

The Lakeview Lamp

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” – Psalm 119:105

Feb 15

2009

What a Price!

Mike Davis

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? **For ye are bought with a price:** therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's” (1 Cor. 6:19-20, emp. MJD).

“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not **redeemed** with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But **with the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God” (1 Pet. 1:18-21 ... redeemed = purchased).

These and other passages relate the tremendous price our Lord Jesus paid to save us from sin. In order for Him to give us LIFE in abundance (John 10:10), He had to surrender His life. In order for God the Father to prove His love for this world, He gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16). Indeed, what a tremendous price!

Jesus related a comparison regarding the value of one's soul. “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matt. 16:26). When one considers the fact Jesus gave His blood for the redemption of our souls, one stands amazed at the value Jesus placed on our souls! Further, does this not magnify the actual true value of the price of our redemption?

In this life, things that cost exorbitant amounts of money remain greatly treasured, and cared for with exquisite diligence. We find it impossible to place an exacting monetary amount on things of sentimental value. The item retains much more than a materialistic value; not even the world and its riches could replace such valued possessions. Strangely, however, few seem to acknowledge their soul has an even greater value than the greatest of earth's treasures! Even among those who have heard and believe the reality of our Lord's tremendous paid price for our redemption, souls exist who do not treasure that purchase price as much as they do some earthly gift!

Then there are souls who know Jesus died for the remission of their

sins, and say they are very grateful. However, they show nothing in the realm of gratitude for this great price paid for them! “Jesus paid it all,” they say. “There’s nothing I need to do.” Precisely how does that show gratitude? These same say, “Yes, I love Jesus,” and will cry upon Him for additional favor (to their minds!). Yet, they do not do the things Jesus said to do that they might have the **reality** of this great price paid redemption. Note the statement of Jesus: “*If ye love me, keep my commandments*” (**John 14:15**). How can one prove their love for Jesus and the great price He paid for our redemption and **not** keep His commandments?

Consider another truth regarding the price Jesus paid. **Acts 20:28** – “*Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed **the church** of God, **which he hath purchased with his own blood***” (emp. MJD). What a marvelous passage to help us recognize **who** the church is, **what** the church is, and **WHO OWNS THE CHURCH!**

Notice first that OBEDIENT SOULS were purchased with His blood. Our two opening passages relate this truth (**1 Peter 1:18-21; 1 Cor. 6:19-20**). When we note there was but the ONE BLOOD OF CHRIST, and both SOULS and the CHURCH were purchased with this one blood, we can apply a basic truth: “when two things are equal to the same thing, they are equal to each other.” Thus, OBEDIENT SOULS and the CHURCH are equal to each other! The church (purchased with the blood of Christ) is comprised of obedient souls (also purchased with the blood of Christ). **1 Peter 2** proves this very fact, and we urge the reader to observe that passage! We conclude obviously that SOULS WHO OBEY CHRIST are just as valued to Him as the church and vice versa. Why? Because the church is comprised of obedient souls, and obedient souls are the church!

When souls realize this truth, they tend to care more for Christ and His church ... Christ and their brethren who are the church of Christ! There is no wonder why the Hebrew writer says, “*Let brotherly love continue*” (**Heb. 13:1**). Peter’s inspired letter commands the same saying, “*Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever*” (**1 Pet. 1:22-23**). We prize earthly things with unfathomable tangible value. Brethren, we need to **fully** grasp the value of each soul Christ purchased with His own blood! What a price He paid to redeem us ... to make the church His bride!

News and Notes

* A sign-up list for the 2009 last Sunday night singings **at members' homes**, along with the **Lord's supper preparation duties**, is posted in the back.

* A meal list is posted for Ken Weliever for March 5-8 when he will be with us for our weekend series on Effective Bible Teacher.

Members:

- * Estelle Hayes continues to have pain in her knees.
- * Cotton and Nancy Read are doing some better than they have been.
- * Ame White is suffering from a migraine headache.

Absent: None known.

New Reports: None known.

Effective Bible Teaching — March 5-8

Series by Ken Weliever

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	1	Teaching Today Touches Tomorrow
	8:00 p.m.	2	The Bible: A Teacher Training Manual
Friday	7:00 p.m.	3	Some Principles of Learning
	8:00 p.m.	4	Creative Teaching Techniques
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	5	Visuals are Vital (1)
	10:00 a.m.	6	Visuals are Vital (2)
	1:00 p.m.	7	Teaching Various Ages
	2:00 p.m.	8	Planning the Bible Class Program



“I love the LORD, because He hears my voice and my supplications. Because He has inclined His ear to me, therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live.” – Psalm 116:1-2