

Exodus 17:8-18:27

There are Only Two Responses to Jesus (2):

Those Who Hear & Believe

November 7, 2010

Sermon Outline

Notes

I. Introduction: Amalek & the Kenites

1 Samuel 15:2-3 (Deut. 25:18-19 – *not fear God*)

⁵ And Saul came to the city of Amalek and lay in wait in the valley. ⁶ Then Saul said to the **Kenites**, “Go, depart; go down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. *For you showed kindness to all the people of Israel when they came up out of Egypt.*” So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. (Cf. Judges 1:16; Numbers 10:29-32)

Key Idea

When the LORD delivers his people from slavery there is always two possible responses. Jethro reveals to us how God blesses the Gentiles who hear and believe his word.

II. Jethro, Priest of Midian

A. Moses’ father-in-law (13x)

Exodus 18:1-7

Jethro, the **priest of Midian**, Moses’ *father-in-law*, heard of all that God had done for Moses and for Israel his people, how the Lord had brought Israel out of Egypt. ² Now Jethro, Moses’ *father-in-law*, had taken **Zipporah**, Moses’ wife, after he had sent her home, ³ along with her two sons. The name of the one was **Gershom** (for he said, “*I have been a sojourner in a foreign land*”), ⁴ and the name of the other, **Eliezer** [My God is help] (for he said, “*The God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh*”). ⁵ Jethro, Moses’ *father-in-law*, came with his sons and his wife to Moses in the wilderness where he was encamped at the mountain of God. ⁶ And when he sent word to Moses, “I, your *father-in-law* Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons with her,” ⁷ Moses went out to meet his

father-in-law and bowed down and kissed him. And they asked each other of their welfare and went into the tent.

B. Jethro Worships with Israel!

Exodus 18:8-12

⁸ Then Moses told his father-in-law all that **the Lord had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians** for Israel's sake, *all the hardship that had come upon them in the way*, and how **the Lord had delivered them**. ⁹ And **Jethro rejoiced** for all the good that the Lord had done to Israel, in that he had delivered them out of the hand of the Egyptians.

¹⁰ Jethro said, "**Blessed be the Lord**, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh and has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. ¹¹ **Now I know** that the Lord is greater than all gods, because in this affair *they dealt arrogantly with the people*." ¹² And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, **brought a burnt offering and sacrifices** to God; and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God. (Cf. Deut. 12:5-7)

C. God Again Protects Moses through Jethro!

1. The Advice

Exodus 18:19-21

¹⁹ Now **obey my voice**; I will give you **advice**, and God be with you! **You shall represent the people before God** and bring their cases to God, ²⁰ and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do. ²¹ **Moreover, look for able men** from all the people, men who *fear God*, who are *trustworthy* and *hate a bribe*, and **place such men over the people** as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens.

(Jehoshaphat: **2 Chron. 19:6-7** – No injustice/partiality)

2. The Sign: (Faith-Blessing for Gentiles)

Exodus 18: 27

Then Moses let his father-in-law depart, and he went away to **his own country**.

- a. Jethro Comes to Israel to Worship
- b. God speaks to Moses through Jethro

Exodus 18:23-24

²³ If you do this, God *will* **direct** you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace.”

²⁴ So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law... (Abraham & Melchizedek)

Acts 10:34-35 (Cornelius)

³⁴ So **Peter** opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that **God shows no partiality**, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

Ephesians 3:4-6

⁴ When you read **this**, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ *which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit*. ⁶ This mystery is that the **Gentiles are fellow heirs**, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Ephesians 2:11-18

¹¹ Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— ¹² remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ **But now in Christ Jesus** you who

once were far off have been brought near *by the blood of Christ*.¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.¹⁷ *And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.*¹⁸ For **through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.**

Galatians 3:7-9

⁷ Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”⁹ ***So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham,*** the man of faith.

I. Conclusion: Amalek & Jethro

- A. Those who Oppose Israel
- B. Those Who Hear & Believe
- C. Further Musings:
 - 1. God’s Word is Amazing!
 - 2. God’s Plan is Amazing!
 - 3. God is Amazing!