compassion.
- ❖ This freedom to choose was God's glory, his goodness, and his name.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

**Exod 9:16** “But, indeed, for this reason I have allowed you to remain, in order to show you My power and in order to proclaim My name through all the earth.

**Exod 14:4** “Thus I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will chase after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD.” And they did so.

**Exod 14:17** “As for Me, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen. **18** “Then the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD, when I am honored through Pharaoh, through his chariots and his horsemen.”



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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

**Ps 106:8** Nevertheless He saved them for the sake of His name,  
That He might make His power known.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

**Rom 9:15** For He says to Moses, "I WILL HAVE MERCY ON WHOM I HAVE MERCY, AND I WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON WHOM I HAVE COMPASSION." **16** So then it *does not depend* on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy. **17** For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE I RAISED YOU UP, TO DEMONSTRATE MY POWER IN YOU, AND THAT MY NAME MIGHT BE PROCLAIMED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE EARTH." **18** So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires.

**Rom 9:21** Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use? **22** What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction? **23** And *He did so* to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

**Eph 1:3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, **4** just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love **5** He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, **6** to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

### *The Work of the Father in Redemption*

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

### *The Work of the Son in Redemption*

**Eph 1:7** In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace **8** which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight **9** He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him **10** with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him **11** also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, **12** to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

### *The Work of the Son in Redemption*

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

*The Work of the Holy Spirit in Redemption*

**Eph 1:13** In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, **14** who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

*The Work of the Holy Spirit in Redemption*

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

- ❖ The work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in salvation has as its purpose to bring glory to (the Triune) God.
- ❖ The work of justice in passing over some so as not to save them also has as its aim the glory of God.
- ❖ Therefore this study of salvation should be increasing your knowledge of God and through that your worship.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

“It is a proper and excellent thing for infinite glory to shine forth; and for the same reason, it is proper that the shining for of God's glory should be complete; that is, that all parts of his glory should shine forth, that every beauty should be proportionately effulgent, that the beholder may have a proper notion of God.”

Jonathan Edwards, “Concerning the Divine Decree,” in *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*,  
2:528.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

“Thus it is necessary for God’s awful majesty, his authority and dreadful greatness, justice, holiness, should be manifested. But this could not be, unless sin and punishment had been decreed; so that the shining forth of God’s glory would be very imperfect, both because these parts of divine glory would not shine forth as the others do, and also the glory of his goodness, love, and holiness would be faint without them; nay, they could scarcely shine forth at all.”

Jonathan Edwards, “Concerning the Divine Decree,” in *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*, 2:528.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

“So evil is necessary, in order to the highest happiness of the creature, and the completeness of that communication of God, for which he made the world; because the creature's happiness consists in the knowledge of God, and sense of his love. And if the knowledge of him be imperfect, the happiness of the creature must be proportionably imperfect; and the happiness of the creature would be imperfect upon another account also; for, as we have said, the sense of good is comparatively dull and flat, without the knowledge of evil.”

Jonathan Edwards, “Concerning the Divine Decree,” in *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*, 2:528.

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# The Purpose of Redemption

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## What is God's Aim in Redemption?

“The wisdom of God has ordained a way for the love of God to deliver us from the wrath of God without compromising the justice of God. . . . The death of Christ is the wisdom of God by which the love of God saves sinners from the wrath of God.”

John Piper, *Desiring God*, 61.

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# Soteriology

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# The Plan of Redemption

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# The Plan of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Father

- ❖ All three persons of the Trinity work together in all they do and yet the persons are distinguishable in their various roles and functions.
- ❖ The plan of redemption is primarily presented as the work of God the Father.
- ❖ God the Father planned the salvation of all who would ever be saved before the foundation of the world.



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# The Plan of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Father

- ❖ This is the doctrine of predestination.
- ❖ God chose certain individuals and set his saving love upon them planning and rendering certain their salvation.
- ❖ These people were then given to God the Son as a gift from the Father.

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# The Plan of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Father

**John 17:6** “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

**John 17:24** “Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

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# The Plan of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Father

**Matt 25:34** “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’”

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# The Plan of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Father

**1 Thess 5:9** For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

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# The Plan of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Father

- ❖ The flip side of election is reprobation.
- ❖ God chose to set his saving love upon certain people individuals and others he determined to pass by to demonstrate his justice.

