

To "Redeem" something is to *"gain ownership by paying a price."*

Note that the context of the verse is the MARKET PLACE,
that the price paid is EXTREME,

and that the plan is anchored to the ETERNAL purposes of God.

(We will leave the implications of these verses until the second part of the Study
Break : Sharing the Lord's Supper)

B. A CALL TO ACTION

1. CHANGE OF LIFESTYLE PATTERN ... 1Ptr1:13-17 (A "General" Call. See Intro)

Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

The word "Holy" has two interrelated ideas. That of being SET APART for a particular function or purpose, and MORAL PURITY

ILLUSTRATION : A master woodworker will have chisels specifically for fine work. They will not be used for any other purpose and they will be made of the finest materials. God reserves us for his purposes - and hones and refines us for his use ... the ongoing work of God's Spirit in us.

"PREPARE YOUR MINDS FOR ACTION" (vs 13)	IN WHAT YOU DO	"BE SELF CONTROLLED"	Be DISCIPLINED
	IN WHAT YOU THINK	"SET YOUR HOPE..."	Be FOCUSED
"AS OBEDIENT CHILDREN" (Vss 14-15)	DO NOT	"CONFORM TO THE PAST"	Be REFORMED
	DO	"CONFORM TO THE FATHER"	Be TRANSFORMED

The call of God to "be holy, even as I am holy" is found throughout the Old Testament (Eg, Lev 19:2) and is echoed elsewhere in the New Testament also ...

Therefore ... in view of God's mercy, offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God ... Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will. **Rom12:1-2**

2. EMBRACING THE WAY OF CHRIST ... 1Ptr1:22-2:3 (A "Specific" Call. See Intro)

Love one another deeply, from the heart ... rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.

These verses follow the reminder that our redemption comes at a great cost - the precious blood of Christ. That we have a new owner is stated by Paul (1Cor6:19-20, below) and applied by Peter :

You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body.

- We honour God by
- RELATING to other Christians by "loving one another deeply."
 - GROWING in our faith. (See also Eph4:14-16)

FOR REFLECTION : Against the riches of Rome whose policy was turning to official persecution of the followers of Jesus, Peter points to greater riches; "Not redeemed by perishable things such as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ" (1:18,19)

Against the glory and power of Rome, Peter reminds his readers that "All men are like grass, their glory like flowers; grass withers and flowers fall." (1:24-25) Only God's Word is eternal - and powerful to change lives

Peter's letter was written against the background of persecution; we who live against the background of plenty also need reminding that life and its trappings are temporary. We who are so easily bewitched by things that neither matter or last, need also to be challenged to live a dedicated life in response to God's love - pursuing the things that last for eternity.