THE QUESTION

What did the early Christians believe about Christ as our ransom?

Asked by a THF member on May 22, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 14 numbered quotations · the 40 early Christian passages and 224 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/what-did-the-early-christians-believe-about-christ-as-our-ransom

The short answer *From the text: says what the passages say*

The early writers taught that Christ Himself is the ransom. He gave His own life and precious blood, not silver or gold, to buy people back from sin, death and the devil's power. Those He ransomed now belong to Him and should live holy lives, and Christians copied Him by ransoming captives.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 8

God gave His own Son as ransom

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Epistle to Diognetus says God did not turn away from sinners but gave His Son as a ransom, the holy One for the guilty. Clement says Christ came down and willingly gave Himself as a ransom, leaving a new covenant of love.

1 “He Himself took on the burden of our iniquities, giving His own Son as a ransom for us—the holy One for transgressors, the blameless One for the wicked, the righteous One for the unrighteous, the incorruptible One for the corruptible, the immortal One for those who are mortal.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Mathetes,** *Epistle to Diognetus* (c. 80–200 AD) **Source 3, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

2 “And as He was about to be poured out as an offering and to give Himself as a ransom, He left us a new covenant: "My love I give to you."”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Who Is the Rich Man That Shall Be Saved?* 37 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 9, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

The price was Christ's precious blood

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Origen says no one can give anything to buy his own life back from death, so God gave the exchange: the blood of Christ. Clement repeats Peter's words that believers were not redeemed with silver or gold but with the blood of the spotless Lamb.

3 “Therefore, a man could not give anything in exchange for his own life, but God gave an exchange for the life of us all: the precious blood of Christ Jesus”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Commentary on Matthew* 12 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 19, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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4 “Since you know that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, such as silver or gold, from your empty way of life received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Instructor* 3.12 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 8, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 3 OF 8

Christ bought us back from the captor

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Origen says people had been sold under sin, and Christ bought them back by His blood from the one who held them. Irenaeus describes the devil binding man through disobedience, and Christ binding the devil in turn so that man could go free and return to God.

5 “For the sake of this, according to the Father’s love for man, He submitted to death, buying us back by His own blood from the one who had brought us under his power, since we had been sold under sin.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Commentary on John* 6 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 23, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

6 “However, it was necessary that through man himself, the rebellious angel should be conquered and bound with the same chains with which he had bound man, so that man, being freed, might return to his Lord, leaving behind the chains by which he had been bound, which is sin.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 6, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

The ransom needed His real flesh and blood

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Irenaeus argues that Christ had to share our real flesh to reconcile us to God. He redeemed us with His own blood, and if the flesh were not saved, then His blood would not have redeemed us at all.

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7 “But now, through union with Himself, the Lord has reconciled humanity to God the Father, by reconciling us to Himself with the body of His own flesh and redeeming us with His own blood, as the apostle says to the Ephesians, "In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins;" and again to the same, he says, "You who were formerly far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ;" and again, "By abolishing in His flesh the hostilities, [even] the law of commandments contained in ordinances."”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 5, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

8 “If the flesh does not attain salvation, then the Lord did not redeem us with His blood, nor is the cup of the Eucharist a communion of His blood, nor the bread we break a communion of His body.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 7, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 8

He ransomed souls from the hand of death

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Hippolytus says John the Baptist went ahead of Christ even into Hades. There he announced that the Savior would come down to ransom the souls of the saints from death. Here the ransom is a rescue from death itself.

9 “He did this so that there too he might make known that the Savior would descend to ransom the souls of the saints from the hand of death.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hippolytus,** *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 (c. 200–236 AD) **Source 16, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 8

The ransomed belong to Christ and obey

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Cyprian draws a plain lesson from being bought with a price. Since Christ redeemed us with His blood, we should obey our Redeemer and keep our bodies pure as His temples. Grace comes first, and a free, obedient life answers it.

