

Title: THE FOUNDATION OF SALVATION, MARK 10:35-45
(Chatham, NJ; 10/21/12, AM) [E – Topical]

Theme: Jesus paid with his blood to buy us back from the slavery of sin, and this is the foundation of salvation.

Purpose: To explain the connections of ransom, redemption, and salvation and to exhort the audience to respond to the salvation that Jesus offers.

Introduction:

1. A question of leadership becomes a matter of salvation: the great must become servants.
2. The first must be last of all.
3. The Son of Man came to serve, to give his life as a ransom.

I. Ransom

A. Defined

1. Money paid for the release of a captive
2. A rare word for Jesus to use of himself, also in 1 Tim. 2:6
3. He purchased us by his blood
4. Before Jesus died, Satan held the world captive, Heb. 2:14-15
5. Twice in 1 Corinthians Paul says, "You were bought with a price," (6:20 & 7:23)
6. Essentially you have been freed from the one who enslaved you

B. The supreme act of service demonstrated true leadership

1. He gave himself, Gal. 1:4
2. Humbled himself to the point of death, Phil. 2:7-8
3. Sin captured and continues to enslave humanity, Genesis 4:6-7
4. We have been unable to conquer it ever since
5. Only by the power of God can be overcome it
6. As a captive needs a ransom to gain freedom, so did we need someone to pay the ransom fee

II. Redemption – a buying back (more common word in NT)

A. Forgiveness of debt and release from slavery, Leviticus 25:47-55

1. Some people sold into slavery (could include all family members)
2. The person and his family could be redeemed (purchased back)
3. Any number of people could step in to redeem him, including himself
4. A fair price had to be calculated
5. Every slave set free in the Year of Jubilee (every 50 years)
6. The people of Israel are God's servants
7. He maintains the rights of redemption

B. The human drama of the legal process

1. Ruth is a story of distress, loss, and redemption
2. The family experiences numerous misfortunes: leaves home, loses family members and family fortune
3. Naomi returns home crushed and in despair
4. Boaz redeems her, and eventually David is born
5. This story becomes part of the family history (also Mt. 1:5)
6. Do we still believe in redemption? Even when all seems hopeless?
7. Ephesians 1:7 equates redemption with forgiveness of sins

III. Salvation, Reconciliation

- A. The human condition of Romans 5:6-8
 - 1. While we were sinners, Christ died for us (8)
 - 2. While we were enemies (10)
 - 3. We've been reconciled (10-11)
 - 4. Similar details in Colossians 1:21-22
 - 5. Reconciliation = salvation = forgiveness = no condemnation = eternal life

- B. Christ has become our salvation, Hebrews 5
 - 1. He suffered (8)
 - 2. He was obedient
 - 3. He is the source of eternal salvation (9) – to all who obey

Conclusion:

- 1. Can you see the condition of your life?
- 2. Without Christ you are alienated from God and subject to eternal condemnation.
- 3. Christ paid the ransom to buy you back from slavery to sin, John 8:34
- 4. His shed blood cleanses you from sin and guilt, Col. 1:22.
- 5. What do you receive as a result of your life of sin, Romans 6:21?
- 6. "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation," Acts 2:40.
- 7. Jesus reconciles you to God, saves you from sin, and gives you the hope of eternal life by his death, burial and resurrection.
- 8. You must believe, repent, and be baptized (Acts 2:38).
- 9. He will be your salvation when you obey.