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# Soteriology

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

- ❖ God the Father chose and gave a people to his Son before the foundation of the world.
- ❖ These people were seen as a fallen 'lump' (Rom 9:21).
- ❖ For these people the Son came to accomplish redemption.



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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

- ❖ The accomplishment of redemption is known as the atonement.
- ❖ Atonement is that which brings to hostile parties together.
- ❖ At-one-ment: the making at one of parties at enmity with one another.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

- ❖ Christ made atonement for his people not only by dying on the cross to bear the penalty for their sins but also by living a life of perfect righteousness on their behalf.
- ❖ We learned about Christ's active obedience in which he lived to procure righteousness for us by perfectly fulfilling the law of God and his passive obedience in which he suffered for our sins.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

“The atonement is the work Christ did in his life and death to earn our salvation.”

Wayne Gruden, *Bible Doctrine*, 248.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

**2 Cor 5:21** He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

“Suddenly this sentence fell upon my soul, Thy righteousness is in heaven; and methought withal, I saw, with the eyes of my soul, Jesus Christ at God’s right hand; there, I say, as my righteousness; so that wherever I was, or whatever I was adoing, God could not say of me, He wants my righteousness, for that was just before him.”

John Bunyan, “Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners,” in *The Works of John Bunyan*, 1:35.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

“I also saw, moreover, that it was not my good frame of heart that made my righteousness better, nor yet my bad frame that made my righteousness worse; for my righteousness was Jesus Christ himself; the same yesterday, and today; and for ever (Heb 13:8).”

John Bunyan, “Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners,” in *The Works of John Bunyan*, 1:35–6.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

“Now did my chains fall off my legs indeed, I was loosed from my affliction and irons, my temptations also fled away; so that, from that time, those dreadful scriptures of God left off to trouble me; now went I also home rejoicing, for the grace and love of God.”

John Bunyan, “Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners,” in *The Works of John Bunyan*, 1:35–6.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

“So when I came home, I looked to see if I could find that sentence, Thy righteousness is in heaven; but could not find such a saying, wherefore my heart began to sink again, only that was brought to my remembrance, he “of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption;” by this word I saw the other sentence true (1 Cor 1:30).”

John Bunyan, “Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners,” in *The Works of John Bunyan*, 1:36.



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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

“It was glorious to me to see his exaltation, and the worth and prevalency of all his benefits, and that because of this: now I could look from myself to him, and should reckon that all those graces of God that now were green in me, were yet but like those cracked groats and fourpence- halfpennies that rich men carry in their purses, when their gold is in their trunks at home!”

John Bunyan, “Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners,” in *The Works of John Bunyan*, 1:36.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

“Oh, I saw my gold was in my trunk at home! In Christ, my Lord and Savior! Now Christ was all; all my wisdom, all my righteousness, all my sanctification, and all my redemption.”

John Bunyan, “Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners,” in *The Works of John Bunyan*, 1:36.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

- ❖ We saw that the atonement did not make salvation possible or people saveable, but that it actually accomplished the reconciliation of those for whom it was intended.
- ❖ Christ's life and death actually paid our ransom, redeemed (purchased) us from bondage, propitiated God by paying our penalty.
- ❖ The atonement of Christ was a penal substitutionary atonement.

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# The Accomplishment of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Son

- ❖ The Father planned redemption in eternity past.
- ❖ The Son accomplished redemption in time past.
- ❖ The Spirit takes the Father's plan and what the Son accomplished and works it in our lives in time.

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# Soteriology

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# The Application of Redemption

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

- ❖ The Holy Spirit takes the people that the Father chose, and the atonement that the Son accomplished for them and He effectually works in their lives to bring them to salvation.
- ❖ This aspect of redemption is multifaceted.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

- ❖ The Father: Predestination
- ❖ The Son: Atonement
- ❖ The Spirit: Application



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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

- ❖ Calling,
- ❖ Regeneration,
- ❖ Conversion,
- ❖ Repentance,
- ❖ Faith,
- ❖ Justification,
- ❖ Adoption,
- ❖ Sanctification,
- ❖ Perseverance,
- ❖ Union with Christ,
- ❖ Glorification.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

“Like a precious diamond, the glory of the application of redemption is multifaceted and is only fully comprehended as each individual facet contributes to the brilliance of the whole. Thus, the study of soteriology is concerned to explore the distinctiveness of each aspect of the application of redemption.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 566.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