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10 "And since we have been redeemed by the blood of Christ, let us obey and advance the rule of our Redeemer by every obedience of service, so that nothing impure or profane may be brought into the temple of God, lest He should be offended and leave the temple in which He dwells."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Treatises* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 25, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

11 "Let us live as temples of God, so that it may be clear that God dwells in us."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Treatises* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 27, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 8

Christ's blood is worth more than money

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian warns against paying bribes to escape persecution. He says it is unworthy of God to buy off with money a person whom Christ has already ransomed with His own blood.

12 "But how unworthy of God and of His ways is this: that you should ransom with money a man whom Christ has ransomed with His blood."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *De Fuga in Persecutione* 12 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 11, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 8 OF 8

Christians ransomed captives as Christ ransomed them

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Cyprian urged the church to pay to free captured believers, because Christ who redeemed us from death is seen in them. The Apostolic Constitutions direct church gifts toward freeing slaves, captives and prisoners.

13 "Christ is to be seen in our captive brothers, and He is to be redeemed from the peril of captivity who redeemed us from the peril of death."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Epistles* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 24, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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14 "And the sums of money collected from them in the way already described should be used for the redemption of the saints, the freeing of slaves, captives, and prisoners, and those who have been abused, and those whom tyrants have condemned to single combat and death because of the name of Christ."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** **Source 30, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
(c. 250–380 AD)
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don't tell us

- These passages do not give one full theory of the ransom or say in detail how it worked.
- Only Origen and Irenaeus here speak of freedom from the one who held us captive; the others focus on sin, death and holy living.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 40 early Christian passages and 224 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–40, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 41–140, in Bible order), then 124 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *40 passages from 15 writers*

Barnabas, *c. 70–132 AD · sources 1–2*

1 *Epistle of Barnabas* To this end, the Lord endured to offer His flesh to corruption, so that we might be sanctified through the forgiveness of sins, achieved by His blood of sprinkling. It… [continues online] **read ›**

2 *Epistle of Barnabas* (1885 English) Lord enjoined, that whosoever did not keep the fast should be put to death, because He also Himself was to offer in sacrifice for our sins the vessel of the… [continues online] **read ›**

Mathetes, *c. 80–200 AD · source 3*

3 *Epistle to Diognetus* **Quote 1, page 2** and bore with us. He Himself took on the burden of our iniquities, giving His own Son as a ransom for us—the holy One for transgressors, the blameless One… [continues online] **read ›**

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Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · source 4*

4 *Epistle to the Trallians* (on point 1) imitators of His sufferings and His love, with which He loved us when He gave Himself as a ransom for us, to cleanse us by His blood from our old… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 5–7*

5 *Against Heresies: Book V* (1885 English) **Quote 7, page 4** "now, by means of communion with Himself, the Lord has reconciled man to God the Father, in reconciling us to Himself by the body of His own flesh, and redeeming… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Against Heresies: Book V* (1885 English) **Quote 6, page 3** "man, who had been led captive in times past, was rescued from the grasp of his possessor, according to the tender mercy of God the Father, who had compassion on… [continues online] **read ›**

7 *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 8, page 4** "contempt, are utterly mistaken. If the flesh does not attain salvation, then the Lord did not redeem us with His blood, nor is the cup of the Eucharist a communion… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 8–10*

8 *Instructor* 3.12 **Quote 4, page 3** "with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Who Is the Rich Man That Shall Be Saved?* 37 (1885 English) **Quote 2, page 2** "about to be offered up and giving Himself a ransom, He left for us a new Covenant-testament: My love I give unto you… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Instructor* 2.2 (on point 2) "There is the blood of His flesh, by which we are redeemed from corruption… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 11–14*

11 *De Fuga in Persecutione* 12 **Quote 12, page 5** "with blood, paid for with blood, we owe no money for our head, because Christ is our Head… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *Against Marcion* 40 (on point 6) "he says, "You are bought with a price… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *To His Wife* 2.3 (on point 6) "far as I know, we are not our own, but bought with a price… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *On Modesty* 16 (1885 English; on point 6) "opposing (thereto), for bought you are with a price — the blood, to wit, of the Lord: glorify and extol the Lord in your body… [continues online] **read ›**

