

GraceLife Church Presents . . .

Soteriology

The Purpose,
Accomplishment, Plan, and
Application of Redemption

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

“Sin is total or pervasive in that all components of a person are polluted by sin. . . No part escapes. . . This includes all of man’s thinking, reason, desires, and affections.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 467.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

Ps 143:2 And do not enter into judgment with Your servant,
For in Your sight no man living is righteous.

Prov 20:9 Who can say, “I have cleansed my heart,
I am pure from my sin”?

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

Ps 53:2 God has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men
To see if there is anyone who understands,
Who seeks after God.

Ps 53:3 Every one of them has turned aside; together they have become corrupt;
There is no one who does good, not even one.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

- Rom 3:10** as it is written,
“THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;
- Rom 3:11** THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS,
THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;
- Rom 3:12** ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS;
THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD,
THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.”
- Rom 3:13** “THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE,
WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,”
“THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS”;
- Rom 3:14** “WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS”;
- Rom 3:15** “THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,
Rom 3:16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,
Rom 3:17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN.”
- Rom 3:18** “THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.”

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

John 8:34 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commmits sin is the slave of sin. . . . **36** So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

Titus 3:3 For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

Rom 8:7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

“The desires of people who are ‘by nature objects of wrath’ are naturally and instinctively sinful desires. . . .

People do what they want to do, in that they pursue their own pleasures and desires. Nonetheless, to describe this pursuit of their own desires as slavery because they have no desire, inclination, or aspiration to do good is appropriate.”

Thomas Schreiner, “Does Scripture Teach Prevenient Grace in the Wesleyan Sense?” in *Still Sovereign* ed. Thomas Schreiner and Bruce Ware, 230.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

Eph 2:1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

1 Cor 2:14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

John 8:42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me. **43** “Why do you not understand what I am saying? *It is* because you cannot hear My word. **44** “You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies. **45** “But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me. **46** “Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me? **47** “He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear *them*, because you are not of God.”

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

John 5:42 but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves. **43** “I have come in My Father’s name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him. **44** “How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the *one and only* God?

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

“Because man is totally or pervasively corrupt, he is incapable of changing his character or of acting in a way that is distinct from his corruption. He is unable to discern, to love, or to choose the things that are pleasing to God.”

Robert Reymond, *Systematic Theology*, 248; quoted in Matthew Barrett, *Salvation by Grace*, 54.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

- ❖ Man is dead in trespasses and sins.
- ❖ Man is enslaved to his desires, a slave to sin.
- ❖ Man is unable to bear or hear God's word.
- ❖ Man is unable to understand God's word.
- ❖ Man is unwilling to receive God's word.
- ❖ Man has a heart of stone.
- ❖ Man cannot change himself from this condition.
- ❖ Man is unable to please God.
- ❖ Man cannot see the things of God unless he is born again.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

“If the grace of our conversion be nothing but a moral persuasion, we have no more power of obeying it in that estate wherein we are dead in sin, than a man in his grave hath in himself to live anew and come out at the next call.”

John Owen, “A Display of Arminianism,” in *The Works of John Owen*, 10:130.

The Application of Redemption

Total Depravity

“Therefore, man’s spiritual state is not one of relative neutrality, in which he is able to accept or reject God and his gospel. He is an active hater of God (Rom 8:7) who cannot accept spiritual truth (1 Cor 2:14). The total depravity of man demonstrates the absolute sovereignty of God in salvation. Man can do nothing. God must accomplish all as a gift of sovereign grace.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 468.

The Application of Redemption

How is Depravity Overcome?

