

INCREASING OUR FAITH
NOVEMBER 27, 2016

INTRODUCTION: The bible has much to say about different levels of faith. It speaks of no, little, great and perfect faith. It also speaks of shipwrecked and wavering faith. What produces the highest level of faith? Answer – knowing the reality of:

- The integrity of God’s Word. **NUM. 23:19**
- Our redemption in Christ. **EPH. 1:7**
- Being a New Creation. **2 COR. 5:17**
- Our righteousness in Christ. **2 COR. 5:21**
- God’s indwelling presence. **2 COR. 6:16**
- God’s love for us. **1 JOHN 3:1-2** – Birth, adoption.
- The authority of Jesus’ Name. **MK. 16:17-18**

OUR REDEMPTION IN CHRIST – EPH. 1:7

1. What redemption means.
 - A. To redeem means to regain possession of something by a payment. Biblically speaking it refers to freedom from slavery.
 - B. In ancient times slavery was common. One could be born into slavery, legally fall into slavery through debt or become a slave as a part of the booty of war.
 - C. Slaves could only be made free by meeting one of three conditions.
 - Repaying his owner the money he paid for him.
 - Manumission – The owner releases you on his own.
 - Redemption – To regain your freedom by a payment.
2. The redeemer must be qualified.
 - A. He had to be a kinsman.
 - B. He had to be acceptable to all parties involved.
 - C. He had to be able to pay the price.
 - D. He had to be willing.
3. Christ redeemed us. **TITUS 2:13-14**
 - A. We were all slaves to sin by nature. **EPH. 2:1-3**
 - We can’t pay our sin debt.
 - Satan, sin or death won’t release us.
 - We need a qualified redeemer.
 - B. Only Christ meets the qualifications.
 - Is He part of the family? **PHIL. 2:7**
 - Is He acceptable to all parties involved? **MT. 3:17**
 - Is he able? **1 PET. 1:18-19** – He didn’t owe a sin debt!
 - Was He willing? **JOHN 15:13**
4. What redemption means.
 - A. Our sin debt is paid in full. **COL. 2:13-14**
 - B. We’re legally redeemed from poverty, sickness and death and have legal right to Abraham’s blessings. **GAL. 3:13-14, DEUT. 28:58-61**
 - C. Everyone has the legal right to call on Jesus’ Name and be made free from the law of sin and death. **ROM. 8:2**

CONCLUSION: Knowing what we’ve been redeemed from produces faith to stand against whatever contradicts what Jesus purchased for us with His own Blood. We must enforce our benefits by faith. George Wilson – 1829, convicted of crimes, sentenced to die. After many denied appeals, the appeals reached the desk of President Andrew Jackson, who knowing the family, granted George a pardon. George refused it because he was guilty and deserved to die. The case went to the Supreme Court where Chief Justice John Marshall said “A pardon is of no effect until it is accepted.” George Wilson died because he refused to accept his pardon.