

The Gospel of Luke

The Wonder of Redemption

Luke 21:25-28

1. **God's Historic Redemption of Israel** (Ex. 6:6; Dt. 7:9)

One of most significant events in the history of Israel was its deliverance from the bondage of slavery in Egypt. Both God and his people looked back to this event as definitional to Israel's identity (Ex. 20:2; Lev. 11:45; 19:34-37; 2:31-33).

2. **Israel's Memorial Redemption of the Firstborn** (Ex. 13:2, 12-15)

The final plague that God sent upon Egypt His execution of the first born of both men and cattle (Ex. 12:29) and is commemorated by the feast of Passover (Ex. 12:24-27). God claimed the tribe of Levi and their cattle instead of killing the first-born in Israel (Nu. 3:45). Furthermore, every firstborn male, both men and cattle, were to be redeemed (Nu. 18:15ff; Lk. 2:21-24).

3. **God's Present Redemption of Believers** (Ro. 3:24; Ti. 2:14)

Redemption is one of the chief ways to describe God's work in saving sinners who have been purchased with a payment of eternal value (1 Pt. 1:18-19). Every believer has been ransomed from the wrath of God as the future penalty for sin (Rom 5:9; Col. 3:6) as well as the present enslavement to sin (Ti. 2:11-14)

4. **God's Future Redemption of Israel** (Ro. 8:23; Eph. 1: 14; 4: 30)

God's plan includes the redemption of our physical bodies in resurrection as well as the restoration of Jerusalem and the rest of creation (Ac. 3:19-21; Ro. 8:20-23). Jesus' words are an encouragement to His disciples that, though these horrible tribulations will yet occur, the promised kingdom will come.