God's Grace

- ❖ Two understandings of grace. . .
 - ❖ Prevenient Grace
 - ❖ Saving Grace

The Application of Redemption

The Prevenient Grace View of Salvation

- ❖ (1) Phil 2:12–13.
- ❖ (2) Universal atonement (John 12:32).
- ❖ (3) John 1:9.
- ❖ (4) Ought implies can.
- ❖ (5) The nature of God.
- ❖ (6) Matthew 23:37–39.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace *View* of Salvation

- ❖ John 6:35–65 (esp 6:37–39, 44–45, 63–65); 8:34–36.
- ❖ Eph 2:4–6, 8–10.
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 1:21–24.
- ❖ Romans 8:29–30.
- ❖ Ezek 11:19–20; 36:22–27.
- ❖ 1 Thess 2:13.
- ❖ Phil 1:28–29.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

- ❖ We did a historical theological survey of those who used these verses (and more) to show that salvation is by grace.
- ❖ We saw that the application of redemption, much like the atonement, does not make salvation a possibility, instead God's grace actually saves those who receive it.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

- ❖ We saw that there are two types of calls referred to in Scripture.
- ❖ There is a *general call* or a *gospel call* given to all men without distinction.
- ❖ There is also a *special, internal, or effectual call* that bring men out of their dreadful estate in Adam and into eternal life.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

General Call

Matt 22:14 “For many are called, but few *are* chosen.”

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

General Call

Luke 24:46 and He said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, **47** and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48** “You are witnesses of these things.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

General Call

Mark 1:14 Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, **15** and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Effectual Calling

1 Pet 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Effectual Calling

1 Pet 5:10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Effectual Calling

2 Tim 1:9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Effectual Calling

Acts 2:39 “For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Effectual Calling

Rom 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. **29** For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; **30** and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Effectual Calling

“This effectual call is of God’s free and special grace alone, not from any thing at all foreseen in man; who is altogether passive therein, until, being quickened and renewed by the Holy Spirit, he is thereby enabled to answer this call, and to embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it.”

Westminster Confession of Faith, 10.2.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Effectual Calling

- ❖ What is it that makes the effectual call effectual?
- ❖ What guarantees that those who God effectually calls will respond to the general call of the gospel with repentance and faith?

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

- ❖ Effectual calling and regeneration seem to be inseparable realities.
- ❖ God calls the dead sinner, grants him spiritual life in regeneration, and being alive man responds to the call with repentance and faith (conversion)
- ❖ *Ordo Salutis*: Effectual call » Regeneration » Conversion

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

- ❖ Regeneration, new creation, or new birth removes our hearts of stone and makes us alive with Christ in such a way that we respond to the gospel with repentant faith.
- ❖ Until our natures are renewed we have no ability or desire to turn from sin to Christ.
- ❖ God must overcome our inability in regeneration before we are capable of doing anything.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

“Regeneration is a secret act of God in which he imparts new spiritual life to us. This is sometime called ‘being born again.’”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 300.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

Titus 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

1 John 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him.

1 John 5:1 Πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ἐστὶν ὁ Χριστὸς, ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ γεγέννηται, καὶ πᾶς ὁ ἀγαπῶν τὸν γεννήσαντα ἀγαπᾷ [καὶ] τὸν γεγεννημένον ἐξ αὐτοῦ.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

1 John 2:29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

1 John 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

1 John 5:4 ὅτι πᾶν τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ νικᾷ τὸν κόσμον· καὶ αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ νίκη ἡ νικήσασα τὸν κόσμον, ἡ πίστις ἡμῶν.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

- ❖ Regeneration must precede faith in the *ordo salutis* because. . .
 - ❖ of the grammatical construction of 1 John 5:1 (cf. 2:29; 4:7; 5:4).
 - ❖ man is unable and unwilling to respond until his heart is transformed by God's grace.

The Application of Redemption

The Saving Grace View of Salvation

Regeneration

- ❖ Regeneration is logically prior to conversion, but it can never be separated from its results such as love for the brethren, righteousness and faith.
- ❖ No one can enter the kingdom without being born from above (John 3:3, 5), and conversely no one who is born again comes short of entering the kingdom. (i.e. they will repent and believe the gospel.)

