

TWICE OWNED

INTRO. Story about Boy and his boat.

Dad was a carpenter

Always wanted to help

Allowed to help as got older

Finally one day – allowed to build a project all by himself

Builds a boat

Goes to the lake to test the boat

Boat works great, but then drifts out too far and is lost

Boy tries to find boat. Finds other kids have it, won't give it back.

"Pay us for it", "What will it take?", "All you have to give!"

The boy buys it back with all he has to give!

On the way home Boy cradles boat in arms and says"

"You are mine twice now, once because I made you and once because I bought you!"

LESSON TODAY: We are God's because he made us and bought us!

Most people would deny that they belong to anyone! Especially in USA. We value our freedom and independence. We don't belong to anyone!

When finally realize how dependent we are on God it is very humbling experience!

Let us think about how we are TWICE OWNED by God this morning.

I. God Made Us.

Genesis 1:27(KJV)

So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

- A. `We were the crowning glory of his creation, we were the final thing God made on creation week. After making us, God called it complete and commented that it was very good.

Genesis 1:31(KJV)

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was* very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

- B. God made us in his own image. Back at Genesis 1:27
C. God made a special place to "try out" his creation. The Garden of Eden!

Genesis 2:7-8(KJV)

And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

- D. God communed with Man in this Garden paradise.

Genesis 3:8 Pictures God strolling through the garden. What a place it must have been.

- E. Man's relationship with God was very clear. He was the creator, man was the creature.

No shame in being the creation of God! It was the best we could have hoped for. He created man in his image, with a special place to live and a special purpose.

Ephesians 2:10(KJV)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

"Workmanship"= *poiema*, means unique handiwork, the word from which we take our word poem.

WE AREN GOD'S POETRY!

We were created to do the will of God!

II. SOMETHING HAPPENED!

- A. **Genesis 3:1-6(KJV)**

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

- B. Man drifted out into a "LAKE" of sin—He went too far, just like the little boat, and God couldn't reach his crowning glory of his creation—because sin had separated God and his creation!

Isaiah 59:2(KJV)

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.

- C. What is the impact of this.

All creation was separated from God because all have sinned.

Romans 3:23(KJV)

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Sin leads only to death!

Romans 6:23(KJV)

For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, all creation was DEAD!

- D. Creation was without hope!

Ephesians 2:12(KJV)

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

III. SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENED!

- A. God still loved his creation, just like the boy still loved his boat.

John 3:16(KJV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- B. Just like the boy who couldn't stand the thought of losing his boat, and just had to find a way to bring it back. God had bring his creation back to himself as well!

- C. Just like the little boy who had to buy back his boat, God had to buy back his creation, at an awful cost!

Luke 1:67-68(KJV)

And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people,

Redeemed means to "ransom" or to buy back!

YES, we are bought back!

1 Corinthians 7:23(KJV)

Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

- D. The Boy paid everything he had to buy back his boat, what was the cost to God to buy back his creation?

1 Corinthians 6:20(KJV)

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Hebrews 9:11-15(KJV)

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more

perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;
Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.
For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:
How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

Jesus, God's only begotten son, was the price paid to buy us back---a far greater price than the boy paid for his boat. We can see how precious that boat was to the boy because of what he did for it. Can you see how precious you are in the eyes of God because of what he did for you?

1 John 2:1-2(KJV)

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:
And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

CONCLUSION.

Whether you like it or not, you already belong to God. Once because he made you, and twice because he bought you back.

I hope this lessons causes you to think of what God has done for you, that you might better appreciate his love and grace and mercy each day!

And, that we might show ourselves as belonging to him. How do we do that. By obeying him.

1 John 2:3-5(KJV)

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.
He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

What a great blessing to know that God Loves us this much, and has done all of this for us!

