

Home Community Study & Discussion – September 15, 2013

Questions About the Text Following Up on the Sermon (Genesis 15:17-21)

Questions From the Text Not Addressed by the Sermon

- What are the implications of this passage for the State of Israel's claims on their land today? (c.f. Leviticus 26:33-46)
- Notice that all of Israel's great victories in the 20th century were defensive. How does this compare to Gen 15:7-8, 18-21?

In What Ways Does God Reveal Himself in this Passage? What Do We Learn About God Here?

- This covenant of grace came before the covenant of the Law through Moses. So it supersedes Moses' covenant. Between Abram and Jesus, how does the Bible expand on this covenant of grace? (Jer 31:31-34; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Romans 4:13-25)

What Ethical Questions Does this Passage Raise? Right vs. Wrong? Moral vs. Immoral?

- Is it wrong to ask for a sign from God? (e.g., Abram in Gen 15:2 & 8. Not wrong but a sign of immature faith. God may grant the sign but will teach his children to trust the Word.)

In What Ways Do You See the Gospel Foreshadowed in this Text? Does it teach us about God's Holiness? Does it teach us about sin? Does it teach us about repentance? Does it teach us about God's grace?

- Holiness (v 12), iniquity & unrepentance of the Amorites (v 16), grace (v 18)

Living as Christians now 20 centuries after Christ, how does the Gospel change how we might look at this passage?

- Compare “the Word of the LORD” (Gen 15:1, 4) to John 1:1ff.
- Compare the “flaming torch” (v 17) to John 8:12; John 3:19ff.

How can this passage help us to grow in trusting and loving Jesus?