

“That He Swore To Your Fathers”
Practical Expressions Of God’s Covenantal Love
Deuteronomy 8: 1 - 20
November 11, 2012

God’s Call For His People To Be A Treasured Possession Requires Testing To Prove Genuineness, (vs. 1 - 20)

- God’s Testing Serves To Confirm His Covenantal Promises To Those Who Love Him, (vs. 11 - 20)

4. God’s children must guard against rewriting the past to highlight their own progress, (vs. 15) - *“They answered him, ‘We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’” Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin...I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you.” (John 8:33-37, ESV)*

15.1) It Is Easy To Forget Who Is Sovereign

“Led (Pres.Part) You Through Great & Terrifying(Pas.Part)”-

“But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them. Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.” (Isaiah 63:10-14, ESV)

15.2) It Is Easy To “Spin” God’s Discipline

“With Fiery Serpents & Scorpions”-

“From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.” (Numbers 21:4-9, ESV)

15.3) It Is Easy To Ignore Times Of Dependence

“Thirsty Ground / No Water”-

“But I am the LORD your God from the land of Egypt; you know no God but me, and besides me there is no savior. It was I who knew you in the wilderness, in the land of drought; but when they had grazed, they became full, they were filled, and their heart was lifted up; therefore they forgot me.” (Hosea 13:4-6, ESV)

15.4) It Is Easy To Be Lost In Your Own Salvation

“Who Brought (Pres.Part) You Water”- *“On the*

last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This really is the Prophet.” Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.” (John 7:37-44, ESV)

1) “For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. 2) For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. 3) Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 4) Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.” (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, ESV)

- 1) God’s gracious provision is universal going out to all people; the just & unjust.
- 2) God’s gracious provision points to the fountainhead; Christ.
- 3) Most live in unbelief even though they have received of God’s gracious provision.
- 4) We are given an example so that we may avoid the death in unbelief.

How are you rewriting your history to make God’s gracious provision something you accomplished?

5. God's children must guard against claiming God's wisdom as their own, (vs. 16)
6. God's children must guard against stealing God's glory and making it theirs, (vs. 17 - 18)
7. God's children must guard against worshiping themselves instead of worshiping God, (vs. 19)
8. God's children must guard against disobeying God as those who do not know God do, (vs. 20)