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Introduction

- ❖ Conversion is turning from sin in repentance and turning to God in faith.
- ❖ Both faith and repentance are the results of the new birth.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Introduction

“Sometimes people will even say something like, ‘if you believe in Christ as your Savior, then (after you believe) you will be born again.’ But Scripture itself never says anything like that. This new birth is viewed by Scripture as something that God does within us in order to enable us to believe.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 303.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Introduction

Acts 15:3 Therefore, being sent on their way by the church, they were passing through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and were bringing great joy to all the brethren.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Introduction

- ❖ Conversion: ἐπιστροφή (*epistrophe*)
 - ❖ “a change of one’s way of thinking or believing, conversion” (BDAG, 382).
- ❖ Closely related to ἐπιστρέφω (*epistrepho*)

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Introduction

- ❖ ἐπιστρέφω (*epistrepho*) “1. to return to a point where one has been, turn around, go back; 2. to change direction, turn around; 3. to cause a person to change belief or course of conduct, with focus on the thing to which one turns, turn; 4. to change one’s mind or course of action, for better or worse, turn, return” (BDAG, 382).

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Definition

“The very first act of the regenerated sinner’s renewed nature is conversion (cf. Acts 15:3), the conscious decision to repent of sin and believe in Christ for salvation.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 590.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Definition

“Conversion is our willing response to the gospel call, in which we sincerely repent of sins and place our trust in Christ for salvation.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 307.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Definition

“By spiritual conversion we mean a person’s decisive turning from sin, self, and Satan unto God through Jesus Christ and the power of the Spirit.”

Bruce Demarest, *The Cross and Salvation*, 249.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Luke 19:1 He entered Jericho and was passing through. **2** And there was a man called by the name of Zaccheus; he was a chief tax collector and he was rich. **3** Zaccheus was trying to see who Jesus was, and was unable because of the crowd, for he was small in stature. **4** So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to see Him, for He was about to pass through that way. **5** When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, “Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house.” **6** And he hurried and came down and received Him gladly.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Luke 19:7 When they saw it, they all *began* to grumble, saying, “He has gone to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.” **8** Zaccheus stopped and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, half of my possessions I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will give back four times as much.” **9** And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. **10** “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

- ❖ Paul: Acts 9:1–22; 22:3–16; 26:9–18.
- ❖ Cornelius: Acts 10–11.
- ❖ The Philippian jailer: Acts 16:23–40.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Acts 16:14 A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. **15** And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Luke 15:1 Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him. **2** Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Luke 15:11 And He said, “A man had two sons. **12** “The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.’ So he divided his wealth between them. **13** “And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living. **14** “Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished. **15** “So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. **16** “And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving *anything* to him.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Luke 15:17 “But when he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! **18** ‘I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; **19** I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.’” **20** “So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion *for him*, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. **21** “And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’”

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Luke 15:22 “But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; **:23** and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; **24** for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’ And they began to celebrate.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Luke 15:7 “I tell you that in the same way, there will be *more* joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

Luke 15:10 “In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

- ❖ Notice a few aspects of the younger son's conversion
 - ❖ Awareness of lost condition "he came to his senses" (v. 17).
 - ❖ Confession of sins "I have sinned against heaven and in your sight" (vv. 18, 21).
 - ❖ Acknowledgement of unworthiness "I am no longer worthy to be called your son" (v. 19, 21).
 - ❖ Turning away from sin and to the Father "I will get up and go to my father" (v. 18, 20).

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

- ❖ This is a picture of genuine repentance
 - ❖ “This man receives sinners” (15:1)
 - ❖ “. . . one sinner who repents” (15:7, 10)
- ❖ This is a picture of regeneration
 - ❖ “. . . let us eat and celebrate; **24** for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found. And they began to celebrate” (15:23–24; cf. Eph 2:4–6).
 - ❖ “But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and *has begun* to live, and *was* lost and has been found” (Luke 15:32)

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

Scriptural Examples of Conversion

Eph 2:5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; **9** not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Gospel Call: Repent and Believe

Mark 1:14 Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, **15** and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Gospel Call: Repent and Believe

Acts 20:18 . . . “You yourselves know . . . how I was with you the whole time, **19** serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials which came upon me . . . **20** how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, **21** solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Gospel Call: Repent and Believe

Acts 26:15 “And I said, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. **16** ‘But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; **17** rescuing you from the *Jewish* people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, **18** to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.’

