

The Meaning In A Word

by Bob Morris

The other night I sat down at the computer to make a list of songs which we would perform at our next concert. As I prepared the list, I soon discovered I was unsure of how to spell 'REDEEMER'.

So I made my best guess, and then called up the spelling checker that is built into the computer. I must confess that, knowing the way the world is today, I was not sure that 'REDEEMER' would even be in the computer's dictionary. But I tried it anyway. The computer told me that I had spelled 'REDEEMER' correctly. Not wanting to trust the machine, I decided to try to locate the word in the electronic thesaurus. When I looked up 'REDEEMER' I found only 'REDEEM'. As I looked through the alternative meanings of 'REDEEM', I began to more fully appreciate what Christ did that day at Calvary.

In the UK (British) thesaurus, I found words like *buy, convert, ransom, reclaim, recover, save, adjust, balance, compensate, make equal, offset, outweigh, complete, fulfill*, and *satisfy*. What a word! What a rich sense of meaning to proclaim, as in a song by Keith Green, "There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son, Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One." For at Calvary, Jesus did *buy* our very souls with His own precious blood -- blood which can *convert* a life filled with sin, emptiness and sorrow to a life filled with joy, satisfaction and fulfillment. As for me, Jesus has *ransomed* my soul, *reclaimed* my very being and *saved* me from eternal separation from God. Thank God that day that Jesus' sacrifice made the *adjustment* for all of mankind so that on judgment day, when we stand before the Lord God Almighty to give account of ourselves, Jesus' righteousness will *balance* our iniquity and we shall not be found wanting. The price paid on Golgotha's hill *compensates* for our sins and *makes us equal* heirs with Christ. Our unrighteousness is *offset* by Jesus' sacrifice which *outweighs* all our evil works.

You know, friend, if you have not yet accepted the gift of salvation -- and it is a gift -- now is not too late. Very soon it could be too late because none of us know what tomorrow will bring. Christ could return again before you finish reading this article. The breath you take 10 minutes from now could be your last. With such a thing as your eternal future at stake, NOW is the time for decision. Salvation cannot be bought or earned. It is a free gift from God the Father through Jesus Christ -- a gift that is available to one and all. All you need to do is accept it. Jesus came that we could all have life, and have it more abundantly. And it's true!! My life as a Christian is more satisfying than it ever was or could have been as an unsaved person. Won't you trust in Jesus? Only He can truly fulfill. Only He can truly satisfy. If you will give your life to Jesus, you will also be able to look at the word 'REDEEMER' and know what it really means!

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