A History of the Work of Redemption

By Jonathan Edwards

Lesson 28 - Period 3 - Part 10 - Application

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

This series of sermons comes to a close with 10 points of application. Based upon what we have heard and studied we can conclude:

1. The work of redemption is a very ______ work-"Do men, when they behold some great edifices, admire their magnificence; how well may we admire the greatness of this building of God, which He builds up age after age!"

"How great are those things which God has done, which are but so many parts of this great work...The particular wonderful events by which the work of creation was carried on filled up six days; but the great dispensations by which the work of redemption is carried on, are so many, that they fill up six or seven thousand years at least."

"We see that all the revolutions in the world are to subserve this grand design. This shows how much greater the work of redemption is, than the work of creation: because it is the end of it; as the use of a house is the end of the building of it. But the work of redemption, is the sum of all God's works of providence; all are subordinate to it: so the work of the new creation is more excellent than the old."

"God has used the creation for no other purpose, but to subserve the designs of this affair...This work of redemption is so much the greatest of all the works of God, that all other works are to be looked upon either as parts of it, or appendages to it, or are some way reducible to it...And seeing this work of redemption is so great, we need not wonder that the angels desire to look into it."

2. God is the ______ and _____, the Beginning and the End of all things-"He was before the beginning of this course of things, and He will be after the end of them. Thus, God is He who is and who was, and who is to come."

"As it began in God, so it ends with Him. God is the infinite ocean into which it empties itself...All the events of divine providence are like the links of a chain; the first link is from God, and the last is to Him."

3. Christ has in all things the ______-"He is the great Redeemer; and therefore the work of redemption being the sum of God's works of providence, shows the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, as being above all, and through all, and in all. That God intended the world for His Son's use in the affair of redemption is one reason why He created the world by Him."

"We see, that whatever changes there are, and however highly Christ's enemies exalt themselves, yet He reigns in uncontrolled power and immense glory: in the end, His people are all perfectly saved and made happy, and all His enemies become His footstool. And thus God gives the world to His Son for His inheritance."

- **4.** God's work of providence is consistent, _____, and beautiful-"God's work of providence, like that of creation, is but one. The events of providence are not so many distinct, independent works; but rather so many different parts of one work, one regular scheme."
- **5.** The ______ are the word of God-"In the Bible, we have an account of the whole scheme of providence, from the beginning of the world to the end of it, either in history or prophecy, and are told what will become of things at last; how they will issue in the subduing of God's enemies, and in the salvation and glory of His church, and setting up of the everlasting kingdom of His Son."

"How rational, worthy, and excellent a revelation is this and how excellent a book is the Bible, which contains so much beyond all other books in the world and what characters are here of its being indeed a divine book, a book that the great Jehovah has given to mankind for their instruction, without which we should be left in miserable darkness and confusion."

6. The work of redemption shows forth God's ______ and ____- "His glorious power appears in upholding His church for so long a time, and carrying on this work; upholding it oftentimes when it was but as a little spark, or as smoking flax, in which the fire was almost extinct, and the powers of earth and hell combined to destroy it."

"God glorifies His strength in His church's weakness; in causing His people, who are like a number of little infants, finally to triumph over all earth and hell; so that they shall tread on the lion and adder; the young lion and dragon shall they trample underfoot. The glorious power of God appears in conquering His many and mighty enemies by that person who was once an infant in a manger, and appeared as a poor, weak, despised man. He conquers them, and triumphs over them in their own weapon, the cross."

- 7. God's glorious ______-"It shows the wisdom of God in creating the world, in that He has created it for such an excellent use, to accomplish in it so glorious a work. And it shows the wisdom of Divine Providence, that He brings such great good out of such great evil, in making the fall and ruin of mankind, which in itself is so sorrowful and deplorable, an occasion of accomplishing such a glorious work as redemption, and of erecting such a glorious building, whose top should reach into heaven, and of bringing His elect to a state of such unspeakable happiness."
- 8. God's ______ to His people-"He never forsakes His inheritance, and remembers His covenant to them through all generations...Let us with like pleasure and joy celebrate the everlasting duration of God's mercy and faithfulness to His church and people, and let us be comforted by it under all the dark circumstances of the church of God, and all the uproar and confusions that are in the world, and all the threatenings of the church's enemies."
- **9.** The Church of Christ is a most _______ society-"For all this great work is for them. Christ undertook it for their sakes, and for their sakes He carries it on; it is because He has loved them with an everlasting love. For their sakes He overturns states and kingdoms. For their sakes He shakes heaven and earth."

"For their sakes He made the world, and for their sakes He will destroy it; for their sakes He built heaven, and for their sakes He makes His angels ministering spirits...How blessed is this people who are redeemed from among men, and are the firstfruits unto God, and to the Lamb; who have God in all ages for their protection and help."

10. Those outside of Christ are most ______- "You that are such, whoever you are, shall have no part or lot in this matter....Whatever glorious things God accomplishes for His church, they will not be glorious to you. The most glorious times of the church are always the most dismal to the wicked and impenitent. And so we find, wherever glorious things are foretold concerning the church, there terrible things are foretold concerning the wicked, its enemies."

"God will indeed make use of you in this affair: but it will be for the glory of His justice, and not of His mercy. The enemies of God are reserved for the triumph of Christ's glorious power in overcoming and punishing them. You are some of those who shall be consumed with this accursed world after the day of judgment, when Christ and His church shall triumphantly and gloriously ascend to heaven. Therefore, let all who are in a Christless condition seriously consider these things, and not be like the foolish people of the old world, who would not take warning, when Noah told them, that the Lord was about to bring a flood of waters upon the earth; or like the people of Sodom, who would not regard, when Lot told them, that God would destroy that city, and would not flee from the wrath to come, and so were consumed in that terrible destruction."