

1 PETER 1:17-21 “PRECIOUS TO OUR FATHER”

17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay *here* in fear;

- **Call on the Father:**

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “**Abba, Father.**”

Galatians 4:6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “**Abba, Father!**”

- Christians live:

- Spiritual life (hot for Christ)
- Carnal life (lukewarm for Christ)
- Natural life (cold for Christ)

- We must never think our sins today don't affect our future tomorrow.

- Traditions can never replace the Word of God!
 - Your Heavenly Father's Words take precedence over your earthly Father's words.
- Why should we “conduct ourselves . . . in fear”?
 - **Because:**
 - **We were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ**
 - Christ's blood is precious to His Father
 - Christ's sacrifice on the cross was the most powerful thing He has ever done.

18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from **your aimless conduct** received by tradition from your fathers,

19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

- **You've been redeemed!**

- **Special meaning to the slaves that would hear and read this epistle.**
- **To be redeemed from their slavery was worth more than life itself.**
- **Payment had to be made for the former master to set his slave free!**

Acts 20:28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

1 Corinthians 6:20 For you were **bought at a price**; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Titus 2:14 who gave Himself for us, that He might **redeem us from every lawless deed** and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

Revelation 5:9-10

9 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And **have redeemed us to God by Your blood** Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."

- **You are precious to your Heavenly Father**

- **Martin Lloyd Jones:** "Though you are one of the teeming millions in this world, and though the world would have you believe that you do not count and that you are but a speck in the mass, God says, "I know you."

-- D. Martyn Lloyd Jones in The Best of Martyn Lloyd-Jones. Christianity Today, Vol. 38, no. 7.

- **A gem dealer** was browsing the aisles at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show when he noticed a blue-violet stone the size and shape of a potato. He looked it over, then, as calmly as possible, asked the vendor, "You want \$15 for this?" The seller, realizing the rock wasn't as pretty as others in the bin, lowered the price to \$10.

The stone has since been certified as a 1,905-carat natural star sapphire, about 800 carats larger than the largest stone of its kind. It was appraised at \$2.28 million.

It took a lover of stones to recognize the sapphire's worth.

It took the Lover of Souls to recognize the true value of ordinary-looking people like us.

-- Wanda Vassallo, Dallas, Texas, Leadership, Vol. 17, no. 1.

20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

21 who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

- God's plan to save you is older than time itself.
 - His timing must be fulfilled!
- Our faith, our hope is in God alone

Romans 5:1-2

1Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.