



April 30, 2018

A New Opportunity (Redeemed)

“In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance to the riches of God’s grace.” (Ephesians 1:7)

On this date in 1944, in the game he considers his biggest thrill in baseball, Cleveland Indian hurler Bob Feller, strikes out 11 batters and throws his second career no-hitter. Bob Feller once said; *“Every day is a new opportunity. You can build on yesterday’s success or put its failures behind and start over again. That’s the way life is, with a new game every day, and that’s the way baseball is.”* He was able to say and live this way – *and pitch* – because he believed he was redeemed.

Paul in the verse above makes a wonderful declaration of the truth pertaining to every true believer in Jesus: That we are God’s purchased possession! That we have been redeemed and forgiven! That the price paid for our redemption was the blood of God’s Son! That this redemption has been extended to us freely by the grace of God!

What does it mean to be redeemed? The New Testament tells us it means we are “purchased back” (*Revelation 5:9*) and “set free” (*1 Peter 1:18*). Together, both verses paint a picture of the great truth that God has purchased us back from the market of sin, and has set us free! In and through Christ we have been set free from the penalty of sin, given the power to be set free from the grip sin has in our lives, and will one day be free from the very presence of sin!

The question is, do we live this way, as one redeemed – set free!?! In our role as husbands, fathers, coaches, etc., do we show an appropriate response for what Jesus did for us? Are we living as an example as one set free?

Let’s believe the truth and determine to live as one set free. Tell and show your players what it looks like to live a life redeemed by Christ.

Question: Do you live – lead your family, work, coach - as someone redeemed?

Challenge: Read Ephesians 1 and consider carefully the great price the Son of God paid to make redemption possible for you, and ask yourself what the appropriate response should be.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for the great redemption that is ours in Jesus! Thank you for the opportunities daily to live as an example to others as one redeemed.

-- Todd Burger – NOVA/DC FCA Baseball