Early Liturgies, *c. 200–400 AD · source 15*

15 *Divine Liturgy of St. James* 1 "is my blood of the new testament, shed for you and many, and distributed for the remission of sins… [continues online] **read ›**

Hippolytus, *c. 200–236 AD · sources 16–18*

16 *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 **Quote 9, page 4** by Herod. He did this so that there too he might make known that the Savior would descend to ransom the souls of the saints from the hand of death… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 (1885 English) "the blood of what grape, then, but just His own flesh, which hung upon the tree like a cluster of grapes?— from whose side also flowed two streams, of blood… [continues online] **read ›**

18 *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (1885 English) "in the blood of the grape, trodden and giving forth blood, which means the flesh of the Lord, he cleanses the whole calling of the Gentiles… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 19–23*

19 *Commentary on Matthew* 12 **Quote 3, page 2** "Peter 1:18-19. And in Isaiah it is said to Israel, "I gave Ethiopia in exchange for you, and Egypt and Syene for you… [continues online] **read ›**

20 *Commentary on Matthew* 13 (on point 3) we must understand that the devil has the power of death, not of the death that is common and neutral, by which those made of soul and body die when… [continues online] **read ›**

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21 *Commentary on John* 1 “was made sanctification to us and redemption. Each of us is sanctified by that sanctification and redeemed by that redemption. Consider also whether the words "to us," added by the… [continues online] **read ›**

22 *Commentary on Matthew* 13 (on point 1) His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all," Romans 8:32. But the Son also gave Himself to death for us, so that He was delivered up not… [continues online] **read ›**

23 *Commentary on John* 6 **Quote 5, page 3** “have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 24–29*

24 *Epistles* (1885 English) **Quote 13, page 5** “that He who took us out of the jaws of the devil, who abides and dwells in us, may now Himself be rescued and redeemed from the hands of barbarians… [continues online] **read ›**

25 *Treatises* **Quote 10, page 5** in which he has shaped our way of life by divine teaching, "You are not your own, for you were bought with a great price; glorify and bear God in… [continues online] **read ›**

26 *Treatises* (on point 2) one who gains eternal salvation, ought to buy the precious pearl—that is, eternal life—at the price of Christ's blood, using his inheritance, and giving up all his… [continues online] **read ›**

27 *Treatises* **Quote 11, page 5** “Samuel 2:30 The blessed apostle also has said in his letter, "You are not your own, for you were bought with a great price. Glorify and bear God in… [continues online] **read ›**

28 *Treatises* (on point 6) “because of Him who has loved us.” Romans 8:35-37 And again: “You are not your own, for you were bought with a great price. Glorify and bear God… [continues online] **read ›**

29 *Epistles* (1885 English) “can His blood by which we are redeemed and quickened appear to be in the cup, when in the cup there is no wine whereby the blood of Christ is… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 30–32*

30 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 14, page 6** “And the sums of money collected from them in the way already described should be used for the redemption of the saints, the freeing of slaves, captives, and prisoners, and… [continues online] **read ›**

31 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English) “enjoy the benefit of the sprinkling of the precious and innocent blood of Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

32 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 1) since even our Lord Jesus Christ came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. Matthew 20:28 So they also… [continues online] **read ›**

Methodius, *c. 270–311 AD · source 33*

33 *Oration on the Psalms* 1 (1885 English; on point 2) “that those who bought Him might for thirty pieces of silver covenant for Him who, with His life-giving blood, was to redeem the world… [continues online] **read ›**

Lactantius, *c. 290–320 AD · sources 34–36*

34 *Epitome of the Divine Institutes* 47 (1885 English; on point 5) “Hosea: This my Son is wise, therefore He shall not stay long in the anguish of His sons: and I will ransom Him from the hand of the grave… [continues online] **read ›**

