

# Redeemed: Named, Claimed, Comforted and Protected

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***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.*** (Isaiah 43:1-3a)

We have spent two weeks focusing on what it means to be redeemed by God through the death and resurrection of Christ. In that redemption, the debt of sin has been paid in full, the legal judgment against us has been completely satisfied, and victory over death has been secured unto everlasting life. *Tetelestai!* “It is finished.” All because of Jesus.

While living this life, we can be confident we are not doing so alone. The Holy One who has redeemed us has also called us by name, and we belong to God. This belonging is in the most personal sense imaginable when we come to trust in the Lord Jesus. Look at the scripture verses above. Isaiah was God’s mouth piece proclaiming God’s promise. God is called “Redeemer” 13 times in Isaiah chapters 40-66. God not only redeemed, ransoms or buys back, the children of Israel from Egypt, but then from Babylon.

- What is the relationship between the declaration that we are God’s own and the encouragement not to be afraid?
- Why do you think we have such a hard time believing that God is with us and will remain with and for us, even during some of the most challenging times of our lives? Might we sometimes feel like Zion who said, “***The LORD has forsaken me, my LORD has forgotten me.***” (Isaiah 49:14)
- Look at Isaiah 49:15-16. ***Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands....***  
What comfort and assurance do these verses give?