

His Name Shall Be Called Wonderful (22)

Precious

All of the divine names and titles of the Lord Jesus Christ, all of His divine offices and attributes, declare His greatness and glory, His majesty and might, His power and preeminence. When we think of all that He is in His wondrous person and all that He has done for us in reconciling, redeeming grace, we have to conclude that He is precious.

Peter wrote, *“Unto you therefore which believe He is precious”* (1st Pet. 2:7). This phrase has been translated in various ways. One translation reads, *“He is the preciousness”*. The word, *“precious”*, has been suggested by some to mean, *“held in honour”*. While this is certainly true of our Lord Jesus, I personally like the King James rendering, *“precious”*.

The Lord Jesus Christ is precious to His Father and God. Earlier in the chapter, Peter referred to the Lord Jesus as, *“a living stone”*. He wrote concerning Him, *“disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God and precious”* (1st Pet. 2:4). Quoting from Isaiah’s prophecy (28:16), Peter wrote, *“Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded”* (1st Pet. 2:6).

The Lord Jesus quoted from the Psalms (118:22), *“The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes”* (Matt. 21:42; Mk. 12:10; Luke 20:17).

Twice in the Gospel of John, we read those words, *“the Father loveth the Son”* (Jn. 3:35, 5:20). On a number of occasions in the New Testament, we hear the voice of the Father in reference to the Son, *“this is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”* (Matt. 3:17, 17:5; Mk. 1:11, 9:7; Luke 3:22, 9:35).

The Lord spoke through the prophet Isaiah, in relation to Christ, the perfect Servant, *“Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth”* (Isa. 42:1).

The blood of Christ is precious. Peter reminds us, *“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot”* (1st Pet. 1:18-19). The word, *“precious”*, as it is used here in this context, could be translated as, *“costly”*. What a price was paid for our redemption, the precious blood of Christ”. Like the Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:5), He is without blemish or spot.

The psalmist wrote, *“They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches; None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him: (For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:)”* (Ps. 49:6-8).

Not all the animal sacrifices together, which were offered continually, year after year, could take away sin. But the Lord Jesus Christ offered Himself; the one sacrifice for sins forever, and sat down on the right hand of God (Heb. 10:1-10). He entered in once into the holy place, not with the blood of animals, but by His own blood, obtained eternal redemption for us. He offered Himself without spot to God. (Heb. 9:12-14).

How precious is the blood of Christ to us! How costly the price of our redemption! We have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14). Paul wrote, *“the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me”* (Gal. 2:20).

Even though we have never seen Him, and cannot see Him presently, we love Him and rejoice with joy unspeakable (1st Pet. 1:8). How precious the thought that soon we shall see Him and we shall be with Him and like Him forever.

*Ever to His God well pleasing,
Precious in the Father's sight;
Constant fellowship unceasing,
In communion day and night.*

*By Jehovah God selected,
Firm foundation, He, alone;
By the builders was rejected,
Yet, the Precious Corner Stone*

*To the cross His pathway leading,
Ever lived mankind to bless;
He, for sinners interceding,
Christ the Lord, "The Preciousness".*

*Precious blood of reconciling,
Without blemish, without spot;
Purges from all sin defiling,
There remaineth not one blot.*

*Precious to the ransomed myriads,
Soon to see Him face to face;
Who throughout the endless periods,
Praise Him for redeeming grace.*

Bernie Payne