

8.26.19 - Redeemed

Here is a question that we received a couple of months ago: "If we've been redeemed from the law of the curse of sin and death then why aren't we? Our first parents were nudist/ naturists. It was only after sin entered the world that they covered up their bodies. If we've been redeemed then we should live like it Nude and Proud." This is not an easy question to answer, but I am running out of easy questions.

We will attempt to answer the question from two different perspectives in case the author of the questions meant one over the other one. Let's start with the definition *Redeemed: Ransomed; delivered from bondage, distress, penalty, liability, or from the possession of another, by paying an equivalent.* We are all in need of redemption from the curse/bondage for our sins, which is the use of the word in the question. Three questions along that line come to mind; does everyone take the offer of redemption? What is included in the redemption? Is naked and proud part of the redemption?

Even though redemption from the bondage of sin is the best deal you will get in this life, everyone does not take advantage of the offer. There are a few reasons to miss the offer: not knowing about it is low on the list. God is very anxious that everyone accept the gift that Jesus paid such a high price to obtain. The order and complexity of the natural world indicates that there is a God. Conscience requires we learn what He wants and do it. Both are offered to everyone. Satan tries to explain it away with evolution. A short trip on this path proves we are in trouble with the "doing" part. If the seeker makes use of the help God sends his way, God sends more help including His plan for the short comings. In other words, if God is going to judge people on accepting Jesus or rejecting Him, everyone needs a chance to do so. Many who get a clear offer, reject it; the rich ruler **Luke 18-25**, Agrippa **Acts**

26:28, many of the Pharisees, many of the Jews **Acts 17:5**, Herod **Mark 6:20**, Judas **John 13:2**, to name a few. What ever the reason, there are people who are not redeemed and that is a factor in being naked and proud; they want to see you remain bound by something as they are.

When the Hebrews were freed from Egypt, they all left, because God made the Egyptians throw them all out. The willingness to go back when things got tough in the desert indicated that some of them would have stayed if given the choice. When the Jews were freed from Babylon many stayed behind. Even the release during the year of jubilee had people who stayed with their master instead of going out on their own. Some of the reasons for this are; they are comfortable where they are, the restrictions are not bad enough to risk failure going it alone, they fear change, it could get worse you know. These are the people who only upgrade their computer when they can no longer get online with the old one or get a new cell phone only when the old one stops working completely, not just a few lines on the screen or buttons that are hard to coax to work. They are quick to say, "That is the way we have always done it, why change now?" If they are not forced to be naked, they will not join you.

Pharisees did not disappear with the destruction of Jerusalem...we just have a different name for them today. We have been calling them legalists in these articles. They will tell you what you need to do to deserve God's blessing which may or may not agree with scriptures, often it "improves" on scriptures, but God's Word is complete and all we need to know about God. Be cautious with those "improvements" as they are typically nothing more than a control mechanism where one person or group wants to dictate how you live rather than letting God's Word be the standard. It is possible for a naturist to be a legalist, by insisting that to be right with God you must be a naturist. Most legalist will be quick to tell you he would never tempt God by being naked at anytime

especially in the company of other people. He feels that you have to see it his way so God does not destroy us all like Sodom. He will be more confident of the correctness of his position if he can get you to agree with it. This group will be as unwilling to change as the Pharisees were to accept Jesus as the Son of God. The Pharisees were not convinced Jesus was the Son of God by the many miracles Jesus did including raising the dead, they could not find witnesses for a death charge, Pilot did not find any fault in Jesus, Judas confessed that Jesus was innocent, the sun was darkened as Jesus hung on the cross, the soldiers that guarded the tomb reported that He arose. Naturism is not that obvious or that important that people need to join us. You can go to heaven even if you were never seen naked by anyone after you were a young child, but you will miss heaven if you do not believe Jesus is the Son of God.

Redemption frees us from the eternal penalty for sin, but it does not necessarily release us from the earthly consequences of those sinful acts. If a drug addict gets saved, he may still be an addict after he is saved. The apostle Paul still had his "thorn in the flesh" and God chose to give him grace instead of remove the problem, that is God's choice. He can take away the addiction or help the new believer work his way out of the addiction or many other choices, God is not limited in any way as He deals with us. We do get the Holy Spirit which works with the newly reborn spirit within us to make us more like Jesus. This work goes fast in believers who yield to the Spirit's leading and almost stops in believers who resist any and all changes, aka quench the Spirit. Getting redeemed does not instantly stop us from sinning at the end of the salvation prayer. Becoming more Christ-like is a work that goes on for the rest of the believer's life.

