**CROSS WORDS**

**An on-line Bible study**

**Lesson 5**

*This week we will look to God’s Word for our third Cross Word. When you learn the Cross Word, please fill in the shaded boxes with each letter of the word. Each week we’ll add another word.*

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Readings, unless noted, taken from:

[*Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hbehv?ref=BibleEHV.1Jn4.10&off=3&ctx=ive+through+him.+10%EF%BB%BF~This+is+love%3a+not+th). (2019). Milwaukee, WI: Northwestern Publishing House.

**1 Peter 1:17-21**

**17If you call on the Father who judges impartially, according to the work of each person, conduct yourselves during the time of your pilgrimage in reverence, 18because you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, not with things that pass away, such as silver or gold, 19but with the precious blood of Christ, like a lamb without blemish or spot. 20He was chosen before the foundation of the world but revealed in these last times for your sake. 21Through him you are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.**

**1. Textual Thoughts**

* **You call on** – The word in Greek emphasizes the call of one in need of help.
* **The Father** = This is God the Father, the first person of the Trinity. He is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is our Father since he is our creator. He is our Father and we his children through Jesus Christ.
* **Judges impartially** – “Impartially” is an adverb describing the kind of judging the Father does. He impartially judges the attitudes of the heart, the words that are spoken, and the deeds that are done all by his unchanging will as recorded for us in the law.
* **The time of your pilgrimage** – A pilgrim, in biblical usage, is a foreigner or alien. It is a person who is not living in his own country but traveling through to get home. We remember that the people of God were aliens in Egypt, living in a country not their own. Believers live as pilgrims while living in the world. This world is not their lasting home. Heaven is their home. Peter uses this picture so that his hearers remember, especially during times of trial and persecution, that they are to long for their homeland as they walk through this life.
* **In reverence** – The Greek word for this is “fear.” Fear can be understood in two ways. First, it can mean “to be afraid” of something, real or imagined. Secondly, fear can be understood as the awe a person has at seeing something amazing. Here Peter uses it in the second way. Believers marvel at God’s amazing Grace.
* Our **empty way of life** – The Greek word translated here as “empty” can also be translated as “useless” or “futile.” Refer to Ephesians 4:17-19 and Romans 1:21 for similar understanding to what Peter is writing.
* **Redeemed** – To understand the meaning of this word [here a verb], we begin with the Old Testament concept of the Kinsman Redeemer [**Ruth 4:1-10**]. When a woman’s husband died without leaving a child, a close relative was to redeem her and take her as a wife. He was to pay for her release from being childless. Job [**Job 19:22-27**] also talks about one who would redeem him from death on the last day.
* **Redemption** – Please read the following passages to come to the New Testament understanding of this word [here a noun] as if refers to how Jesus paid our ransom and from what.

A. **Galatians 3:13; 4:5 –**

B. **Ephesians 1:7 and Colossians 1:14 –**

C. **Titus 2:14 –**

D. **Hebrews 9:12 –**

* **A Lamb** – This refers to Jesus Christ, of course. If you have a concordance, look up the word “lamb” to see how many times it refers to Jesus Christ in the Bible. You may be surprised.
* **The empty way of life handed down to you** is contrasted with **the precious blood of Christ** – The word in Greek translated “precious” is the word τιμίῳ [timos – the first part of my name]. The primary meaning of this word is “honor” but also can be translated “valuable, precious.”

**2. What does the Bible section from 1 Peter 1:17-21 teach us?**

A. How does God judge a person? Why is his judgment impartial? **He judges based on his law/will. He never lets anything [like a bribe] change his judgments.**

B. How does this truth about God’s judgments direct you as you live your life as a foreigner here on earth?

**WE LEARN AND APPLY THE LAW; CONFESSION**

C. Peter says that we are to live our lives on earth in reverence. How do we do this? **WE MARVEL AT THE WORKS OF GRACE, JESUS’ WORK OF REDEMPTION, JESUS’ VICTORY OVER DEATH**

D. To Redeem means to **PAY THE RANSOM**. From what did Jesus ransom us? **FROM SIN, DEATH, DEVIL**

E. What was the ransom price Jesus paid? **HIS HOLY PRECIOUS BLOOD**

F. To whom did Jesus pay the ransom? **TO GOD THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE**

G. How can we understand the Lamb’s blood as being “honorable? [precious?]” **PERFECT, SINLESS, RIGHT**

H. Agree/Disagree – This Lamb was chosen before the world was created, before sin came into the world.

I. How did we become a believer in the true God? **THROUGH HIM, THE LAMB, JESUS**

J. Where does the resurrection of Jesus fit into the redemption he won? **IT PROVES THAT GOD ACCEPTED HIS PAYMENT OF PERFECT BLOOD FOR OUR RELEASE**

K. Where do we put our faith and hope? **IN GOD**

L. Since our faith and hope are in God, since Jesus redeemed us, how do we live our lives and how do we see the world?

3. Are there any verses from this section that would be good to memorize?

4. Our CrossWord for this lesson is what God does through Jesus in purchasing our release from bondage to sin, death, and the power of the devil. It is **REDEMTPION.**

For further study

* Read Psalm 130