

# Redemption

Long Beach Alliance Church • May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 • Pastor Chris Lankford

*It came about, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the LORD killed every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore, I sacrifice to the LORD the males, the first offspring of every womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem.'*

**~Exodus 13:15 (NASB)**

## 1) The Amazing First Glimpses Of Our Salvation

- A) The story of Israel being released from their Egyptian slavery demonstrates some of the great foundational theology of God's amazing plan of salvation.
- B) The Exodus teaches us about sin (Egypt) and judgment (plagues). God judges sin throughout the Exodus, and shows His complete authority and sovereignty over the lives of all people.
- C) The Exodus teaches us about election (Israel). Through His love and grace, God chose Israel to be His own people who would be His possession, and in turn, bless the world.
- D) The Exodus teaches us about substitutionary atonement (the unblemished lamb). God's people were saved by the blood of an unblemished lamb offered in their place.
- E) The Exodus teaches us about sanctification (unleavened bread). The removal of yeast from the home represented separation from the old life of sin for a new life with God.

- F) Finally, the Exodus teaches us about redemption (firstborn male). The redemption of every firstborn male child (Exodus 13:1-2) was recognition that God had saved Israel, and Israel's children rightfully belonged to God, and thus needed to be redeemed (bought back with a price).

## 2) Redemption For Donkeys & Man

- A) The first-born of every womb in Israel (woman & beast) was to be "passed over" to the LORD (13:11-12). This meant that God "owned" all the first-borns, both man and beast, which were to be given to God.
- B) In the case of holy animals (ox, sheep, goat), the first-borns were sacrificed to God, "a soothing aroma to the LORD" (Numbers 18:17). But what about the "unclean" animals?
- C) In the case of unclean animals (donkey, rabbit, pig), the first-borns could be substituted, or "redeemed," through the payment of a price. In the case of donkeys (agricultural animal), the payment was a lamb (Exodus 13:13), or death.
- D) But what about people? The firstborn sons (representative of all others), were also to be redeemed. Through the payment of a price, the sons were redeemed (13:15-16).
- E) The rite of redemption reminded parents that children do not belong to parents, but to God. We have our children by God's grace alone, they belong to Him, and are for His glory. Like Abraham (Genesis 22), our children belong to God.
- F) Further, redemption teaches children they have been saved by grace. Someone else paid the price. We do not even belong to ourselves, but to God. We have not been saved by God for ourselves, but for His glory.

## 3) Jesus Christ, The Lamb Who Redeems

- A) Jesus Christ, the unblemished "Lamb of God" (John 1:29; Revelation 5:6) provides redemption (payment) for our lives through His blood (Ephesians 1:7). Jesus Christ paid it all, so we could be adopted as God's redeemed children!