



Grace Assembly Of God

Chapter-by-Chapter Bible Reading Devotional

Scripture: **Leviticus 27**

Title: **Redeeming Vows**

Author: **Ps Meng Cham**

Summary of Chapter: This chapter deals with the free-will dedication and vows that Israel made to the Lord. Knowing full well how humans inadvertently make promises without fulfilling them the LORD in His grace made provision for His people to redeem their free-will gifts if they could not honour them for one reason or another.

Key Verses (NLT): How does it speak to me?

²⁸ “However, anything specially set apart for the Lord—whether a person, an animal, or family property—must never be sold or bought back. Anything devoted in this way has been set apart as holy, and it belongs to the Lord. ²⁹ No person specially set apart for destruction may be bought back. Such a person must be put to death.”

Although there was provision for the redemption, should it become necessary, the cost was hefty (some amounting than 4 years' worth of wages!) to dissuade them, and to teach them that being true to one's word was important – the very basis that Israel could trust in Yahweh was because He kept His Word. And if they were to image God they would have to be people who kept their word/promises!

However, what was already dedicated to God could not be redeemed. These included their first fruits, the first born, their tithes, and those sentenced to death for transgressing the law.

Have you ever felt the agony of not being able to fulfill a commitment you made? Sometimes it's not ill-intentioned but a result of circumstances beyond your finite powers. In this context Jesus said, it is better not to make any vows – just let your yes be yes, and your no be no. Trying to redeem oneself and to restore confidence after the fact will always be an uphill task, and at times near impossible.

Yet the greatest example and the costliest redemption was made by God, our Father. The death penalty that was hanging over the head of every sinner could not be revoked. We are all carrying the death sentence for our transgressions, for which there is no redemption possible or provided. But praise be to God, Apostle Paul tells us, that *“In him (Christ) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace (Ephesians 1:7; NIV).”* What was eternally impossible with humans has been made possible with God!

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

- Adult:** Pause and consider any outstanding vows that you might have made to God, and to others. Prayerfully ask the Lord to enable you to fulfill them.
- Youth:** Why must you pay back what you owe? What happens when you are unable to do so? How did Jesus buy us back from eternal death and punishment?
- Child:** Why must you be careful of what you say? What do you think God expects you to do when you make a promise to your parents, or to someone? How do you feel when you finally do what you have said?

PRAYER

- Praying Scripture:** Our Father, we thank You for Your grace that made a way for us. The greatest redemption we need is the one from eternal death for which apart from Jesus we would have had no hope. Christ paid a debt He did not owe, because we owed a debt we could not pay. Thanks be to God for such a precious and priceless redemption! Help us, daily, to be a people of Your Word, as well as, a people of our word.
- Thanksgiving Prayer:** I/We thank You for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
- Intercessory Prayer:** I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
- Salvation Prayer:** I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.