Naturism is one of many areas where believers may take a while to understand that they were made in the image and likeness of Christ Jesus and some will certainly never understand. Here is where

God decides what needs changed first. In most lives, naturism is not near the top of the list for God to reveal to the believer. If the believer is slow to yield, it could take a long time to get to naturism, maybe even not reach it at all. In short, we do not believe Nude and Proud comes with being redeemed and the factors mentioned above explain some of the reasons it does not follow soon after salvation or ever happen in many cases. Most great men of God were wrong in some area. Mathew Henry was a textile believer, just read his comments on **Isa 20** if you question that. John R Rice believed in the gap theory (theistic evolution) which is nothing more than a straight rejection of the Bible's account of creation. It is even possible that you and I might occasionally misrepresent God in some area.

There is a hint of legalism in the question. We are expecting everyone to see redeemed as freedom from clothing. God is infinite and we are finite. We each represent a different aspect of God's person, mixed with different amounts of sin. A God who does not make two snowflakes the same, certainly does not make people alike. For this reason, He does not work the same in everybody, each and every one of us are at a different point in our growth in the Lord so we need to be patient with others who may not be where we are right now. Let's face it we were not always where we are now either. The only way that we can hope to get a uniform reaction is to force it. **Dan 3:5,6 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: And whoso falleth not down and worshipping shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.** How many do you think fell down and worshiped when the music played? We have record of three who did not, but I would guess there were others that were not in a coveted position so not worth the trouble to report. God does not use His death angels as a threat if we misbehave. There would be none of us left alive and overpopulation would not be a problem if that was His method to

get our obedience. God only seems to use force on the proud who want to take Him on, like Pharaoh in Moses' time or Sennacherib king of Assyria **2Ki 19:35,36** **And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses. So, Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.** Basically, it is like Paul's instructions on keeping days **Rom 14:5,6,12** **He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks. So, then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.** It is not our job to account for others. God gave us enough responsibility to deal with and account for ourselves to keep us busy for a lifetime.

We are not as disturbed that everyone does not live Nude and Proud as how wildly they react to the idea that God favors Nude and Proud in the right setting. You will find even saved people who "borrow" things at work and forget to return them (stealing), or tell things about their friends that should be kept secret (gossip), or do not tithe (robbing God), or do not help to spread the gospel, or, I am sure you will find this hard to believe, stretch the truth to the breaking point (lie). If we all break the rules that are accepted, why would a new rule that is not accepted by most believers be a problem? Just use the line, "That is what you think it says." and get on with your life like we do with the other rules we mentioned.

If redeemed people are not going to stop stealing, lying, gossiping, or start tithing and spreading the gospel; how can we expect them to become Nude and Proud in large numbers? We may need to take God's advice through Solomon as given in **Ecc 7:10** **Say not thou, what is the cause that the former days were better than these? For thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this.** It is

the last part that may apply to this question. The more important enquiry is, "Am I doing all that God expects?".

To answer the question from the second perspective in case the author of the question was intending to ask "since we are saved, aren't we allowed to be naked and unashamed now?" The answer to that question is much easier to answer. The answer is that a person is not required to be redeemed to enjoy naturism. Made in the image and likeness of God applies to every human being ever born. The image of God is stamped onto every person which is why there is a God shaped hole in all of us. We are drawn to God because we are His creation whether or not we choose to ignore His drawing us to Him or not. We all should live naked and unashamed as God intended from the beginning if for no other reason then that it displays God's image everywhere and that alone really messes with Satan as he cannot stand the image of God. Hence his deceit with Adam and Eve, convincing them to cover themselves therefore covering the image and likeness of God while doing so.

The additional benefits of living naked and unashamed are too numerous to list and we did just publish an article attempting to list some of them, but one of the biggest is that the familiarity of naturism is healthy for society as it reducing the sexual enticement...the Pavlov's dog's reaction to nudity. If nudity were commonplace in society, then pornography and lust would have such a reduced effect on the world as to almost be non-existent. You see, by buying into Satan's lie we have inadvertently through the law of unintended consequences created a scenario now where naked equals sex since the only time that most are naked is for sex. If we reverse the trend and naked is for everything (as it was in the beginning), then the naked equals sex conditioning dissipates. So, is nude and proud the way to live because we are redeemed...yes! That said, nude and proud is simply the way to live period, no matter your redeemed condition. Now on a personal note, we

would love to see all redeemed just like we'd love to see all living naked and unashamed. For more information on becoming redeemed please check out and share www.PreciousSeed.com.