Kenyon: The Legal & Vital Aspects of Redemption

Until one becomes conscious of THE LEGAL AND VITAL ASPECTS OF REDEMPTION, there will be a haziness in his teaching and a lack of solidity in his thinking and living.

The legal side of Redemption is what God did for us in Christ. It is in the past. Rom. 4:25 is a good illustration: "Who was delivered up for our trespasses, and was raised for our justification." Here is another: I Cor. 15:3, 4 "For I delivered unto you first of all that which also I received: that 'Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures and that he was buried; and that he hath been raised on the third day according to the scriptures." These two scriptures perfectly illustrate what God did for us in His Redemptive work.

The vital can be illustrated. Rom. 8:1: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus." Col. 1:14 "In whom we have our redemption, the remission of our sins." The vital is what we really have now; what the Holy Spirit is doing in us today.

If one only had the legal side of the plan of Redemption, it would lead him into cold, dead formalism. It would make doctrines out of Reality and sense knowledge would rule.

The vital teachings alone will lead into fanaticism, magnifying experiences above the Word. When the vital aspect is understood, we know what belongs to us in Christ. We know a Son's rights. We learn to take our place. We enjoy our privileges, and the vital side then becomes a Reality. All that is legally ours may become vitally ours by the ministry of the Spirit through the Word in us.

A little study of the legal side may help us. 2 Cor. 5:21, "Him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf; that we might become the righteousness of God in him." That is what God wrought in Christ. He laid our sins upon Christ. He was stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. "He

was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and Jehovah hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." He not only laid our sins on Jesus, but He made Jesus sin. Rom. 3:21-26 is perhaps the great master sentence illustrating this legal side of the plan of Redemption. He tells us in the 21st verse, "But now apart from the law a righteousness of God hath been manifested, (or unveiled; or as one translator puts it, ('brought to light') being witnessed by the law and the prophets; even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ unto all them that believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God." Here is a little touch of the vital in the 24th verse: "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

In the 25th verse we swing back again to the legal: "Whom God set forth to be a propitiation," or a mercy seat where the blood was sprinkled by the High Priest, "on the ground of faith, in His blood, to show his righteousness because of the passing over of the sins done aforetime, in the forbearance of God; for the showing, I say, of his righteousness at this present season." Here we catch a glimpse of the vital: "That he might himself be righteous, and the righteousness of him that hath faith in Jesus." You see, the Spirit has based our present Righteousness upon the work that had been accomplished in His great Substitutionary Work. Titus 2:14 is another scripture showing the legal side. `Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a people for his own possession, zealous of good works." We are united with Him.

New Creation Realities.

SOME "IN HIM" (Vital) FACTS

IT is very important that the believer know the difference between the legal side of redemption and the vital.

The legal is always in the past tense. It is what God has done for us in Christ.

The legal begins on the cross and ends when Christ sat down at the Right Hand of the Father.

The vital begins with the New Birth and ends when we leave our personal habitation, the body, and go to be with the Lord.

The vital is what He is doing in me today, taking the things of Christ and building them into me.

It began when I first accepted Christ as my Saviour and confessed Him as my Lord.

The Holy Spirit overshadowed me and poured into my spirit eternal life, the nature of the Father, and I became His child.

All that He did for me can be done in me; His word becomes a part of me. He opens it up to me.

He unveils Himself in it.

He begins to build the Word into my spirit as I practice it, as I come to understand its spiritual significance, and I become Jesus like.

John 15:7 is a good illustration. "If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

Now notice what that means.

"If ye abide in me." When I was born again, I came into Christ.

That is the vital aspect of divine life.

This illustrates it. "I am the vine and ye are the branches." The branch is in the vine. It is part of the vine. We are a part of the vine.

Now, "If my word abides in you."

The Word lives in me in the measure that I practice it.

My spirit feeds on the Word just as my body feeds on food.

So, as I meditate on the Word, I let it have free course in me, teaching and governing me. Then I recognize its lordship over me as I would recognize the lordship of the Master if He were here in the room.

That Word is a part of the Father Himself, and the Father is love. So I let the Word live through me while the Spirit builds the love nature of the Father into me.

Then He says, "Ye shall ask what ye will." One translator says, "demand your rights." That means taking my place as a son. I am a member of the family.

I have come to appreciate my position in Christ, and I am laboring together with Him.

I am taking Jesus' place in His absence.

I am doing the Father's will as Jesus did in His earth walk. I am not a slave ; I am a son.

I am a love son, and I am carrying out the will of my Father. And so, now having the Word built into me, I have come to know His will.

I am not worrying about His will. I know it.