35 *Divine Institutes* 12 (1885 English; on point 8) “to the ransoming of captives that from which you purchase beasts… [continues online] **read ›**

36 *Divine Institutes* 12 (1885 English; on point 8) “ransoming of captives is a great and noble exercise of justice, of which the same Tullius also approved… [continues online] **read ›**

Alexander of Alexandria, *c. 313–328 AD · source 37*

37 *Epistles on the Arian Heresy* 1 (on point 1) “the cause of redemption, to give life for life, blood for blood… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Rome · *sources 38–40*

38 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (on point 8) “know many among ourselves who have given themselves up to bonds in order… [continues online] **read ›**

39 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English; on point 2) “thus they made it manifest that redemption should flow through the blood of the Lord to all them that believe and hope in God… [continues online] **read ›**

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40 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (on point 2) “us look steadfastly to the blood of Christ and see how precious that blood is to God, which, having been shed for our salvation, has set the grace of repentance… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *100 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

41 **Genesis 17:13** The servant born in your house and the one bought with money shall surely be circumcised, and my covenant shall be on your flesh as an everlasting covenant. **read ›**

42 **Genesis 17:27** and all the men of his house, both the servants born in his house and those bought with money from foreign nations. **read ›**

43 **Exodus 12:44** And every household slave, or one bought with money—you shall circumcise him, and then he shall eat of it. **read ›**

44 **Exodus 21:2** If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve you six years; and in the seventh year he shall go out free, without payment. **read ›**

45 **Exodus 21:30** And if a ransom is laid on him, he shall give for the ransom of his life whatever they lay on him. **read ›**

46 **Exodus 24:8** And Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, “Behold, the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you concerning all these words.” **read ›**

47 **Leviticus 4:30** The priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of whole burnt offerings, and all its blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar. **read ›**

48 **Leviticus 4:34** The priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of whole burnt offering, and all its blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar of whole burnt offering. **read ›**

49 **Leviticus 16:14** He shall take some of the blood of the calf and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times. **read ›**

50 **Leviticus 17:11** For the life of all flesh is its blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for its blood shall make atonement in place of the soul. **read ›**

51 **Leviticus 22:11** But if a priest acquires a person bought with money, he shall eat of his bread; and his servants born in his house, they also shall eat of his bread. **read ›**

52 **Leviticus 25:24** Throughout all the land of your possession you shall grant ransom for the land. **read ›**

53 **Leviticus 25:26** And if a man has no family redeemer, but he prospers and finds enough for its ransom, **read ›**

54 **Leviticus 25:42** For these are my household slaves, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt; he shall not be sold as a household slave is sold. **read ›**

55 **Leviticus 25:48** after he is sold to him there shall be redemption for him; one of his brothers shall redeem him. **read ›**

56 **Leviticus 25:49** A brother of his father, or a son of his father’s brother, shall redeem him; or one of his own flesh and blood from his tribe may redeem him. Or if he prospers, he may redeem himself; **read ›**

57 **Leviticus 25:51** If many years remain, he shall pay back his ransom according to them, from the money of his sale. **read ›**

58 **Leviticus 25:52** And if few years are left until the year of release, he shall reckon with him according to his years and pay back his ransom **read ›**

59 **Leviticus 25:54** If he is not redeemed in these ways, he shall go out in the year of release, he and his children with him. **read ›**

60 **Leviticus 27:13** And if he does redeem it, he shall add the fifth part to its valuation. **read ›**

61 **Leviticus 27:15** If the one who sanctified it redeems his house, he shall add to it the fifth part of the valuation money, and it shall be his. **read ›**

62 **Leviticus 27:19** If the one who sanctified the field redeems it, he shall add the fifth part of the money to its valuation, and it shall be his. **read ›**

63 **Leviticus 27:27** If he exchanges one of the unclean four-footed beasts according to its valuation, he shall add the fifth part to it, and it shall be his; but if he does not redeem it, it shall be sold according to its valuation. **read ›**

