

# THE SAME #10 – GRACE (& MERCY)

Heb. 13:8; Ps. 103; Ex. 34; et al...

10/17/2021

Sunday a.m.

## SLIDE 1 – COVER SLIDE

## SLIDE 2 – HEBREWS 13:8 – JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAME...

## SLIDES 3,4 – PSALMS 103:6-8 (soooooo many Psalms)

## SLIDE 5 – GOD IS *DEPENDABLY* GRACIOUS (& MERCIFUL)

- Both words exclusively refer to God's character (*merciful = compassionate*)
- Central to our relationship w/God, through Jesus – how He will be, towards us
- Character – heart attitude – THIS is how we KNOW we can go to Him, in need
- God, Self-described – I Am who I Am – I Will Be who I Will Be (state of being)
  - THIS is how God chooses to reveal Himself to Moses (& Israel...& us)
  - When we see Him revealed in Scripture, this is who He still is – the SAME
- To Moses → in (40+ year) deliverance process from Egypt – friend of God

## SLIDE 6 – WELL, THIS IS A FINE MESS (CONTEXT)

- Reg. references to Israel's 430 years of slavery in Egypt – plagues & Passover
- When God re-affirmed Israel are His people & He is their God
- Rebellion, disobedience, complaining/grumbling, mistrust, defiance, idolatry
- Over 40-day period of set-apartness, God gives Moses the Torah (His Law) etc.
  - Israel DIVES into idolatry – God sends Moses (Ex 32:7) down from Mt.
  - Discovers Israelites wild party, golden calf, 1<sup>st</sup> 3 commandments
  - Moses angry – breaks 2 stone tablets; comes down to crack some heads
  - Confronts Aaron (& Israel) – “what have you done?” I don't know
    - Some Israelites – outright defiant, go to war w/Moses – 3K die
- God's anger & corrections; Israel's invitation to humble repentance,
  - Israel to deal w/consequences – punishment (consequences) & plague
- Moses – back to the Mt. 40 MORE days of set-apartness → new tablets
  - These next interactions – reveal God's heart/character for His people

## SLIDES 7-12 – EXODUS 34:1-9

## SLIDE 13 – THE LORD IS GRACIOUS & COMPASSIONATE...

- He is gracious, compassionate, *slow to anger, rich in love & faithfulness*
- Even in the face of His peoples' rebellion, wickedness, sin, etc...
  - THIS isn't rooted in our inherent goodness, but in HIS
  - God determined THIS is how He will interact with us... its our move
- What about the “not leave guilty unpunished to the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> generation?”
  - *How do we set ourselves up for God's grace, compassion/mercy, etc...?*

## SLIDES 14-20 – PROVERBS 3:32-35; JAMES 4:4,6-8a; 1PETER 5:5-7

## SLIDE 21 – GRACE FOR THE HUMBLE

- God is determined to walk in relationship w/us, in spite of our *rebellion, wickedness, sin...* AS LONG AS we respond to Him in humility/repentance

- If we rebel, insist on our own way, live in pride – God WILL resist/oppose us
  - b/c – pride/rebellion/doing my own thing → running w/the devil
    - self-justification; ...'but THIS is why..."
  - can't have self-determined relationship w/Christ – only on His terms
  - **Ephesians 2:8** – *saved by grace, not by works so none can boast...*

#### **SLIDE 22 – PREPARED FOR GRACE**

- we can orient ourselves & our lives towards humility, teachability, repentance
- God's heart towards us is centered on relationship & overcoming our sin
  - He's already made a way for this *through* Christ
  - Christ WILL receive us from His throne of grace w/WHAT we need at the TIME we need it
- Living prepared for grace, in ALL areas of life
  - Embracing a humble viewpoint on life → vs. only where self-determined
  - He who BEGAN the good works in us will COMPLETE it as well

#### **SLIDE 23 – WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THIS**

#### **SLIDE 24 – THE BLESSING – NUMBERS 6:22-27**

- **Numbers 6:22-27** *The LORD bless you & keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you & be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you & give you peace." So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."*