

The Surety of God's Blood Covenant

September 4, 2016

Oakbrook Community Church

Zechariah 9:11-17

Pastor Mark W. Turner

God delivers His people who depend upon His deliverance 1-8

God destroyed proud Tyre; saved His people (Jerusalem) by His mercy

God delivers His people through His promised Messiah 9-10

- Prophecy of Palm Sunday Mt 21:1-11; Jn 12:12-15
- Jews expecting political Messiah not a humble suffering servant Lk 9:44-45

God delivers His people because of His blood Covenant 11-17

- Near - prophecy about Jews defeating Greek Antiochus Epiphanes in Maccabean revolt (167-165BC). Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11.
- Far – Christ, our Messiah, has defeated our enemies, but the battle rages on future: Jesus' words: Mt 24:15-16; Mk 13:14; Lk 21:20-21. Just as God's people crushed Antiochus, Christ will crush the Antichrist!

God promises to Double 12
We are to hide in God, our stronghold – A Mighty Fortress is our God

God promises to Defeat and Defend 13-15
God has/will defeat our enemies. He defends us for His glory!
Don't fall into the waterless pit of despair (v12) Gen 37:20

God promises to Delight: God's people are like jewels of a crown! 16-17
Pastoral image of God's saving His flock; they like jewels of a crown

The power of God's Blood Covenant Verse 11

Because of "the blood of my covenant"

- Refers back to Moses' Blood covenant with God's people Ex 24:1-8
- 1 reason why we sprinkle water of New Covenant Ex 24:8 when baptizing
- Hebrews 9:15, 18-22 equates bloody Old Covenant with bloodless New Covenant because of Christ's shed blood Hebrews 9:12
- All the Blood Covenants are fulfilled in Christ:
 - Adam Gen 3:21: animal sacrifice to cover Adam
 - Abraham Gen 15: animal covenant cut – only God walked...
 - Moses Ex 24; Heb 9:22 : blood sprinkled on people to cleanse them
 - Christ Heb 10:10 : His blood shed once for all!
- Our salvation is based upon Christ's Covenant 1 Cor 11:25

To Think About & Discuss:

- Read the background to Exodus 24:1-8 which starts at chapter 20, specifically picking up from 20:21. What is God teaching/showing His people? Can we earn our way or follow the law to please God?
- How would you describe the importance of blood covenants to someone? Study the progression of covenants listed here: – What is the so what?
 - Adam Gen 3:21: animal sacrifice to cover Adam
 - Abraham Gen 15: animal covenant cut – only God walked...
 - Moses Ex 24; Heb 9:22 : blood sprinkled on people to cleanse
 - Christ Heb 10:10 : His blood shed once for all!
- Why don't we use blood under the New Covenant in Christ? How does Hebrews 9:11-28 help explain the transition from the Old to New Covenant?
- We've seen that 1) God delivers His people who depend upon His deliverance (1-8) and 2) God delivers His people through His Messiah (9-10) and 3) God delivers His people because of His Blood Covenant. How does this tie into the whole story of Scripture? What are the implications for daily living? How do these promised deliverances make a difference in day-to-day life?
- God promised to 1) Double (12); 2) Defeat & Defend (13-15); and give us Delight (16-17). How do these promises work themselves out in daily life? How should our thinking be different as a result of these promises?