

In today's passage, we see the Apostle Paul shouting "Praise be!" from prison. What is the reason for this praise? Looking at verse 7, he confesses, "In Christ, we have received something." As believers who have accepted Jesus as our Savior and Lord, what have we received? It is stated that we have received "redemption, the forgiveness of sins through the richness of His grace" through Jesus' blood.

Blessings of Redemption and Forgiveness of Sins

When we believe in Jesus, what blessings do we receive? The blessings of forgiveness of sins and redemption. "Forgiveness of sins" means being pardoned for our sins. "Redemption" means being set free by paying the price for captives or slaves. Both are crucial terms pointing to salvation.

To understand the blessings of redemption and forgiveness of sins, it's essential to grasp the biblical understanding of sin. In the Bible, the essence of sin is the desire to live without God. This sin nature results in actual sins. The Bible declares that all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory (Romans 3:23), leading humanity to face judgment and the eternal fate of hell in the absence of God. Therefore, salvation is necessary for humanity.

Paul, who was a Jew, used Old Testament terminology and concepts to explain receiving salvation through believing in Jesus. Two significant terms among them are forgiveness of sins and redemption. When Jews think about being forgiven by God, the first thing that comes to mind is the sacrificial system of atonement (Leviticus 1-7).

Cattle, sheep, goats, and doves are not of equal value to our lives. Therefore, they could not fully cover the value of our sins. Countless atonement sacrifices were offered year after year. However, in an act of redemption and forgiveness, God sent Jesus to this earth as the perfect and complete sacrifice to fully atone for our sins.

Blessing Given through the Blood of Jesus Christ

How is the grace of redemption and forgiveness of sins given to us according to today's passage? It is given through the blood of Jesus Christ. Why did the Son of God, Jesus, have to be nailed to the cross and die? It was to atone for our sins, to bring about redemption. Jesus' last words on the cross, "It is finished," were written in commercial terms of the 1st century, meaning "the debt is fully paid." What did Jesus fully pay? He fully paid the price for our sins, opening the way for forgiveness of sins and grace before God.

What we have received in salvation, becoming children of God, experiencing forgiveness of sins, is solely because of Jesus (Titus 3:5).

Blessing Given According to the Riches of God's Grace

Today's passage in Ephesians 1:7 talks about the abundant grace of God, who sent His Son Jesus Christ as a sacrifice to substitute for our sins. The grace of redemption and forgiveness through the blood of Jesus has been given to us according to the riches of God's grace. This is an incomprehensible, unfathomable, and incredible love.

We often forget this grace, its marvel, and its wonder. Consequently, we harbor resentment and grudges against others and quickly complain and blame God when difficulties arise. Consider why Paul shouted "Praise be!" from prison. As those who have believed in Jesus as our Savior and Lord, we have already received this grace. We must praise and worship for the immense blessing and grace we have received through faith in Jesus.

**Bible
Memorization**

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

'In him, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.' (Ephesians 1:7)

**Bible
Reading**

12/11(Mon)	12/12(Tue)	12/13(Wed)	12/14(Thur)	12/15(Fri)	12/16(Sat)	12/17(Sun)
Eph 2-6	Phil. 1-3	Phil. 4, Col. 1-3	Col. 4, 1 Thess. 1-5	2 Thess. 1-3, 1 Tim 1-3	1 Tim 4-6, 2 Tim 1-2	2 Tim 3-4, Titus 1-3

QT

Quiet Time Passage

12/11(Mon)	12/12(Tue)	12/13(Wed)	12/14(Thur)	12/15(Fri)	12/16(Sat)	12/17(Sun)
Proverbs 23:1-16	Proverbs 23:17-35	Proverbs 24:1-22	Proverbs 24:23-34	Proverbs 25:1-13	Proverbs 25:14-28	Proverbs 26:1-12

**Sharing
Questions**

1. Share something new or a grace you received through today's passage.
2. Confess and share the grace of Jesus substituting and dying for your sins through His love.
3. Share and confess the grace of redemption and forgiveness of sins given to those who believe in Jesus.