

November 15, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

1 Pt. 1:18-19 *For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. (NIV)*

I like how one person put this passage in perspective: *The precious blood of Jesus did not save us so that we could then live as if we were garbage* (Guzik). We have been redeemed, made new and set apart for His glory; not so that we can then live as we want. That would be superfluous. He has purchased us by His precious blood. We are not our own any longer. We have been bought with the highest price ever. I was reading about the highest value for a piece of art. As of 2021, the highest value was put on the *Mona Lisa* at \$900 million. Can you imagine the price that Jesus paid for you? It cost Him everything, His very life.

We just recognized our Veterans a few days ago on Veteran's Day. So many soldiers gave their lives for our country. As of today's writing, 1,304,444 soldiers have died in the service of the United States. These men and women gave their lives to keep us free from the tyranny of those who desire their own will. But there is no greater love than that demonstrated by our Savior for us. He died for every single person who has ever lived and will ever live. It had always been God's plan to redeem us from our own sin by paying the price for our salvation. That is how much God loves you and me. Every time I hear the *Star Spangled Banner*, I am moved to tears, but every time I sing the lyrics of *Amazing Grace* I am moved to remember what He has done for me. I don't deserve His love nor His grace, but He has given it to me any way. Oh what a Savior, Who would love me so, that for my sin, to the cross He would go. He paid a price that was way too high, just because He loved you and I. The precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Dear LORD, thank You for the cross. Thank You for the blood You shed. Thank You for paying my sin debt so that I can live. It cost You everything. I could never repay You for what You have done. Instead of existing in this world, help me to live for You and You alone. In Jesus Name, Amen