

# Becoming Centers of Forgiveness and Peace

## Session 3: Called to Restore

September 26, 2022 • Rev. Doug Gray

### I. Introductions and Opening Prayer

### II. Teaser

When is the last time you remember seeing someone cry? What do you think were the emotions that person was feeling?

### III. The Biblical View from Here: Redemption and Reconciliation

- a. Biblical views of redemption
  - i. Buying back/ransom
  - ii. Rescue
  - iii. Taking something broken and making something beautiful
- b. Biblical view of reconciliation
  - i. Financial — Making an inequity right, “reconciling the books”
  - ii. Relationship — Restoring a broken relationship

### IV. Words to Watch for

- a. Compels (*sunecho*) — compel, urge on, constrain, control, surround
- b. Human point of view (*sarx*) — lit. flesh (as in *sarcophagus*); fleshly, worldly, physically/physiologically limited
- c. Regard (*oida, ginosko*) — *oida* is knowing abstractly/intellectually; *ginosko* is knowing intimately, by experience
- d. Reconcile (*katalasso*) —sometimes *atonement*

### V. God’s Redemptive Will — Genesis 45:1–8, 50:19–21

- a. Why do you think Joseph weeps in vss. 1–2? In vs. 14?
- b. Who does the forgiving in this passage?
- c. How does Joseph go beyond forgiveness to reconciliation?

### VI. God’s Gift: The Ministry of Reconciliation — 2 Corinthians 5:11–21

- a. How does love urge us on? How does love constrain our choices?
- b. How does God reconcile us? How is that connected with the Biblical concept of redemption discussed above?
- c. *reconciled us* — how is God’s reconciling us like God reconciles everyone else? How is God’s reconciling us particular and special to who we are?
- d. The Scandal of Particularity
  - i. The Incarnation
  - ii. Our church
  - iii. Each of us
- e. Our ministry of particular/special/tailored reconciliation

### VII. Called to Restore

## **Examples of Redeeming and Redemption in the Bible**

**Ex. 6:6** Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will **redeem** you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.

**Lev. 25:25** "If your brother becomes poor and sells part of his property, then his nearest **redeemer** shall come and **redeem** what his brother has sold. **26** If a man has no one to **redeem** it and then himself becomes prosperous and finds sufficient means to **redeem** it,

**Ruth 2:20** And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our **redeemers**."

**Job 19:25** For I know that my **Redeemer** lives,  
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

**Job 33:28** He has **redeemed** my soul from going down into the pit,  
and my life shall look upon the light.'

**Psa. 19:14** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my **redeemer**.

**Psa. 103:4** who **redeems** your life from the pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

**Psa. 130:8** And he will **redeem** Israel  
from all his iniquities.

**Is. 1:27** Zion shall be **redeemed** by justice,  
and those in her who repent, by righteousness.

**Is. 43:1** But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:

"Fear not, for I have **redeemed** you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

**Jer. 31:11** For the LORD has ransomed Jacob  
and has **redeemed** him from hands too strong for him.

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**Luke 24:21** But we had hoped that he was the one to **redeem** Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

**Acts 7:35** "This Moses, whom they rejected, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?'—this man God sent as both ruler and **redeemer** by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush.

**Gal. 3:13** Christ **redeemed** us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

**Gal. 4:5** to **redeem** those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

**Heb. 9:15** Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that **redeems** them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

## **Reconciling and Reconciliation in the Bible**

**1Sam. 29:4** But the Philistine commanders were angry with him and said, "Send the man back, that he may return to the place you assigned him. He must not go with us into battle, or he will turn against us during the fighting. How better could he regain his master's favor than by taking the heads of our own men?"

**Matt. 5:24** leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

**Acts 7:26** The next day Moses came upon two Israelites who were fighting. He tried to reconcile them by saying, 'Men, you are brothers; why do you want to hurt each other?'

**Rom. 5:10** For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**Rom. 11:15** For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

**1Cor. 7:11** But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

**2Cor. 5:18** All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

**Eph. 2:16** and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

**Col. 1:20** and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

**Col. 1:22** But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—