

FBC 101 Class 4 = The Providence of God

- A. Who is this revealed God & what does He do?
- Ex 20:2 - I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt –
 - Foundational starting point for the Old Testament
 - Possibly the first written start to Scripture (repeated 28 times in OT)
 - Jewish tradition is Moses wrote Gen-Deut (Israelites would not have known Genesis before Exodus – and we will start in Exodus)
- B. He reveals himself using two ways in this Scripture, how?
- His word and His works (I am...who brought...) One testifies to the other
 - Demonstration of His works to accompany the proclamation of who He is (this will become important narrative in the NT)
 - God becomes personal to an ancient people (pagan cultures knew nothing of personal relationships with God and a people)
- C. Who does He reveal himself to?
- See Ex 20:2 AND 7:5
 - So what then is the purpose of being chosen? –Gen 18:18
 - Why chosen? For His glory! (*This is always the answer to the question "why?"*)
- D. What is the Biblical concept of "glory"?
- Glory = divine essence/being/manifestation (revelation)
 - Glorify = reveal the divine essence through an act, word, expression, manifestation. Reveal something about God's nature, being.
 - What are ways we glorify God?
 1. through praises of His works, demonstrations of His love, revelations of His salvation.
 2. thus Jesus “glorifies God” through the cross – John 14-17 – in that He reveals the work and being of God who is sacrificial love
 - Note the way substituting the word “glory” for “revealing Your/My divine essence” makes sense of John 17:1-7. Note the connection between glory/glorify and manifestation, revealing, knowing God, etc.
- E. God reveals himself as two things in Exodus 20:2, what are they?
- Lord & Savior
 - What is the difference between the two?
 - What was revealed first to the Israelites? Think about this (Are plagues and Red Sea demonstrations of God as Lord or Savior, or both? Can one exist without the other? Can you ever really know God as one without the other)
- F. How do we see this providence similarly and yet more fully in Christ?
- Read Joel 2:32 & Acts 2:21
 - What is the comparison being made? What is the point of this comparison
 - Christ – the new Passover, the new Exodus
- G. How is the glory of the Lord most fully revealed? See John 1:14 (notice glory=divine essence/nature/being)
- Through what act does God’s glory most shine through?

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- b. John 7:39; John 21:19 (12:16, 27-28; 13:31-32; 17:5) – Jesus glorifies God the Father through his sacrifice on cross
- c. Luke 24:26 – The Father glorifies the Son through the resurrection (reveals the Son as the Resurrection and the Life)
- H. What does this mean for us?
 - a. Rom 6:4 & 8:17 – we glorify God and are glorified in Him when we die to self
 - b. Likewise, we enter glory through the resurrection
- I. What does all this say about the Resurrection?!?!?
 - a. Culmination of God’s Redemptive Work
 - b. Everything else, then, points to it. Cross of sacrifice leads to empty tomb of new life
- J. Creation, Fall, Redemption is the meta-narrative in all of Scripture
 - a. It is a commentary on our life as well, through which we must see ourselves in line with God’s will and redemptive work
 - b. Everything in God’s Will and Word will shine through this meta-narrative.
 - c. Why? Because that is how God’s glory is most displayed (always the answer to “why”)
- K. What does this say about the character of God and how it’s related to his essence? (John 15:13, 1 John 4:8, 16)
 - a. Why the cross? – For His Glory! (demonstrated in resurrection)

Assignments:

1. Read Exodus chs. 1-19 & write down parallels you see to Christ, the Spirit, and the NT in general. How do you see the narrative of Creation, Fall, Redemption resurfacing again and again in these verses?