

God's Grace to His People even Deceivers

November 24, 2019

Pastor Mark Turner

Joshua 9:1-27

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

I. The Reality of the World we Fight In 1-5

- a) The more boldly the Gospel advances, the more violent the opposition 1-2
 - what changed from 2:11, 5:1, 6:1? Perhaps defeat at Ai
- b) The world around us is often cunning 3-5
 - Instead of hostility, cunning - same word root as Gen 3:1

II. The Inanity of God's People 3-13

- Inane - lacking sense
- God's people need to be wise: Mt 10:16; by using His Word Mt 4:4
- God's people take Gibeonites at face value – didn't think it through
- We need to be discerning & careful in spiritual warfare, beware:
 - beware of those who 'act holy' - legalism instead of grace
 - beware of 'love & get along' - Christ is truth
- Don't make treaties to NOT share the Gospel - all need Jesus Act 1:8

III. Impatience of God's People 14-18

- Leaders did not seek God's guidance v14 but relied on own sense
- We must seek God's counsel, especially in warfare: Eph 6:16-18
 - Shield of Faith: Power of the Gospel - God, Sin, Jesus, Faith
 - Helmet of Salvation: what Christ has done, not what I do
 - Apply Sword of Spirit (God's Word) everywhere and to everyone!
 - Pray in the Spirit at all times!
 - Don't be like Adam & Eve in the garden who thought they could battle w/o seeking God's wisdom
 - Remember we are on a mission for God as believers! We are in warfare!
 - Don't make treaties – Always apply the Sword of the Gospel!

IV. Integrity of God's People 18-25

- Though they lied, Joshua honored the covenant
- Deut 23:23 - God is a God of truth, so His people also should be!
- Model integrity and truth to the world

V. God's Grace to the Gibeonites 27-27

- Though deceivers, they sought God - God was gracious despite their deceit.
- Curse: they were made temple servants who served God though they deserved death Gen 15:16
- Blessing: Ps 84:10; later tabernacle was set up in Gibeon 2 Chr 1:3; it may be that Gibeonites were more faithful than Israelites. Present in Ezra, Nehemiah.
- Learn that our God is gracious to even deceitful sinners and shows mercy to those who seek Him!

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