

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen #80

“The Epilogue: Don’t Let Your Eyelids Droop; There is too Much to Miss!” – Exodus 23:14-19

I. Introduction.

A. Today’s fascination over angels.

1. They are everywhere.
2. The Bible warns us to not worship them.
Col. 2:18; Rev. 19:10

B. Ancient Covenants

1. Typically ended with b_____ and c_____.
2. After telling the people what to do, God warned them what would happen if they f_____.

C. The reading of the text – Exodus 23:20-33.

II. Exposition

A. Exodus 23:20-21

1. Who is this guy? (Angel?)
2. He speaks as God but is distinguished from God.
3. Suggestions: Moses? Joshua?
4. More than angel.
 - a. Who can forgive sins but God alone? Mark 2:7
 1. John MacKay
 2. The Israelite’s Promised Land and our experience of redemption from sin to peace with God.

B. Exodus 23:22

1. Note the “if – then” construction.
 - a. Emphasized for effect.
 - b. Typical of Ancient Near East covenantal treaties.

C. Exodus 23:23

1. “Completely destroy”
 - a. God is the force behind the action.

D. Exodus 23:24

1. Ancient Near East religions were I_____.
2. Note also verses 32-33 with verse 24.

a. God knew that apostasy would be likely if they did not drive out the Canaanites.

b. No peace t_____.

c. It is easier to be I_____ than to I_____

1. John MacKay

d. “A snare,” verse 33 or “trap”

1. See Exodus 34:12-16; Deut. 7:15

E. Exodus 23:25-26

1. A word play exists in original text between bread and sickness.
2. For an expanded list of blessings, see, Deut. 7:12-26.
3. Ancient Near East rituals were directed toward appeasing pagan gods.
 - a. Temple prostitution and child sacrifice was practiced to m_____ deities.
 - b. The result would be fertility and productivity.

F. Exodus 23:27-28

1. “My terror” – term also found in Job 39:20; 41:14.
2. Hornets
 - a. An ally for Israel – Deut. 7:20; Josh. 24:12
3. Pagan terror over the advance of Israel is exactly what happened – Joshua 2:9-11.

G. Exodus 23:29-30

1. The conquest will be at a s_____ pace.
 - a. “Little by little”
 - b. Repetition means intensification.
 - c. Seen in Judges 1:27-36

H. Exodus 23:31

1. Yam Suph – Red Sea
2. Sea of Philistine – Mediterranean Sea
3. Wilderness – The Southlands
4. The River – The Euphrates

III. Points for Reflection

- A. “Little by Little.” It is often not God’s plan to give us microwaved victory.
- B. There is no place for “Let’s Make a Deal.”
- C. The angel of the Lord guided and protected the Israelites as they made their way to the Promised Land. He does the same for us.