

## A History of the Work of Redemption

By Jonathan Edwards

### Lesson 13 - Period 1 Closing Thoughts

***“The work of redemption is a work that God carries on from the fall of man to the end of the world”***

- 1. Jesus Christ must truly be the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_** - *“From what has been said, we may strongly argue, that Jesus of Nazareth is indeed the Son of God, and the Savior of the world; and so that the Christian religion is the true religion, seeing that Christ is the very person so evidently pointed at, in all the great dispensations of Divine Providence from the very fall of man, and was so undoubtedly in so many instances foretold from age to age, and shadowed forth in a vast variety of types and figures.”*

*“Here should any object, ‘That it may be some cunning men contrived this history, and these prophecies, on purpose to prove that He is the Messiah’. To such it may be replied, ‘How could such a thing be contrived by cunning men to point to Jesus Christ, long before He ever was born? How could they know that any such person would be born?...For no fact can be more evident, that that the Jews had those writings long before Christ was born...’.”*

- 2. The unity and Christ focus of the Old Testament argue strongly the case that the Bible is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_** - *“What has been said, affords a strong argument for the divine authority of the books of the Old Testament, from that admirable harmony there is in them, whereby they all point to the same thing...All agree in one, and center in the same event; which it was impossible for any one of them to know, but by divine revelation.”*
- 3. The unity and Christ focus of the Old Testament argue against the objection that these writings are \_\_\_\_\_ to the histories of other nations-** *“For hereby it appears, that the case of these histories is very different from that of all others. This history alone gives us an account of the first original of all things; and this alone deduces things down to us in a wonderful series from that original, giving an idea of the grand scheme of Divine Providence tending to its great end...If it be inquired which of the two great works, that of creation, or that of providence is greatest? It must be answered, the work of providence; but the work of redemption is the greatest of the works of providence.”*
- 4. What we have seen so far from the Scriptures gives evidence of the surpassing \_\_\_\_\_ of God-All that was included in Scripture was \_\_\_\_\_** - *“A little consideration will convince anyone, that all these things were necessary, and that none of them could be spared...Every part of the Scriptures of the Old Testament is very useful and necessary, and no part of it can be spared without loss to the church.”*

*“Before I dismiss this particular, I would add, that it is very observable, that the history of the Old Testament is large and particular where the great affair of redemption required it; even where there was most done towards this work, most to typify Christ, and to prepare the way for Him...Thus the accounts are large and short, just as there is more or less of the affair of redemption to be seen in them.”*

5. **What we have seen so far is sufficient proof to conclude that Jesus Christ and the redemption that He purchases is the main \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible-**  
*“Christ and His redemption are the great subject of the whole Bible...The whole book, both Old Testament and New, is filled up with the gospel; only with this difference, that the Old Testament contains the gospel under a veil, but the New contains it unveiled, so that we may see the glory of the Lord with open face.”*

6. **What we have seen so far proves to us the usefulness of the Old Testament to saints in all \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ -**  
*“By what has been said, we may see the usefulness and excellency of the Old Testament. Some are ready to look at the Old Testament as being out of date, and as if we in these days of the gospel have but little to do with it. But this is a very great mistake, arising from want of observing the nature and design of the Old Testament, which, if it were observed, would appear full of the gospel of Christ, and would in an excellent manner illustrate and confirm the glorious doctrines and promises of the New Testament.”*

*“Those parts of the Old Testament which are commonly looked upon as containing the least divine instruction, are mines and treasures of gospel-knowledge; and the reason why they are thought to contain so little is because persons do but superficially read them. The treasures which are hid underneath are not observed. They look only on the top of the ground and suddenly pass a judgment that there is nothing there. But they never dig into the mine: if they did, they would find it richly stored with what is more valuable than silver or gold, and would be abundantly requited for their pains.”*

*“Shall we prize a history which gives us a clear account of some great earthly prince, or mighty warrior, as of an Alexander, or a Caesar? And shall we not prize the history that God gives us of the glorious kingdom of His Son Jesus Christ, the Prince and Savior, and the great transaction of that King of kings, and Lord of armies, the Lord mighty in battle; and what He has wrought for the redemption of His chosen people?”*

7. **What we have seen so far shows us how men are to \_\_\_\_\_ for their inattentive and \_\_\_\_\_ reading of the Bible-**  
*“The Scriptures are full of wonderful things. Those histories which are too commonly read if they were only private concerns of particular persons such as of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob...are accounts of vastly greater things, things of greater importance and more extensive concernment, than they who read them are commonly aware.”*

*“He that has a Bible, and does not observe what it contains, is like a man who has a box full of silver and gold, and does not know it, nor observes that it is anything more than a vessel filled with common stones. He will be never the better for this treasure; and so might as well be without it. He who has plenty of the choicest food stored up in his house, and does not know it, will never taste what He has, and will be as likely to starve as if his house were empty.”*

8. **What we have seen so far shows us how \_\_\_\_\_ of a person the Lord Jesus Christ is-**  
*“There was so much done to prepare the way for His coming. God had been preparing the way for Him through all ages of the world from the very beginning...Surely this person is honorable in God’s eyes, and greatly beloved by Him; and surely it is a grand errand upon which He is sent.”*