

What's In A Name?

“Ransomed Forever”

Recently a friend sent me an email with an attachment. Opening the item, what did my wondering eyes see? I saw, not a ‘miniature sleigh, with eight tiny reindeer’, but a shirt featuring a name that I immediately recognized. Could that possibly be true? Was I the Kathy Ransom the “*Legendary Ransom Everyone is Talking About*”? Of course not, but for a moment I did smile. Chuckling to myself, I saved the photo, determined to use it in a future Ransom Note.

Today, I quickly looked up Isaiah 53 and reread the chapter. Christian scholars generally acknowledge that Isaiah was prophesying about the future death of Christ. The Sinless One suffered excruciating pain. His sacrificial death on the cross, so many years ago, paid the ‘ransom’ for our freedom from sin. Paul, in Romans 3:23-25 says it so well. “*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.*” He shed his blood on our behalf. Everyone should be ‘Talking About’ this Ransom, not just Kathy Ransom



As our t-shirt says, with some modification of words, *He's That Ransom Everyone is Talking About*. How I wish EVERYONE was truly talking about His ransom for us. As I continued writing, I found four main thoughts for your brains to assimilate. Perhaps the tiny pictures will also help clarify my ‘crazy’ brain and help you to REMEMBER . . .

He, Jesus, ‘Ransomed You’. He died for all. Mark 10:45 shares how Jesus took time to help His disciples understand His purpose on earth. He tells them, “*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*”



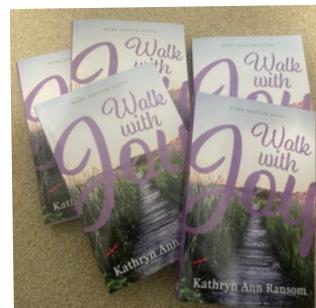
You do not have to be a member of the Ransom clan into which I was born in 1935. I had no choice into which biological family I would be born, but I am still proud to be a member of the earthly Ransom tribe. I did, however, have to make a personal choice to become a member of Christ’s ‘Ransomed’ family. I did that in about 1944. No one forced me. I chose to acknowledge my sinfulness and accept Him as a partner for the rest of my life. Anyone has the freedom to become a ‘lifetime member’. He will never force you into the ‘Ransomed’ tribe or family.

His *ransom* of our lives causes this Kathryn Ann Ransom to smile as shown with a copy of my book at a book signing. Of course I have sad, complicated, or even grumpy days but the bottom line is, He makes my heart sing and smile. I know the message of Jimmy Swaggart’s song, “*He Holds My Hand*,” is so true and it keeps me plodding along each day through rose buds and thistle plants of life. I just have to keep trusting and hanging on tightly to His hand.



Now, the tough part. We each have the choice to be a life time member of His tribe or to ‘Toss Him’ figuratively into the trash. One day, a year or so ago, as a joke, I took some books out to the trash container and laid them on the top of the trash. This included a copy of *Ransom Notes*, book #1. I wanted to remind readers that if we are not careful our lives and minds can suddenly become like trash, as we casually slip away from following the Master. We can forget to hang on tightly to His hand. Other activities and options fill our day, until suddenly we realize that we are no longer a follower of the Lord. We have just dumped that part of our life into the trash. Thanks goodness, however, I quickly rescued my books before they were deposited into the moving garbage truck and covered with who knows what type of junk. Hope that does not ever happen to your relationship to the Lord. Sometimes you may need to grab the hand of a friend.

Finally, the title of my second book summarizes what should happen as a follower of the Lord. If we truly ‘Trust and Obey’, we will be able to ‘Walk with Joy’.



Won't You Join Me in Rejoicing
That We Have Been Ransomed Forever?