

1:7 states, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." Jesus died on the cross to purchase our freedom from the bondage of sin.

Have you put your trust in Jesus as your Redeemer? Let Him take your head out of the enslaving collar of sin and set you free. –VCG

*Redeemed—how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy—
His child, and forever I am. –Crosby*

Christ was lifted up on the cross that we might be lifted out of our sin.



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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The Iron Collar

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. –Ephesians 1:7

A missionary in West Africa was trying to convey the meaning of the word *redeem* in the Bambara language. So he asked his African assistant to express it in his native tongue. "We say," the assistant replied, "that God took our heads out." "But how does that explain redemption?" the perplexed missionary asked.

The man told him that many years ago some of his ancestors had been captured by slave-traders, chained together, and driven to the seacoast. Each of the prisoners had a heavy iron collar around his neck. As the slaves passed through a village, a chief might notice a friend of his among the captives and offer to pay the slave-traders in gold, ivory, silver, or brass. The prisoner would be redeemed by the payment. His head then would be taken out of his iron collar.

What an unusual and graphic illustration of the word *redeem*! Ephesians





Living Delight

The Son's Sufficiency

There are two steps to rejoicing in the sufficiency of Christ:

1. Let's be _____ by our own _____,

◆ Let's understand how _____ we were, Ephesians 2:1-3

(Ecclesiastes 9:4) "But for him who is joined to all the living there is hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion."



◆ Let's see how _____ we were to God, Ephesians 2:3



◆ Let's see how _____ we were to sin, Ephesians 4:17-19

(Psalms 51:17) "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart; These, O God, You will not despise."



◆ Let's admit that we are not _____ by our _____,

(2 Peter 2:22) "But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.""



2. Let's _____ the Saviour, Ephesians 1:3-8, 10-11, 13, 2:5-6, 10, 21

(Hosea 1:2) ".. "Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry And children of harlotry, For the land has committed great harlotry By departing from the LORD.""

(Hosea 3:2) "So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver, and one and one-half homers of barley."

