

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
Donald E. Martin, Sr.

Bought with a Price

*“For ye are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body,
and in your spirit, which are God’s”*

I Corin.6:20- 7:23

I heard a story that provoked my mind to thought; it was supposed to be true per the source that I heard it from. It was an experience of Abraham Lincoln while visiting in North Carolina during one of his itinerate travels. He had ventured into a town where there was Slave selling in progress. To the best of my knowledge this may have been the first time Lincoln had witnessed a Slave sales event. He observed a young Black girl being auctioned at the event. He stood there with pity and sadness for the young girl and proceeded to buy her; the purchase was made. The young maiden expressed, “now that you have bought me, what shall you do with me”? Mr. Lincoln said, “I have bought YOUR FREEDOM.”

As I heard this story, it brought to mind how that God has BOUGHT US to set us free from sin and death by the PRICE of His own Son giving His LIFE blood to purchase us for himself a people, that we would be HIS TREASURE in earthen vessels....

The apostle says, “Ye are not your own” (I Corin.6:19) we do not OWN ourselves. Some would say, “I have my rights, I am my own boss, I am my OWN man.” Yes, to the lost sinner under the dominion of sins power by depravities curse, will confess that they OWN themselves and they are FREE AGENTS under no mastery by anyone.

Unbeknown that their master is SIN and their desires are to serve self. Yes, self- serving rebels they are by the nature which they have been born with by their first birth, begotten into iniquity through Adam’s inherited nature, prone to disobedience.

Oh! Beloved Brethren and Sisters in Christ Jesus, to ponder the redeeming operation of Christ precious divine blood in behalf of unworthy sinners should cause us to fall down before Him in great adoration. To meditate upon the love of God that He would

condescend into this time world, being clothed with the flesh of earth's dust. Yet, within His humanity flowed the sinless blood that would PURCHASE OUR SALVATION. Being tempted in EVERY WAY, yet WITHOUT SIN. "He had made HIM to be sin for us, who knew NO sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (II Corin. 5:21).

Our God saw us on that "SLAVE BLOCK" under sin's degradation and curse, and said "I will BUY these people, a people who were not a people in times past, from every nation, tongue and kindred, from every race color and bondage, and I SHALL SET THEM FREE! I shall BUY them for myself, they shall be my FREEMEN and FREEWOMEN, to be my Son's and Daughter's. Oh no, dear ones, we are not called to God as servants, we are called as His CHILDREN. And we now desire to serve Him, to love Him, obey Him, and reverence our heavenly Father as never before because HE FIRST LOVED US. Oh! If God had not loved this sinner who pens these words FIRST, I would have NEVER been able to love Him. Oh! To grace how great a debtor this poor wondering heart has come to be, if not for divine determined sovereign mercy, I would perish for eternity. Yes, to Jesus be ALL the glory, praise and honor for buying this poor sinner, a slave to sin and woe.

(May these pondering thoughts be used of God to provoke worship among the Lord's people)

April 20, 2008 (Lord's Day)