The end of that verse is very striking. "It shall be done unto you." Or, "it shall be gendered unto you," as one translator gives it.

The idea is to give birth.

It is to be borne unto you.

As Miss Rabe translates it, "If ye abide in me and my words have their place in you, you will pray to the Father, and He will create, or give birth to the thing, make it come to pass."

Because you are a branch of the vine and you are bearing God's fruit. You are giving birth to actions that are inspired of God the Father, love actions, while He is building Himself into you.

In that next verse He says, "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much love fruit."

It is a wonderful thing to bear His fruit.

John 6:63: "The words that I have spoken unto you are spirit, and are life." They are born of the spirit and they possess the life of God. In lips of men they recreate men.

They give courage to the faint.

They give faith to the doubter.

They transform the weak into strong.

They have in them the element that puts men over after they have been long defeated.

Let us take a very familiar passage, Col. 1:12-14, and note this translation, "Giving thanks unto the father who has given us the ability to enjoy our share of the inheritance of the saints in light."

You see He has built into me His own ability, and now His ability in me enables me to partake of my share of the thing that Christ wrought in His Substitution.

It is my inheritance.

It may be wisdom, so I will know how to use the knowledge I have gained through the Word.

It may be forbearance so that I can have joy in a hard place where everything is disagreeable, and where bitterness and selfishness run riot around me.

Or it may be forbearance, so I will be like the Master with those that are weak and selfish.

Or it may be that I need strength in my inward man, to keep me steadily in my place in life, so that I may live as the Master would live in my place.

You see, I am going to have my share of the inheritance of the saints in life. Regardless of how much that may mean, it belongs to me.

And perhaps I will need it if I understand the next verse: "Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love."

So few know that they are delivered out of the authority of Satan.

They do not know that Satan has been defeated and that they were redeemed.

Satan has no legal authority over them, and they have a legal right to their liberty in Christ.

They do not know that Satan has no dominion over them now, without their personal consent to it.

They have been translated into the kingdom of the Son of His love.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. He that followeth me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life."

This is a strange expression, "Light of life." But the word, life is "Zoe" which means God's life. "And God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

You have been translated into the life realm. You are in God's realm.

You are in the beloved.

You are in Him.

You are in the family of God.

As a member of that family, you have authority over the circumstances that surround you.

Paul says in Phil. 4:11, "Not that I speak in respect of want for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therein to be independent of circumstances. I know how to have sufficience and not lose my head. I know how to be abased and not lose my poise." (20th Cent. Trans.) I have come to recognize that my Father is greater than all and that every need of mine is met.

He is the God of all ability, and He is my Father.

Now Philippians 4:13 becomes part of my daily life. "I can do all things in Him who strengtheneth me." That is simple.

I am moving out of the realm of human weakness into the great big, wide open realm of life.

Now the fourteenth verse is suggestive. "In whom I have my redemption and the remission of my trespasses." You see, I have my Redemption. Satan has no dominion over me.

I have it; I am free.

I am as free as Israel was from Egypt's bondage when the Red Sea rolled upon their former masters.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ has delivered me from my former master and set me free.

I am united, tied up, one with my seated Lord.

You see, it is no longer a life of struggling and trying. I am in it, because He put me in it. He took me out of bondage.

He put me in the realm of freedom.

I reign as a king through Jesus Christ, my Lord.

I pay no attention to the things that formerly filled me with fear. I am occupied with my Lord.

The Lord is my care-taker and my bread-provider and the strength of my life. Of whom, or of what, should I be afraid?

I am not afraid of disease, sickness or of old age.

The human spirit that has received the nature and the life of God knows no age.

There are no days and years to the human spirit. Days and years belong to the mortality, the body.

We have received Eternal Life into our spirits, and now we are walking in the fullness of that life.

"We walk in the light as He is in the light, and we have fellowship one with another" and with the Light-Giver. \"Ve are not walking in darkness.

We know where we are going because He has become the light of our life.

You see there is such a reality in this union with Christ that it changes our whole outlook.

We become Righteousness conscious.

We have become the Righteousness of God in Him. That is the end of condemnation.

That is the beginning of real fellowship.

That is the beginning of an unveiling of our rights and privileges as Sons of God.

That is the beginning of bearing fruits of Righteousness. What a wonderful life this is.

Jesus was the first to bear the fruits of Righteousness.

Then when we were grafted into the vine, the branches became the Righteousness fruit-bearers.

We are the masters of our old slave-driver, Satan.

We are not afraid of anything the he can do because our Father is greater than all.

And Jesus said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words and my Father will love him and we will come and make our home with him."

I am not afraid of poverty or of lack of any kind, because He lives with me here.

