

This is why our giving attention to God's Word becomes so important. You will never learn how to live by spending all your time learning how the world system works. Allowing the world to be your source of supply and information will only reinforce the ways of death. **It takes spending the predominance of your time learning the Word and ways of God if you are going to learn how to live.**

Next week we will continue our study and look into the other two areas redemption deals with, poverty and sickness.

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### **Scripture Meditation for this Week:**

For by union with Christ, and through His sacrifice of Himself, we have found redemption in the pardon of our offenses. This is in accordance with the wealth of the blessings that God heaped upon us, which were accompanied by countless gifts of wisdom and discernment, when He made known to us the secret of His purpose. **Ephesians 1: 7-9, The Twentieth Century New Testament**

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In the mind of God redemption is a legal fact. The entire race of man was redeemed by the sacrifice of Jesus at Calvary. **Redemption is now a choice.** You may receive it or you may reject it. Though it be a legal fact, you must receive it to experience redemption vitally and in the now. **This is what is known as the “Legal and Vital Sides of Redemption.”**

Be bold to receive everything which God has done for you. Don't let one thing be missed in your journey in this earth. **The price has been paid...the blood has been shed!** Don't leave anything on the table of grace that has been paid for and is offered to you by the blood of Jesus! God bless you this week and remember that, Jesus is Lord! Pastor Bill Dennington

## **Good News... You're Redeemed! Part 3**

The process of redemption involved several specific steps. Each step was dictated by the requirements to abide by spiritual law and the need for redemption to fully cover all aspects of the fall of Adam. Mankind, the race of man, would be forever affected by what this plan of redemption covered. Any area of man's existence which was touched by Adam's sin in the garden would have to be included in this plan or it would fall short of the perfect will of God as seen before the fall.

Redemption would bring man out from the authority of Satan and destroy the power of sin and death, forever. The results of Adam's fall can be seen in three major areas:

1. Spiritual death
2. Sickness and disease
3. Poverty

Each one of these areas would have to be covered in redemption to fully bring man out from under the domination of the devil. Many other things were included in redemption, but these are the three main areas we will look at in this study.

Let's look at the matter of spiritual death first. This was the most serious of the three areas we will deal with and the most important from man's position. **Spiritual death was a problem which man could not correct on his own.**

Look at **Genesis 2:16-17**:

16. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;
17. but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat, *for in the day you eat of it you shall surely die.*"

The Hebrew rendering of "you shall surely die" is "in dying you shall die". This indicates two deaths which would occur. This is recognized as being true when you realize that in the day Adam and Eve ate of the tree, they did not die physically. So where did the death take place? God did not lie, He can't lie. **Adam and Eve died spiritually.**

The first indication of a change in Adam's condition is found when he becomes aware of his physical body. Prior to his sin, he was not conscious of his physical body because it was totally submitted to his spirit. He was alive with the life of God and clothed with the glory of God, and not natural or carnal minded. **He was spiritually minded, walking in a mind which was dominated by the anointing of God.**

Sin and death changed man's consciousness from spiritual to carnal. He now had to find some natural means to clothe his body. **Fig leaves are a lousy replacement for the glory of God!**

Adam also began to respond to the presence of God in a much different way than before. While he once looked forward to his evening walks with God in the garden, fellowshiping one with another in the cool of the day; he now is hiding from God, afraid of God's presence and unable to deal with God face to face.

Fig leaves have replaced the glory, fear has replaced faith. Death had entered into Adam's spirit and he is now trapped in a world of sin, darkness, fear and death.

What is spiritual death? By simple definition it would be stated as the death of a spirit. But, because we tend to think of death as a cessation of existence, stating spiritual death in those terms will not give us an accurate picture of what occurred inside of Adam.

**To die spiritually is to be separated from God; to be unable to receive a revelation about God from God, cut off from the life of God and to exist in a state of darkness.** Spiritual death lies behind and supports the force of fear, hate, greed, grief and every other evil, demonic and destructive force and emotion known to man.

Spiritual death is the existence of Satan. He is spiritual death in the same way God is life. When you become united to Satan through the sin of Adam, you take into your spirit the devil's nature, spiritual death. **When you become united to God by receiving Jesus as Lord, you take into your spirit the nature of God, eternal life: also known as the life of God.**

The principle of spiritual union is found in **1 Corinthians 6:17**, this is the NIV rendering: "But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with Him in spirit."

**Physical death is the result of spiritual death.** Adam did not die physically until he was 930 years old. Man quite literally had to learn how to die. Satan had to learn how to affect man physically. Death was not natural to man and he lived in a physical environment which was created to support life to the maximum extent. The effects of the fall took some time to run its full course.

Just as a side note, the things which have just been mentioned give you an indication of what we must do as believers today. Man has been well trained in the ways of sin and death now. **Our job is to learn how to live, not die.**