

Liberated

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians 1:7-8.
- B. We are looking upon things as they really are in the Scripture.
- C. God chose us to be in Him and to be His Sons.
- D. The Son moves to accomplish the Father's decrees.

II. Jesus accomplishes the forgiveness of sins.

A. We have been redeemed, or liberated.

1. This pictures being bought from a slave market.
2. In our natural condition, we are useless—everything we contribute to in this state will ultimately disappear.
3. Achievement is not fulfillment. Jesus brings fulfillment.
4. To be liberated means to be brought to fulfillment.

B. Our trespasses or sins are set aside.

1. Forgiveness only comes through God.
2. Jesus had to take our place to free us from our guilt.
3. There is something deep within the human conscience that tells us that we are guilty.
4. The gospel acknowledges our blame appropriately, but it also argues that the price has been fully paid through Jesus' sacrifice.

C. The gospel is the riches of His grace, which God lavished upon us.

1. When you lavish something upon someone, you heap it upon him more and more.
2. God's grace must be applied again and again.
3. The believer daily needs forgiveness, and the believer daily has it.
4. The believer has acceptance before God.
5. True belief does not exploit God's grace.

Application questions:

1. What does it mean to be redeemed?

2. How would you respond to someone who says that the idea of Jesus dying for our guilt is offensive?

3. Why is it important to remember that God's grace is not a one-time occurrence? Explain.
