

Title : "The Lord will judge His people"

Text : Deuteronomy 32:36-43

Introduction

1. We have been studying this special song of Moses
2. What are the things that we have learned from this song?
 - a) Moses started by magnifying the great name of God
 - b) He encouraged Israel to remember God's blessings given to them
 - c) He also gave warnings concerning their sins and how God would bring about judgment on them
3. The hearts of Israel may be discouraged as they failed and were disobedient
4. Moses sought to give Israel encouragement with the last part of the song
5. This afternoon's message is entitled "The Lord will judge His people"
 - a) The title is taken from Deuteronomy 32:36
 - b) There were different roles that the Lord fulfilled
 - c) How should we understand these roles?

Rediscover the roles of God

1. Israel needed to rediscover God
2. Rediscover the Lord as Judge
"For the Lord will judge His people"
Deuteronomy 32:36a
 - a) Israel thought that God would not judge them
 - b) But Moses revealed that the Lord would bring about His judgment on His people
 - c) For their sins and iniquities, especially the sin of idolatry
 - d) God was provoked to anger
 - e) He would bring about great destruction and calamity

3. Rediscover the Lord God as Redeemer and Saviour

"And have compassion on His servants,"

Deuteronomy 32:36b

- a) He showed compassion to Israel
- b) Israel needed to know that there was hope in God's compassion
- c) He will still redeem and save them

4. God would see how Israel had come to the end of their power

"When He sees that *their* power is gone,

And *there is* no one *remaining*, bond or free."

Deuteronomy 32:36c

5. He would question the help of their gods

He will say: 'Where *are* their gods,

The rock in which they sought refuge?

Who ate the fat of their sacrifices,

And drank the wine of their drink offering?

Let them rise and help you,

And be your refuge.

Deuteronomy 32:37-38

Refocus on the sovereignty of God

1. The call to see

'Now see that I, *even I, am* He,

And *there is* no God besides Me;'

Deuteronomy 32:39a

- a) God would speak to Israel
- b) He gave a call for Israel to see

2. Refocus on God

- a) He is the one and only true God
- b) No other gods
'I *am* the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
'You shall have no other gods before Me.
Deuteronomy 5:6-7

3. Refocus on the sovereign power of God

I kill and I make alive;

I wound and I heal;

Nor *is there any* who can deliver from My hand.

Deuteronomy 32:39b

- a) Sovereignty of God
- b) Power over life
- c) Power to affect health
- d) Power to judge

Be Reassured by God with an oath

1. God sought to reassure Israel with an oath

2. God made an oath

For I raise My hand to heaven,
And say, “As I live forever,”
Deuteronomy 32:40

3. A description of God's judgment on the enemies

“If I whet My glittering sword,
And My hand takes hold on judgment,
I will render vengeance to My enemies,
And repay those who hate Me.
I will make My arrows drunk with blood,
And My sword shall devour flesh,
With the blood of the slain and the captives,
From the heads of the leaders of the enemy.”
Deuteronomy 32:41-42

- a) Sharpening of His sword
- b) Rendering vengeance on His enemies

Rejoice

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, *with* His people;
For He will avenge the blood of His servants,
And render vengeance to His adversaries;
He will provide atonement for His land *and* His people.”
Deuteronomy 32:43

1. Moses' encouragement was given to both Gentiles and Israel

- a) There is no difference
- b) Both Gentiles and Israel were to rejoice

2. Reasons to rejoice

- a) God would protect Israel
- b) By judging the enemies
- c) Provision of atonement

Conclusion

1. Rediscover God as Redeemer and Saviour, who shows His compassion

Two wonderful passages from the prophet Jeremiah

a) Lamentations 3:22-24

*Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed,
Because His compassions fail not.
They are new every morning;
Great is Your faithfulness.
"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"Therefore I hope in Him!"*

b) Lamentations 3:31-32

For the Lord will not cast off forever.
Though He causes grief,
Yet He will show compassion
According to the multitude of His mercies.

2. Refocus on the sovereignty of God

3. Be reassured by God's oath and word

4. Rejoice in God