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Gospel Call: Repent and Believe

Acts 26:17 . . . I am sending you, **18** to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“Far too frequently the conception entertained of conversion is so superficial and beggarly that it completely fails to take account of the momentous change of which conversion is the fruit.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 109.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“A cheap and tawdry [showy but cheap and of poor quality] evangelism has tended to rob the gospel which it proclaims of that invincible power which is the glory of the gospel of sovereign grace.

May the church come to think and live again in terms of the gospel which is *the power of God* unto salvation.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 110.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“Regeneration is inseparable from its effects and one of the effects is faith. Without regeneration it is morally and spiritually impossible for a person to believe in Christ, but when a person is regenerated it is morally and spiritually impossible for that person not to believe.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 111.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“Finally furnished with the ability to perceive reality as it is, the newborn soul necessarily and immediately turns away in revulsion from sin and eagerly runs to embrace Christ. That turning from sin and unbelief is repentance, and the eager embrace of Christ as Savior from sin and as Lord over one’s life is faith. Together, repentance and faith make up the single act of conversion.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 590.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“Remember that regeneration is a spiritual heart transplant—a radical renewal of man’s tastes, desires, and affections. To such a renewed heart, the beauty of Christ’s glory is irresistibly compelling, and it outshines the false glories of sin just as the brilliance of the noonday sun renders the stars invisible. To suggest that one might embrace Christ without also decisively purposing to repudiate sin is to suggest that sin is more objectively desirable to the regenerated heart than Christ is.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 590.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

- ❖ Here is where we should begin to see how important theology is.
- ❖ If regeneration precedes faith in the *ordo salutis* and regeneration is new desires, tastes, affections, etc. then there is no such thing as someone who is 'saved' but hasn't turned to God and from sin.
- ❖ In other words no one can receive Christ as Savior without also coming to him as Lord via repentance.
- ❖ The results of regeneration always flow from regeneration itself.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

- ❖ This in no way diminishes our responsibility to repent and believe the gospel. We are called in the gospel to repent and believe.
- ❖ God does not repent and believe on our behalf—that is our responsibility.
- ❖ We cannot regenerate ourselves—God alone works in regeneration.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

- ❖ Therefore, if we find in ourselves a willingness to turn from sin to God and the Lord Jesus Christ we can be confident that God has worked in us to transform our hearts via regeneration.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“All the fruits meet for repentance are contained in faith itself. You shall never find that a man who trusts in Christ remains an enemy of God, or a lover of sin.

Charles Spurgeon, ‘Faith and Regeneration’ in *Spurgeon’s Expository Encyclopedia* 7:141;
quoted in Bruce Demarest, *The Cross and Salvation*, 248.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“Neither one [repentance and faith] can occur without the other, and they must occur together when true conversion takes place.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 307.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“It is impossible to disentangle faith and repentance. Saving faith is permeated with repentance and repentance is permeated with faith.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 119.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“Thus, the faith that saves is a repentant faith, just as the repentance that saves is a believing repentance.”

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*, 590.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“The Lord does, in fact, produce the new birth in all who believe in Jesus; and their believing is the surest evidence that they are born again. . . It is ours to believe, it is the Lord’s to create us anew. He will not believe for us, neither are we to do the regenerating work for Him.”

Charles Spurgeon, *All of Grace*, 114–15.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“No one is hindered in the ordinary pursuits of life by the fact that unless the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it [Ps 127:1]. It is certain that no man who believes in Jesus will ever find that the Holy Spirit refuses to work in him: in fact, his believing is the proof that the Spirit is already at work in his heart.”

Charles Spurgeon, *All of Grace*, 115–16.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“God works in providence, but men do not therefore sit still. . . So it is in grace. We repent and believe, though we could do neither if the Lord did not enable us. We forsake sin and trust in Jesus, and then we perceive that the Lord has wrought in us to will and to do of His own good pleasure.”

Charles Spurgeon, *All of Grace*, 116.

The Application of Redemption

Conversion

The Connection to Regeneration

“If you, my reader, will not believe till you can understand all mysteries, you will never be saved at all; and if you allow self-invented difficulties to keep you from accepting pardon through your Lord and Savior, you will perish in a condemnation which will be richly deserved. Do not commit spiritual suicide through a passion for discussing metaphysical subtleties.”

Charles Spurgeon, *All of Grace*, 116.

