

13th of November 2016

The nature of God – Pt 6 & Final God is Saviour, Redeemer, yet jealous.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. God is our Saviour.

“For I [am] the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt [for] thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee” (Is.43: 3).

See also Is.45: 15, 21, 49: 26, 60: 16, 1Tim.1: 1, 2: 3, Tit.2: 10 and 3: 4.

In 2Sam.22: 3 we see that God is “my saviour”, with a little “s”, not a capital “S” as used in each of the verses in Isaiah and in the New Testament, where the use of a capital letter signifies deity. God was a saviour to Israel when He brought them out of the land of Egypt, and one of His names, His titles is “Saviour”. Part of God’s nature is to save people that are lost.

2. God is our Redeemer.

“And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh...and all flesh shall know that I the Lord am thy Saviour, and thy Redeemer” (Is.49:26),
Is.60:16 and Ps.78: 35.

God the Father redeemed Israel. What does it mean to redeem? It means to purchase back that which is in hock (which has a debt). The Oxford dictionary says “To purchase the freedom of another...save, rescue, reclaim (of God, or Christ)”. In our verse the word redeemer is capitalised. Part of God’s nature is He is a redeemer, He pays the debt that the lost owe Him for their sin.

3. God is jealous

“For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name [is] Jealous, [is] a jealous God” (Ex. 34: 14).

See also Ex.20: 5.

For those whom God the Father has saved, has redeemed, He commands them **not** to worship other gods, and He is jealous when they do. One of His names is Jealous (Ex 34:14). He who is the “high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity” (Is.57: 15) says “my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images” (Is.42: 8). He is jealous of those who do!

Additional comments on our three points.

After God saved and redeemed the children of Israel from under the bondage of the Egyptians, they turned around and made a golden calf and called it their god! Is it any wonder that the whole rebellious generation that came out from Egypt died in the wilderness? Because God **will not** give His glory or praise to graven images!

Applying the teaching to our life today.

Imagine how you would feel if you paid the debt for a man to get out of jail, or saved him from death row, for him to then turn around and give the glory of all your efforts to another?

Question to think about.

If God the Father is Saviour and Redeemer today through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ, and He will **not** give His glory to another, then how can we worship His Son without God the Father being jealous?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

“I and my Father are one” (Jn.10: 30). This is another useful verse to give a Jehovah Witness. And as we move on to our next topic of the nature of Christ, we will see that just as God the Father is Saviour and Redeemer, so is His Son, hence confirming our earlier teaching that “these three are one” (1Jn.5: 7). And let us remember that God is jealous when His glory is given to another, rather than to His Son, because **He** is our saviour and redeemer, that is His nature.