

THE PLACE OF REFUGE

Text: Hebrews 6:17-18

INTRO: Webster defines refuge as "shelter or protection from danger; a place where one is safe or protected." From time to time in different situations, God has provided protection for His faithful, dependent upon their coming into and abiding within a stated place of refuge. In this lesson, we will examine some cases illustrating this principle, then make application to our situation today.

I. NOAH'S ARK WAS THE PLACE OF REFUGE AT THE TIME OF THE FLOOD, GENESIS 6-9.

READ GENESIS 6:13-14; 7:1-2, 23

The ark was the only place of refuge. Only hope. Noah was not safe until he came into the ark & remained there.

II. A HOUSE WHERE THE BLOOD OF A PASSOVER LAMB HAD BEEN APPLIED WAS THE PLACE OF REFUGE AT THE TIME OF THE EXODUS. READ EXODUS 12:21-23.

Killing & eating a lamb was not enough. The blood had to be applied & the Israelites had to stay in the house. There may have been some Egyptians who killed & roasted lambs that night for supper, but who were not in a place of refuge.

III. RAHAB'S HOUSE WAS A PLACE OF REFUGE FOR HER FAMILY DURING THE FALL OF JERICHO.

READ JOSHUA 2:12-19

IV. IN THE SHIPWRECK OF ACTS 27, PAUL WAS GOING TO BE SPARED, vs. 24. THE ONLY HOPE FOR THE SOLDIERS, CREWMEN & OTHERS WAS TO STAY IN THE SHIP. IT WAS THEIR PLACE OF REFUGE.

READ ACTS 27:20-26, 30-32.

V. OUR ONLY HOPE IS CHIRST.

A. Christ is the antitype of the O.T. types, the substance of its figures.

1. The baptism Christ commanded saves us just as Noah & his family were saved from a wicked world & transported into a new beginning by the waters of the flood, 1 Pet 3:20-21.
2. Christ is our Passover Lamb, 1 Cor 5:7. We are saved by His blood when it is scripturally applied. READ ROMANS 6:3-5. Acts 22:16
3. Christ saves us by obedient faith, just as Rahab was spared because by faith she obeyed the stipulations of her agreement with the Hebrew spies. Her working, active faith, saved her.

By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace. (Heb 11:31).

READ JAMES 2:24-26

B. All spiritual blessings are in Christ, Eph. 1:3. This includes refuge from the storms which war against our souls.

1. Come into Christ, Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:26-27.
2. Abide in Him, John 15:6-7.

La Porte, TX, September 11, 1983
Exton, PA, December 31, 1989
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, March 31, 1996