

Believing God's Report

Maurizio Mingardi
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The Covenant of Peace - Isa.54:7-17 –

A Personal Covenant

- Personally applied (**Rom.10:8-11**), universally valid (whoever believes) – (**Rom.10:13, Jn.3:16**)
- **Col.1:20-23**
 - Reconciled = THE GREAT EXCHANGE – **Rom.5:11**
 - Enemy in our mind – God was never an enemy

God's Compassion

- **Isa.54: 7** - With great compassion (TENDER LOVE, like young girl's) I will gather you - New Covenant
 - Not with condemnation
 - **Rom.2:4-6** – Goodness of God brings to repentance
 - The condemnation message (OT) turns the world away from God
 - Fear does not make us love God (Fear of God = Respect)
 - YOU CANNOT LOVE SOMEONE WHO YOU FEAR
- **V.8** – Your REDEEMER – According to the Oriental Law of Kinship – BUY BACK your property, marry your widows, etc

God is Not an Angry God

- **V.9** - As with the flood - I will not be angry with you or rebuke you
 - So much for the theology of Jonathan Edwards
- **V.10** - My covenant of peace will not be removed
- **V.13-17** – No weapon formed against you shall prosper
 - Opposition and troubles do not come from the Lord

Also **Exe.34:25** and **Eze.37:26**

God's Report

Isa 53:1-3 – Who shall believe our report? (Too good to be true, but it's true)

- **V.1** – **THE REPORT IS THE NEW COVENANT OF PEACE**, most Christians do not believe in it
 - They still believe in an Angry God – **GOD IS NOT ANGRY AT ME**
 - Believing in His love for you as a sinner, is essential for salvation
 - ARM OF THE LORD= strength of Jehovah
- **V.2** – He was born just a normal man (no noble, king or special)
 - **Philp.2:6-8** – Ampl – (Gk. Kenosis = emptied, stripped Himself) – Operated as a man, with no divine attributes
 - He could not have saved us coming as God
 - He was tired, had physical needs, and was tempted in any way you are - **Heb.4:15**
 - HE LIVED 33 YEARS TO SHOW US HOW WE CAN LIVE –
 - **Jn.14:12-13** – The things that I do, you will do also – **I CAN DO WHAT JESUS DID**
 - You must understand the full implication of these words
 - HE MADE IT POSSIBLE IN 3 DAYS - as he took our sins, died, buried, went to Hell and was resurrected.
 - Understanding what happened in those 3 days is critical for appropriating salvation – forgiveness, righteousness, filling with the Holy Spirit, healing, prosperity, freedom, victory in any area – **ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD ARE MINE**
 - **Mt.12:39. 16:4, Lk.11:29-30** – Importance of “Sign of the prophet Jonah” for this age.
- **V.3** – SORROW = affliction, pain, GRIEF = disease, sickness, grief
 - All things involved in the curse
- **V.4** – BECAME A CURSE
 - **2Cor.5:21** – Ampl. – Made Him, who knew (experientially) no sin, to be sin for us that we may be the righteousness of God in Him – THE GREAT EXCHANGE (**Rom.5:11**)
 - Jesus taking our sins became a sinner, separated from God –

- ✦ **Mk.15:34** – My God why have you forsaken me (He was not quoting **Ps.22:1**)
 - ✦ That is why He had to go to Hell (Hades) for us – **Act.2:27 & 31**
 - We became righteous before God -
 - ✦ Righteous = “just as we should be in all areas” – saved, healed, free, behaving right, financially, socially, etc
 - **JESUS TOOK MY SINS, I TOOK HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS**
- **Gal.3:13-14** – Christ became a curse for us by taking our sins
 - He did it when you were a sinner
 - Jesus took all sins and all the calamities of the curse on Himself
 - ✦ **Deu.28:14** and following – List of all the curses if you disobey God
- OT – The Priest laying hand on the animal sacrifice passed all sins that the person confessed on it – showed what would happen when God put His hand on Jesus
- **V.5.** – **BECAUSE JESUS BECAME ALL YOUR SINS** He was:
 - **WOUNDED** = afflicted, defiled;
 - **BRUISED** = crumbled, beat to pieces, destroyed, - by the curse of the Law
 - **CHASTISED** = OT brutal punishment,
 - NT chastisement = instruction – Because now we have peace with God
 - ✦ As for the way a parent deals with his favored child
 - **STRIPES** = bruises, not the physical ones by the soldiers, but what God did
 - **HEALED** = rapha = made whole, healed physically, not just spiritually
 - **MY HEALING IS NOT THE RESULT OF JESUS BEING WHIPPED BY THE SOLDIERS BUT THE BRUISING THE FATHER DID ON HIM FOR MY SINS**
 - **Rom.5:6** – **I AM SAVED FROM WRATH**

Which Report Do You Believe?

Are You under the Old Covenant or the New Covenant?

- Most Christians do not know the difference between OT and NT
 - They try to get accepted by God through works,
 - The only thing they get is condemnation
- How do you feel about your relationship with God?
- Do you pray on the basis of the finished work of the cross?
 - The meaning of praying “in the Name (Authority) of Jesus”?
 - Are you begging God for things He has already given you?
 - Are you denying the effectiveness of Jesus’ work?
- Do you trust God to save you for all possible situations?

Questions to Consider

1. What can you determine about God’s attitude toward man seeing how He took the initiative to establish a new covenant?
2. Why is it important to appropriate the covenant in a personal way, and how can you do it?
3. Jesus said that the most important commandment is to love God. How will this happen considering human motivation?
4. Why has the church message communicated more the need to fear God than to love God? What is the result of this message?
5. Explain some of the consequences of Jesus stripping Himself of all divine attributes while on earth?
6. How has the understanding of the Great Exchange affected your self-awareness?
7. What can you do when you experience some evidences of the curse of the law?
8. Explain which of the scriptures above had the greatest impact on your heart?