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64 **Leviticus 27:29** And whatever is devoted from among men shall not be redeemed, but shall surely be put to death. **read ›**

65 **Numbers 3:49** So Moses took the silver, the ransom of those who were in excess of the redemption of the Levites. **read ›**

66 **Numbers 3:51** And Moses gave the ransom of those in excess to Aaron and to his sons, by the voice of the Lord, as the Lord had commanded Moses. **read ›**

67 **Numbers 18:16** And its redemption shall be from a month old; the valuation is five shekels; by the holy shekel it is twenty obols. **read ›**

68 **Deuteronomy 21:8** Be gracious to your people Israel, whom you have redeemed, O Lord, so that innocent blood may not be found among your people Israel." And the blood shall be atoned for them. **read ›**

69 **Deuteronomy 32:14** butter of cattle and milk of sheep, with the fat of lambs and rams, of the young of bulls and of he-goats, with the fat of the kidneys of wheat; and he drank wine, the blood of the grape. **read ›**

70 **Ruth 4:4** I said that I would inform you and say, 'Buy it before those who sit here and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not redeem it, tell me, and I will know. For there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I am next after you.'" And he said, "I am here to redeem it; here I am, and I will redeem it." **read ›**

71 **2 Samuel 24:24** But the king said to Orna, "No, but I will surely buy it from you at a price, and I will not offer to the Lord my God a whole burnt offering for nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. **read ›**

72 **1 Chronicles 21:24** And King David said to Orna, "No, for I will surely buy it for its full worth in silver; for I will by no means take what is yours for the Lord, to offer a whole burnt offering to the Lord for nothing." **read ›**

73 **Nehemiah 11:10** Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, and Jachin; (Septuagint 2 Esdras 21:10 (Nehemiah 11:10 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

74 **Job 33:24** he will hold him up so that he does not fall into death; he will renew his body like plaster on a wall, and fill his bones with marrow. **read ›**

75 **Psalms 44:12** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

76 **Psalms 49:7** a brother does not redeem; shall a man redeem? He shall not give to God an atonement for himself, (Septuagint Psalm 48:8 (Psalm 49:7 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

77 **Psalms 69:18** Attend to my soul and redeem it; deliver me because of my enemies. (Septuagint Psalm 68:19 (Psalm 69:18 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

78 **Psalms 107:2** Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he redeemed from the hand of the enemy, (Septuagint Psalm 106:2 (Psalm 107:2 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

79 **Proverbs 13:8** A man's own wealth is the ransom of his soul, but the poor man does not stand up under threats. **read ›**

80 **Proverbs 21:18** and the lawless man is the refuse thrown away to cleanse the righteous. **read ›**

81 **Ecclesiastes 8:14** There is a vanity that is done on the earth: that there are righteous men to whom it happens as the work of the ungodly, and there are ungodly men to whom it happens as the work of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity. **read ›**

82 **Ecclesiastes 10:20** Even in your thought do not curse the king, and in the inner rooms of your bedrooms do not curse the rich; for a bird of heaven will carry your voice, and the one that has wings will report your word. **read ›**

83 **Song of Solomon 5:6** I opened to my kinsman; my kinsman had gone on. My soul went out at his word; I sought him, and did not find him; I called him, and he did not answer me. **read ›**

84 **Song of Solomon 5:8** I have charged you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the powers and by the strengths of the field: if you find my kinsman, what will you tell him? That I am wounded with love. **read ›**

85 **Isaiah 3:15** Why do you wrong my people, and put the face of the poor to shame? **read ›**

86 **Isaiah 52:3** For thus says the Lord: You were sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without silver. **read ›**

87 **Jeremiah 7:3** Thus says the Lord God of Israel: Set right your ways and your practices, and I will make you dwell in this place. **read ›**

