

IN GOD'S EYES

1 Peter 1:18-20

Introduction: People have their own ideas about just about everything including God, their own selves, their own souls, heaven, hell, Jesus, Satan, Angels, the Church etc. Most of the time what people think is not what God thinks or how God does things. Therefore it is very necessary to know what the Bible (God's Word) has to say about man's condition and what people need from God and what they owe God. People need to see things as God sees them.

I. IN GOD'S EYES, MANKIND NEEDS TO BE REDEEMED

1. "Redeem" is to release after payment has been made, the price paid.
 - Slaves were "redeemed" or paid for, bought out.
2. Mankind is in a lost condition.
 - Separated, alienated from God.
 - Corrupt, wicked, evil, an enemy to God, living a pointless life.
3. What man thinks will redeem him/her will not.
 - Money will not redeem a person.
 - Material things will not redeem anybody.
 - Works, laws, morals, deserving to be redeemed does not happen.
4. Mankind became lost, needing to be redeemed in the Garden of Eden.
 - Adam fell
 - Eve fell
 - All born since that time have been born from lost parents, therefore needing to be redeemed.

II. IN GOD'S EYES MANKIND HAS BEEN REDEEMED

1. Blood is the life source of living creatures and is sacred, vital.
 - In God's eyes the blood of animals covered the sins of man when offered in God's prescribed way.
 - Only the best animals qualified to be offered for sacrifice.
 - Physically perfect
 - No discoloration
2. On the cross, Jesus Christ's blood was offered as sacrifice for the sins of mankind, in God's sight.
 - The blood of Jesus is much more valuable than any animal's blood.
 - Jesus' life was sinless and therefore He met every detail of God's requirements for the perfect sacrifice to be offered for man's sins.
3. The blood of Jesus Christ:
 - Delivers mankind from the curse and condemnation of the law.
 - Brings peace to the guilty.
 - Frees the "captive" soul.
 - Looses man from the entanglements of the world.
 - There is no bondage from which the blood of Jesus does not free a person.

4. Man's redemption has been completed, paid in full, in God's eyes and God is totally satisfied.

III. REDEMPTION OF MANKIND WAS IN GOD'S PLANS FOR MAN FROM THE CREATION

1. Redemption of mankind was not some after thought of God.
 - Redemption was not an "adjustment" that God made later on.
 - Redemption was not a change in God's plans.
2. God knew before He made Adam, the first human being, that mankind would turn out like it has.
3. God showed the Old Testament prophets a tiny bit of His redemptive plan, little by little.
4. God has a time table of His own.
 - He has a plan for mankind worked out before he made Adam
 - God's plan for mankind is on schedule for God is never late nor is He ever early.
 - Jesus' birth was in keeping with God's plan and exactly on God's time schedule.
5. Redemption of mankind is totally of God.
 - The redemption of man by God reveals the extent of God's love for US, mankind.

CONCLUSION:

1. It isn't Jesus' birth nor His spotless life, nor His miracles, nor His teachings, nor His wisdom, not His example that redeems man, BUT HIS BLOOD cleanses mankind.
2. Peter, in writing the text, took for granted that believers knew about the blood of Jesus Christ being the means of redemption - DO YOU?
3. When YOU stand before God someday, it will not be your bank statement or list of good works that He looks at - it will be the Lamb's Book of Life where the names of every believer in Jesus Christ are written.
4. What one thinks about Jesus Christ's death reveals what he/she thinks about sin.
5. It is not what people see and think about their needs from God, it's what God sees that mankind needs.
6. God says every human being needs to be redeemed and Jesus Christ is the only means of that redemption.