He knows what I have in my pocketbook, and He knows what my needs are.

He knows what the bills are.

The Father himself loves me. This is beautiful.

Now I appreciate what it means to have been made Righteous with His Righteousness.

So without condemnation I walk into His presence at any time.

I never think about faith any more than a child who is walking happily and sweetly with his parents.

All that a father has belongs to his child.

All that Jesus did and is, belongs to you and me.

You see, Righteousness gives us our standing before the Father.

It is what we really are in Christ, not what He is trying to make us or what we are trying to make ourselves, but what we are by the New Creation. Some of us are coming to be God-inside minded.

That was one of the greatest days of my life when I became conscious of the One inside.

I had asked Him to come in years before, and I knew He was there.

But I did not know how to make use of Him.

Then I remembered the Master was made unto me Righteousness and Wisdom and Sanctification and Redemption. Yet they did not mean anything to me.

I could not use the Wisdom, could not take advantage of my Righteousness, nor enjoy my Redemption.

Then the curtain was lifted. I saw the thing as it was. The light shone in. I was in Christ. All that He is belongs to me.

The great mighty Spirit, who raised Jesus from the dead was in me, to make this Word that I have been reading a living reality.

I wept for joy.

I was thrilled; Oh, I was thrilled with joy unspeakable. He was in me! And He began to take the Jesus things and make them real to my spirit consciousness.

It was like opening up one treasure box after another.

I saw the riches of His glory, of His grace. And it was all mine.

I did not have to struggle to get Wisdom because it was there on tap.

Now I had ability to meet every emergency. I had strength enough for anything.

I was rich with His riches.

I was redeemed, and I know how to enjoy my freedom.

I was Righteous with His Righteousness, and I began to know what that Righteousness could do for me and enable me to do for others.

Oh, those were glad hours, big hours, rich hours when fellowship took on such a rosy hue that life became very different. My life was hidden in Him; His life was revealed in me. I began to know the secret of the Name of Jesus.

I shall never forget the first time I said, "In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are healed." And to see a man that had been in bondage for years become perfectly free and leap up and begin to dance and shout for joy.

I had made a discovery.

No man was ever more thrilled when he discovered gold, than I when I discovered the reality of the ability of the Name of Jesus.

I shall never forget the first time I used His Name with an unsaved person.

He had said, "Mr. Kenyon, I want to be saved, but I just cannot seem to do it. I seem to be bound."

I said, "In the Name of Jesus, I set you free."

That man is preaching the Gospel now. I set him free with the Name of Jesus.

The authority was in the Name.

When I approach the Father in His Name, I can reach the Throne at any time.

"Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it to you." Jn. 15:16.

The early church preached the Name and the Word. We have never done it.

We have preached about the Name, and we preach about the Word, and men write books about the Lord. They do not mean much to us.

It is the Name, in the lips of love, that breaks the power of the Devil over the broken human.

So we are moving out now into the realm of Life, as sons of liberty.

In the freedom that He has given us, we are enjoying our rights and privileges, and we shout our praises in that marvelous Name.

What Happened From The Cross To The Throne By EW KENYON

Two Phases of the Substitutionary Sacrifice

There are two phases of the revelation: one is the Legal side of the plan of Redemption, and the other is the Vital. The Legal is what God did in Christ for us, what legally belongs to us as New Creations. The Vital is what the Spirit through the Word is doing in us in the New Creation. It is His indwelling, He is building the Father's Nature into us through the Word.

God Working Within Us

Philippians 2:13, "For it is God Who is at work within us willing and working His own good pleasure." God is working within us. He is building Himself into us. He is building His Love Nature, His Righteousness, His Faithfulness, His Long-suffering, His Gentleness. As we contact the world, these qualities are necessary, and He builds them into us. 1 Corinthians 1:30, "But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus Who was made unto us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and Redemption."

Jesus Made Our Wisdom He made Jesus to be wisdom unto us so in this revelation we have discovered that Jesus is our wisdom. We don't have to have prayer for wisdom as James tells us; but as we meditate in the Word, this revelation is the wisdom of God. It is an unveiling of the Father's ability. He lives in that revelation, and as you feed on it and meditate on it you become wiser than your enemies.

Advance Bible Course

Identification with Adam

Genesis 1:26-28 - Every thing God says is a 'legal decree', a Law established. Mankind legally given dominion not just vitally Genesis 3 gives to us Adam's sin of High Treason, but for 4,000 years revelation had been silent upon this subject. Now, Paul reveals that the human race was identified with Adam in his transgression. Romans 5:12, "Therefore, as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin; and so death passed unto all men." The death that entered Adam passed unto all men. We notice here that it is not only physical death, but spiritual death, the nature of Satan.