88 **Jeremiah 30:6** Ask, and see: has a male given birth? And what of the fear in which they shall hold their hips and salvation? For I have seen every man, and his hands are on his hips; faces have turned to paleness. (Septuagint Jeremiah 37:6 (Jeremiah 30:6 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

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89 **Jeremiah 31:11** For the Lord has redeemed Jacob; he has rescued him from the hand of those stronger than he. (Septuagint Jeremiah 38:11 (Jeremiah 31:11 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

90 **Jeremiah 43:13** And he will break in pieces the pillars of Heliopolis that are in On, and burn their houses with fire. (Septuagint Jeremiah 50:13 (Jeremiah 43:13 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

91 **Jeremiah 48:8** And destruction will come upon every city; it will by no means escape; and the valley will perish, and the plain will be utterly destroyed, as the Lord has said. (Septuagint Jeremiah 31:8 (Jeremiah 48:8 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

92 **Jeremiah 48:9** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

93 **Ezekiel 2:4** And you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord,’ **read ›**

94 **Ezekiel 2:6** And you, Son of man, do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their faces; for they will rage and rise up against you all around, and you dwell in the midst of scorpions. Do not be afraid of their words, and do not be dismayed at their faces, for it is a provoking house. **read ›**

95 **Hosea 13:14** I will deliver them from the hand of Hades, and I will redeem them from death. Where is your penalty, O death? Where is your sting, O Hades? Comfort is hidden from my eyes. **read ›**

96 **Jonah 3:2** “Arise, go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach in it according to the former message that I spoke to you.” **read ›**

97 **Wisdom of Solomon 10:13** When a righteous man was sold, she did not forsake him, but delivered him from sin. **read ›**

98 **Wisdom of Sirach 20:12** There is one who buys much for a little, and repays it sevenfold. **read ›**

99 **Wisdom of Sirach 50:15** he stretched out his hand to the cup and poured a drink offering of the blood of the grape; he poured it out at the foundations of the altar, a pleasing aroma to the Most High, the King of all. **read ›**

100 **Wisdom of Sirach 51:25** I opened my mouth and spoke: Gain her for yourselves without silver. **read ›**

101 **Baruch 4:6** You were sold to the nations, but not for destruction; because you provoked God to anger, you were handed over to your adversaries. **read ›**

102 **Letter of Jeremiah 1:25** They are bought at any price, though there is no breath in them. **read ›**

103 **2 Maccabees 8:14** Others sold all that they had left, and at the same time begged the Lord to rescue those who had been sold by the ungodly Nicanor before he had even met them, **read ›**

104 **2 Maccabees 10:20** But Simon’s men, being greedy for money, were bribed by some of those in the towers; and when they had received seventy thousand drachmas, they let some of them slip away. **read ›**

105 **2 Maccabees 12:25** And when with many words he had pledged his agreement to restore them unharmed, they let him go for the sake of the salvation of their brothers. **read ›**

106 **2 Maccabees 12:45** And then, looking to the most splendid reward laid up for those who fall asleep in godliness—a holy and godly thought—he therefore made atonement for the dead, that they might be released from their sin. **read ›**

107 **3 Maccabees 5:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

108 **3 Maccabees 5:8** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

109 **3 Maccabees 6:29** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

110 **3 Maccabees 6:31** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

111 **3 Maccabees 7:22** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

112 **3 Maccabees 7:23** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

113 **4 Maccabees 3:15** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

114 **4 Maccabees 6:29** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

115 **4 Maccabees 17:22** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

116 **1 Enoch 47:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

117 **Matthew 3:1** In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, **read ›**

118 **Matthew 13:46** who, having found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.” **read ›**

119 **Matthew 20:28** even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” **read ›**

120 **Matthew 26:28** for this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **read ›**

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121 **Luke 11:5** He said to them, “Which of you will have a friend and go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, **read ›**

122 **Luke 11:12** Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? **read ›**

123 **Acts 4:4** But many of those who heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to be about five thousand. **read ›**

124 **Romans 4:25** who was delivered up for our trespasses, and was raised for our justification. **read ›**