- ❖ What we want to do then is understand how the Holy Spirit works in each of these aspects and how each work of the Holy Spirit relates to the others.
- ❖ The various works of the Holy Spirit are distinct from one another.
- ❖ Justification is not conversion, conversion is not regeneration, regeneration is different than glorification.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ There is a logical and sometimes even a chronological order to the application of redemption.
- ❖ Theologians describe these relationships with the latin phrase *ordo salutis*.
- ❖ The order of salvation.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Aims to understand the logical and chronological relationships between the elements in the application of redemption.
- ❖ There are logical and chronological distinctions between these elements and it is helpful to distinguish them in order to better understand how salvation works.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

“The various actions of the application of redemption . . . take place in a certain order, and that order has been established by divine appointment, wisdom, and grace.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 80.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ **Rom 8:28** And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. **29** For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; **30** and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Foreknowledge and predestination occurred before the foundation of the world (Eph 1:4).
- ❖ Glorification happens last when the believer is glorified, made to be completely like Christ (1 John 3:1–2; 1 Cor 15:50–57; Phil 3:20–21).
- ❖ Calling refers to the effectual call because all those who are thus called are justified.



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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Our *Ordo Salutis* thus far is . . .
  - ❖ Effectual Calling
  - ❖ Justification
  - ❖ Glorification

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Faith is easy to add because justification is *by* (Rom 3:28; 5:1; Gal 3:24), *through* (Gal 2:16), or *on* faith (Phil 3:9).
- ❖ Faith is the instrumental cause of justification.
- ❖ Faith and justification are temporally simultaneous but logically faith must precede justification.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

*The Order of Salvation*

**Mark 1:14** Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, **15** and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

*The Order of Salvation*

**Acts 20:21** solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

*The Order of Salvation*

**Acts 26:17** rescuing you from the *Jewish* people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, **18** to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

*The Order of Salvation*

**1 Thess 1:9** For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Sometimes in the proclamation of the gospel a call is given to repent, other times the call is to believe (Acts 2:38; 16:31).
- ❖ Saving faith is always repentant faith.
- ❖ Faith and repentance can be viewed as two sides to the same coin or two aspects of conversion.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Effectual Calling
- ❖ Conversion (Repentance & Faith)
- ❖ Justification
- ❖ Glorification



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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

“And because one must logically turn *from* something before he can turn *to* something else, repentance is placed before faith.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 569.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

“That which inclines me to think that faith is seminally in the heart before repentance is because repentance, being a grace, must be exercised by one that is living. Now, how does the soul live but by faith? . . . Therefore there must be first some seeds of faith in the heart of a penitent, otherwise it is a dead repentance and so of no value. Whether faith or repentance goes first however, I am sure that repentance is of such importance that there is no being saved without it.”

Thomas Watson, *The Doctrine of Repentance*, 12.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Debate on where regeneration fits
  - ❖ Arminians must have faith before regeneration because salvation depends on man's free will rather than God's sovereignty.
  - ❖ Calvinists have traditionally thought of regeneration as preceding faith and as causing faith.
  - ❖ Bruce Demarest and Millard Erickson have recently come up with a new position in which calling produces faith which then results in regeneration. Thus, calling, faith, regeneration.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Debate on where regeneration fits
  - ❖ We will talk about where regeneration fits and why another time. For now let's put it *before* faith and we will keep it *after* calling.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Effectual Calling
- ❖ Regeneration
- ❖ Conversion (Repentance & Faith)
- ❖ Justification
- ❖ Glorification

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

*The Order of Salvation*

**John 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

*The Order of Salvation*

**Gal 3:26** For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ We receive the privilege of adoption through faith just as we do justification.
- ❖ Logically we must be made right with God (in justification) before we are accepted into the family (in adoption).



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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Effectual Calling
- ❖ Regeneration
- ❖ Conversion (Faith & Repentance)
- ❖ Justification
- ❖ Adoption
- ❖ Glorification

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Effective calling, regeneration, conversion, justification, and adoption are all instantaneous.
- ❖ Sanctification is a progressive work that grows throughout the life of the believer. Therefore sanctification and perseverance must come after adoption and before glorification.

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# The Application of Redemption

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## The Work of God the Holy Spirit

### *The Order of Salvation*

- ❖ Effectual Calling
- ❖ Regeneration
- ❖ Conversion (Faith & Repentance)
- ❖ Justification
- ❖ Adoption
- ❖ Sanctification
- ❖ Perseverance
- ❖ Glorification