Romans 5:14-19. This death ever reigned over those who had not committed high treason, for by the one, or through identification with him, the many had died. Romans 5:18. Through identification with Adam the judgment came upon all men. Adam's judgment became the judgment of every man. Romans 5:19. Through Adam, or because of Identification with him, all men were made sinners. So Paul reveals that down through the ages and to the present day, sin has reigned in the realm of death where Satan is Lord, because of the fact that the human race was identified with the first man, Adam.

There are two sides to Redemption, the legal and the vital. The legal is what God did for us in Christ; the vital is what God does in us in Christ. So also there is a legal side and a vital side to the fall of man. The legal is what Satan did to us in Adam and the vital is what Satan does in us when by nature we are children of wrath. Vitally, we were not in the garden with Adam; but legally, his death, his bondage, his judgment and all that spiritual death made him, became ours.

Now God has redeemed man completely from every result of Adam's treason through the identification of the human race with His Son. This is the message that this revelation is bringing to us in Romans 5:12-21. If the Lordship of Satan over the human was due to the identification of humanity

with Adam in his crime of high treason, it is legally possible for the works of Satan to be destroyed by the identification of the human race with the Son of God, the second Adam.

Christ's Identification with Man's Humanity

We shall now study the steps whereby the Son of God and humanity became identified in the legal side of man's redemption. The first step was Christ's identification with our humanity. This took place in His Incarnation-John 1:14 and Hebrews 2:14, "Since then the children are sharers in flesh and blood, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same." As we saw in our last lesson, He walked as the first man should have walked, doing the will of the Father-God.

This, however, was not a complete identification with man. He had not identified Himself with the nature of man. If Christ had partaken of the nature that reigned in the spirit of man at His Incarnation, He would have been spiritually dead during His earthly ministry. He could not' have revealed Him to man. Therefore, His identification with the spirit nature was during His Crucifixion, when the time bad come for Him to fulfill the purpose for which He had come into the world.

Isaiah 53:4-6. The direct translation from the Hebrew into the English reads as follows: "Surely our diseases he did bear and our pains he carried; "Whereas we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed because of our iniquities. The chastisement of our welfare was upon him and with his stripes we were healed. All we like sheep have gone astray and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." This translation is taken from the Jewish translation of the Old Testament.

Christ's Identification with Man's Sin Nature

The Revelation that Paul received in II Corinthians 5:21 is that God actually made Him to become sin for us. He not only bore our sins, but the sin-nature itself was laid upon Him, until He became all that spiritual death had made man. In the mind of God, it is not Christ who hung on the Cross,

but it is the human race. So each one of us may say with Paul, "I was crucified with Christ" (Galatians 2:20). In the garden we were not with Adam vitally, but we were legally. In the same manner we were not on the Cross vitally with Christ, but we were there legally. The identification of the human race with Christ was just as complete as was its identification with Adam.

Now that the Identification of Christ with humanity was complete, the steps in Redemption began. The first step was to pay man's penalty. The judgment that was man's fell upon Him and He was forsaken of God. Isaiah 53:8, "By oppression and judgment He was taken away: And as for His generation, who did reason? For He was cut off out of the land of the living. For the transgression of my people to whom the stroke was due."

The judgment, the stroke, was due man; but it fell upon Him, because they had become one. He died under our judgment and we died with Him. And as He paid our penalty in Hell we were identified with Him. Psalm 88 gives to us the picture of a righteous man in Hell upon whom all the wrath of God lay hard. The wrath of God lay hard upon Him, because He was one with us in identification. Acts 2:24-28 shows to us the suffering of Christ in Hell. It tells us that His soul was not left in Hell (verse 27) but that God raised Him up, having loosed the pangs of death. The Greek word "pangs" means "intense suffering," showing that when Christ was raised His spirit was loosed from the intense suffering that He bore as our sin-substitute.

Christ suffered until God could justify the human race

I Timothy 3:16 reveals that Christ was justified in Spirit. He, in identification, had become so utterly one with us that He Himself needed justification when man's penalty was paid. (Rotherham says that Christ was declared righteous in spirit.)

The next step in Redemption was that He who had been made sin be begotten of God.

Hebrews 1:5, in speaking of the resurrection of Christ, says that the Father-God said to Him, "Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee." Acts 13:33, "That God hath fulfilled the same unto our children, in that He raised up Jesus; as also it is written in the second Psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee." Jesus Christ, when man's penalty had been paid, had to be born of God and pass from death into life just as man, because He had become identified with our Spiritual Death. After Christ had been justified in spirit and born of God, He conquered Satan as a man. It is evident that Satan tried to hold Christ within his authority. Satan did hold Christ until God could declare man righteous.

