

## *Sermon Notes*

**Series: Exploring Exodus: Redemption from the Depths to Glory**

**Text: Exodus 23:20-33**

**Title: The Book of the Covenant, Pt. V**

### **2 assurances**

## **I. THE PRESENCE CERTIFYING THE CANAANITE CONQUEST 23:20-25**

### **A. THE COVENANTAL CONDITIONS 20-22**

20- Reassuring Protection-covenant rehearsal; cf. 20:1. Preceding Presence- see 14:19-20; 32:34; Isa 63:9; Num 20:16.

21- 22- Covenant Stipulations- terms. Covenant Sanctions- blessing for obedience, curses for disobedience; anticipates Lev 26; Dt 28. Pardon transgression – recall Mk 2:7. Name = divine character, attributes. Pre-incarnate Christ? See Jn 14:6; 10:3-4, 14, 16, 27 with 15, 17. Covenant acceptance and ratification in Ex 24:7-8; cf. Heb 9:16-22. National blessing, cursing dependent on Israel's faithfulness.

### **B. THE COMPLETE CONSECRATION 23-24**

23- Divine Annihilation- note interchanging of *angel* and *I*. Salvation is of the Lord.

24- Demanded Annihilation- mimic God's unsparing, uncompromising attitude and actions towards his and their enemies; see Ex 20:5; 34:13 (11-16); Num 33:52; Dt 7:5(1-5);12:1-7. Complete dispossession and destruction of the enemy and its religious trappings are proof of authentic covenant devotion and dedication to Yahweh. Recall Mt 6:24; Jas 4:4.

### **C. THE CONTROLLING CONFIGURATION 25-26**

The defining pattern of the Mosaic covenant: do this and you will be blessed; don't .. cursed; do this and you will live; Lev 18:5; Rom 10:5; Gal 3:12. Temporal benefits, blessings as in Lev 26; Dt 28. Israel's status in the Promised Land is temporal and conditional.

Like Israel, we are pilgrims on the way to our promised land (eschatological). Jesus Christ has already redeemed us and has gone ahead of us to prepare our home; he is the way. Unlike Israel, our stay in the promised land is not dependent upon our obedience but on Jesus' covenant faithfulness to the Father in the Covenant of Works. As a result, we are God's people in his Covenant of Grace in which God requires faith and obedience in response to his grace to us in Christ. We wage a warfare that is spiritual, not carnal, 2 Cor 10:3-4, in full dependence on the Holy Spirit who is readying us for heaven by conforming us to the image of Christ.

## **II. THE POWER COMPLETING THE CANAANITE CONQUEST 23:27-33**

### **A. THE DISPATCHED DREAD 27-30**

27- The Fright He Brings- Gen 11:7; Ex 14:24-25; 1 Sam 7:10; Josh 10:7-11; etc. The Flight He Causes- routing enemy, disgraceful retreat.

28- The Means He Uses- horns=difficult. Dt 7:20; Isa 7:18-19. Significance = sovereign God is an intimidating warrior, terrifying terminator who implies any and all means to show that the surpassing power is of him alone.

29-30- The Mercy He Shows- he knows our frame, Ps 103:14. A gradual, progressive, step-by-step occupation in order that and until they could defend and take good of the land. The Lord God does not always give us immediate or total victory but works through us sovereignly, and in us patience, humility, trust, etc., that we would learn to rest in Christ and in Christ alone.

### **B. THE DELIBERATE DEFINED DELIVERANCE 31**

The conquered territory is specifically, precisely marked out. Recall Gen 15:18 ; Dt 11:24; Josh 1:4; etc. An instantiation of Phi 2:12-13. A picture of sanctification- both God and we work but our work results from, responds to, relies on his antecedent work.

### **C. THE DEMANDED DEVOTION 32-33**

32- The Pure Worship- Ex 34:12-15; Dt 7:2-5. No syncretism, compromise while awaiting the Lord's final victory = the Second Coming of Christ; recall 2 Cor 6:14 -21.

33-The Preventive Warning- rid ourselves of things, people, relationships that would be a snare to us; Jn 4:22-24. Israel was not faithful but Christ, the True Israel and our Great High Priest, obeyed the law perfectly for those trusting in him alone for eternal life.