

At The Cross Part 1: Redemption

(Psalm 103:1-5 NASB/NLT) Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies. He fills my life with good things.

Before Redemption

(Luke 24:13-21 NIV) Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel.

✓ Life is embarrassing.

(Luke 24:17 NIV) He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast.

✓ Life is full of mistakes.

(Psalm 51:1-6 NLT) Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just. For I was born a sinner –yes, from the moment my mother conceived me. But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.

✓ Life has suffering.

(Job 1:13-19 NLT) One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting at the oldest brother's house, a messenger arrived at Job's home with this news: "...the Sabeans raided us. They stole all the animals and killed all the farmhands. I am the only one who escaped to tell you." While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "The fire of God has fallen from heaven and burned up your sheep and all the shepherds. I am the only one who escaped to tell you." While he was still speaking, a third messenger arrived with this news: "Three bands of Chaldean raiders have stolen your camels and killed your servants. I am the only one who escaped to tell you." While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "Your sons and

daughters were feasting in their oldest brother's home. Suddenly, a powerful wind swept in from the wilderness and hit the house on all sides. The house collapsed, and all your children are dead. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."

Redeemed

(Job 19:25 NLT) But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the earth at last.

1. He paid for your sins.

(Ephesians 1:7 NIV) In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

2. He adopted you.

(Galatians 4:5 NIV) But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

3. He blessed you.

(Galatians 3:14 NIV) He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus.

4. He empowered you.

(Galatians 3:14 NIV) He redeemed us... So that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

(Acts 1:8 NIV) You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses.

5. He gave you purpose.

(1 Peter 1:18-19 NIV) For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ.

(Job 42:10, 12-13, 16 NLT) When Job prayed for his friends, the lord restored his fortunes. In fact, the lord gave him twice as much as before! ...So the lord blessed Job in the second half of his life even more than in the beginning... He also gave Job seven more sons and three more daughters... Job lived 140 years after that, living to see four generations of his children and grandchildren.