Romans 6:9 (Rotherham), "Who was delivered up for our offenses and raised on account of the declaring us righteous." When we were declared righteous, I Timothy 3:16 reveals, He was made righteous. Then He was begotten of God, and in the power of His Deity, He met Satan and triumphed over him as a man.

Colossians 2:15, "Having put off himself the principalities and the powers, He made a show of them openly triumphing over them in it." He displayed them as His conquests. Christ was the first man to free Himself from Satan's grasp and triumph over him. When He arose as a man, Satan's forces were put under His feet. (Ephesians 1:20-23).

The Basic Bible Course

Legal use of his name...

SPIRITUAL FORCES

THE mightiest forces in the world are spiritual. They are not electricity or dynamite, but the unseen and unheard powers of the Spirit. It staggered me when I first saw this fact. A Spirit had created material things. That unseen ability had brought mountains, metals, trees, and flowers into being just by saying, "Let there be." Then I realized that spiritual forces are mightier than anything that our senses have ever realized. We have never realized that words are more powerful than bombs and tanks, but they are. And spiritual forces are the greatest forces of the world. God is a Spirit. Angels are spirits. Demons are spirits. Man is a spirit. He lives in the midst of spiritual forces. When his spirit becomes united with God, his combat with these spiritual forces as a believer should always be with the consciousness that they are conquered, dethroned powers.

They hold sway over man because he does not recognize the fact that he has been set free and that dominion over demoniacal forces has been placed in his hands. When Jesus arose from the dead, it was because He had conquered these demoniacal forces and stripped them of their authority; He had broken their dominion over the human spirit. When Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Father; it was because this redemption had been consummated. Then the New Creation came into being. He gave the New Creation a legal right to the use of His Name. He declared: "All authority hath been given unto me in Heaven and on earth. Go ye, therefore, and make disciples of all nations."

He didn't say, "make converts," but "make disciples", students. He wanted men and women who would enter into their privileges and take their places as sons and daughters in the Family of God. Jesus conquered Satan for us. His victory over the adversary was our victory. We are conquerors today because of what He did. We enter into this victory by Grace. We do not have to do a thing but simply repeat the Name of Jesus, and demons are defeated. We have never yet appreciated the fact that our enemy is defeated and that our fight is a Faith fight. It is our taking for granted that Satan is defeated that makes us masters. It is acting on the Word as though it were true that makes us victors. We have lived in the realm of the senses so long, depending upon what we see and hear, that it is difficult for us to grasp the reality of the Unseen.

The Two Kinds of Life - EW Kenyon Kindly share

Raised With Him by EW Kenyon

The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus is the proof of Satan's defeat, of man's Redemption, and of God's legal right to make the believer a New Creation. Ephesians 1:7 stands out with peculiar suggestiveness and comfort. "In whom we have our redemption through his blood, the remission of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace." We have our Redemption. It is not something we have to pray or ask for. The moment we are Born Again, that moment Redemption is ours.

Satan's dominion over us ends. Our life of servitude and fear has come to an end. That Redemption is according to the riches of His grace. We are free.

Ephesians 2:6, "And He raised us up with Him, and He made us to sit with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus." We were crucified with Him, died with Him, were buried with Him, suffered with Him, were justified with Him, were made alive with Him, conquered Satan with Him, and were raised together with Him.

That resurrection of Jesus is proof of our victory over the adversary. It is a proof that cannot be denied. Every person who takes Christ as Savior, in the mind of God, is a victor over the adversary.

So few of the Father's children have seen this mighty truth; that our victory was in the victory of Christ. When Jesus broke the bars of death, having conquered death, Satan, and sin, it was our victory.

Colossians 3:1, "If then ye were raised together with Christ," and we were raised together with Christ. In the mind of the Father it was our translation out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of the Son of His love. It was our Redemption. We had broken Satan's dominion over our body, soul, and spirit in Christ.

But perhaps the greatest message of our perfect victory over the adversary is found in Ephesians 1:19-22: "And what the exceeding greatness of his

ability to us-ward who believe, according to that working of the strength of his might which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenlies far above all rule, and authority, and power, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in that which is to come: and he put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all." The same ability that wrought in the dead body of Jesus to reanimate it and fill it with Immortality is today in the believer. We are today more than conquerors because of the life of God that was imparted to us in our New Creation.

It is the ability of God unveiled in that Resurrection that so shook the foundations of Hell, so that today, when the believers know that they were raised together with Christ, they know they are victors in every field and over every circumstance, and they may go on from triumph to triumph.

The Advanced Bible Course