125 **Romans 5:9** Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we will be saved from God’s wrath through him. **read ›**

126 **Romans 15:21** but as it is written: Those to whom nothing was announced about him shall see, and those who have not heard shall understand. **read ›**

127 **1 Corinthians 4:6** Now, brothers, I have applied these things figuratively to myself and Apollos for your sake, so that in us you may learn not to think beyond what is written, so that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against another. **read ›**

128 **1 Corinthians 6:20** for you were bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which belong to God. **read ›**

129 **1 Corinthians 7:23** You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men. **read ›**

130 **Ephesians 1:7** In him we have our redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace **read ›**

131 **Ephesians 1:14** who is a pledge of our inheritance, to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of his glory. **read ›**

132 **Colossians 1:14** in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins. **read ›**

133 **1 Timothy 2:6** who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony at its proper times, **read ›**

134 **Titus 2:14** who gave himself for us, so that he might redeem us from all lawlessness and purify for himself a special people, zealous for good works. **read ›**

135 **Hebrews 2:14** Since then the children have shared in flesh and blood, he also himself in the same way partook of the same, that through death he might bring to nothing him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, **read ›**

136 **Hebrews 9:12** nor yet through the blood of goats and calves, but through his own blood, entered in once for all into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption. **read ›**

137 **Hebrews 9:14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without defect to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? **read ›**

138 **Hebrews 9:22** According to the law, nearly everything is cleansed with blood, and apart from shedding of blood there is no remission. **read ›**

139 **1 Peter 1:18** knowing that you were redeemed, not with corruptible things like silver or gold, from the useless way of life handed down from your fathers, **read ›**

140 **1 Peter 1:19** but with precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish or spot, the blood of Christ, **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *124 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Genesis 22:2

Leviticus 16:5

Joshua 2:18

Ezra 10:9

Psalms 4:3 · 12:6 · 22:16 · 69:21

Proverbs 1:17 · 8:22

Jeremiah 11:19

Jonah 3:10

Zechariah 12:10

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Matthew 4:9 · 4:16 · 5:3 · 5:32 · 5:45 · 6:25 · 9:13 · 10:22 · 12:29 · 12:36 · 15:3 · 16:21 · 17:22 · 20:26 · 21:14 · 22:21 · 23:9 · 23:37 · 26:59

Mark 2:17 · 3:27 · 7:13 · 14:21

Luke 1:41 · 1:46 · 5:32 · 11:23 · 19:9

John 1:14 · 1:29 · 2:19 · 3:14 · 6:37 · 10:33 · 13:4 · 13:27 · 14:6 · 14:16 · 15:1 · 15:13 · 15:23 · 17:3 · 18:36

Acts 2:38 · 4:34 · 8:20 · 14:22 · 17:30 · 20:28 · 24:26

Romans 3:3 · 3:21 · 3:25 · 5:6 · 5:18 · 6:4 · 8:32 · 12:1 · 16:3

1 Corinthians 1:5 · 2:7 · 2:9 · 3:16 · 4:5 · 4:9 · 4:21 · 5:1 · 5:5 · 5:7 · 5:11 · 5:13 · 6:9 · 6:12 · 6:13 · 6:14 · 6:15 · 6:18 · 6:19 · 7:1 · 7:7 · 7:8 · 7:9 · 7:27 · 10:6 · 10:16

2 Corinthians 3:6 · 5:21

Galatians 3:13 · 4:4 · 4:19

Ephesians 2:2 · 2:13 · 2:15 · 4:8

Philippians 2:10 · 2:30

1 Timothy 4:3

Titus 3:4

Hebrews 2:11 · 11:31

1 Peter 1:17 · 3:13 · 3:18 · 3:19 · 3:20 · 4:6

2 Peter 2:5

1 John 3:14 · 3:15 · 4:10

Revelation 5:6

Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “What did the early Christians believe about Christ as our ransom?” on May 22, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY