



# 19 Minutes with Luther

## The Second Article

- The Knowledge of God
- Law and Gospel
- Introduction to the Law
- 1st Commandment
- 2nd Commandment
- 3rd Commandment
- 4th Commandment
- 5th Commandment
- 6th Commandment
- 7th Commandment
- 8th Commandment
- 9th & 10th Commandments
- The Conclusion
- The Gospel & the Nature of God
- The Apostles' Creed (Faith)
- 1st Article (Creation)
- 1st Article (Preservation)
- 1st Article (Protection)
- 1st Article (The Fall into Sin)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Person)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Office)
- **2nd Article (Christ's Work)**
- 2nd Article (Christ's Humiliation)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Exaltation)
- 2nd Article (Christian Life)
- 2nd Article (Saved by Faith)
- 3rd Article (The Holy Spirit)
- 3rd Article (Calls)
- 3rd Article (Enlightens)
- 3rd Article (Sanctifies)
- 3rd Article (Keeps in Faith)
- 3rd Article (Invisible Church)
- 3rd Article (Visible Church)
- 3rd Article (Forgiveness)
- 3rd Article (Eternal Life)
- Baptism (Part 1)
- Baptism (Part 2)
- Holy Communion (Part 1)
- Holy Communion (Part 2)
- Keys & Confession (Part 1)
- Keys & Confession (Part 2)
- Keys & Confession (Part 3)
- Introduction to the Lord's Prayer
- The Address
- 1st Petition
- 2nd Petition
- 3rd Petition
- 4th Petition
- 5th Petition
- 6th Petition
- 7th Petition
- The Doxology

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

1. Define the following words according to their common usage.

*redeem*

*ransom*

2. The Bible tells us that by nature we are lost and condemned creatures—slaves of sin, death, and Satan. According to the following passages, what has Jesus done for us? With what did he do this?

*"We have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins"*  
(Ephesians 1:7).

*"The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"* (Matthew 20:28).

3. Martin Luther wrote: "[Christ] has redeemed me . . . with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death." Why did Luther use the following words to describe Jesus' blood and death?

*holy*

*precious*

*innocent*

4. Read the following passages. What does it mean that Jesus has redeemed us from sin?

*"[The LORD] does not treat us as our sins deserve"* (Psalm 103:10).

*"You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness"* (Romans 6:18).

5. Read the following passages. What does it mean that Jesus has redeemed us from death?

*"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 6:23).

*"Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt"* (Daniel 12:2).

6. Read the following passages. What does it mean that Jesus has redeemed us from Satan?

*"The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work"* (1 John 3:8).

*"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you"* (James 4:7).

7. Agree or disagree: Today's society serves as an accurate commentary on Jesus' words, *"Everyone who sins is a slave to sin"* (John 8:34).

8. What will the doctrine of redemption mean to you when your sins trouble and terrify you? when you attend the funeral of a faithful loved one? when you are battling temptations?

### Luther said:

*"Let this article, then, be summarized in this way: the little word 'Lord' simply means as much as Redeemer, that is, the one who rescued us from the devil to bring us to God, from death to bring us to life, from sin to bring us to righteousness, and now keeps us safe where he has brought us."* (Tappert, p. 414.)

### Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, our Redeemer, you have set us free from sin, death, and the devil. Until we enjoy a perfect and eternal life with you in heaven, empower us by your Holy Spirit to use our freedom to glorify your holy name. Amen.

### At home

Memorize the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and Martin Luther's explanation.

### Helps

(1) Redeem means "to buy back" or "to set free," as from slavery. A ransom is the price that is paid to redeem someone or something. (2) Jesus redeemed us and set us free from sin, death, and Satan with his holy blood and his innocent life. (3) Jesus' blood is "holy" because it is the blood of the perfect Son of God. It is "precious" because it alone could pay for the sins of the world. Jesus' suffering and death were "innocent" because with them Jesus paid the price for the sins of others, not his own. (4) Jesus set us free from sin's guilt and punishment and from sin's power over our daily lives. (5) Jesus set us free from the punishment of eternal death in hell. In addition, he promises that temporal death is only a sleep from which we will awaken to live forever. (6) Jesus set us free from Satan's accusations and has given us the power to overcome his temptations. (7) Unbelievers are, indeed, slaves to sin. They cannot overcome sin's power and influence in their lives. Neither can they free themselves from and escape sin's temporal and eternal consequences. (8) Christ's redemption assures us that we have, indeed, been set free from sin's guilt and punishment, that Satan no longer controls our lives, and that we and our faithful loved ones have been set free from death. We are comforted by the promise that we will see one another again in eternity.