

Jeshurun Waxed Fat and Kicked

TEXT: Deut. 32:15-18

INTRODUCTION:

- A. THIS SONG OF MOSES WAS COMPOSED AND TAUGHT TO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL BY GOD'S COMMAND(**Deut. 31: 14-19**).
- B. CONTRASTS UNCHANGEABLE FIDELITY OF JEHOVAH WITH THE FAITHLESSNESS OF ISRAEL.
 - 1. It describes the future of Israel spoken by the prophetic testimony of Moses .
 - 2. Written as witness against the ungrateful recipients of God's blessings(**vs.29**).

I. TELLS OF GOD'S CARE OF ISRAEL(vs. 10-14).

- A. GOD FOUND THEM IN A PERISHING CONDITION(**vs. 10**).
 - 1. His great love prompted him to surround them in Egypt(**Josh. 24:5-7**).
 - 2. Kept them as "the apple of His eye" (**Prov. 7:2; Psa. 17:6-8**).
- B. HE BORE THEM UP FROM EGYPT ON HIS WINGS(**vs. 11; Ex. 19:4**).
- C. GOD BORE THEM UP WITH NO HELP FROM THEM(**vs.12; Josh. 24:8-12**).
- D. HE BLESSED THEM RICHLY IN THE LAND(**vs. 13-14; Josh. 24:13**).
 - 1. These figures show God's great care for his people.
 - 2. All was provided, no reason to rebel(**Isa. 5:1-2**).

II. FOR ALL THIS JESHURUN WAXED FAT AND KICKED (Deut. 32:15-18).

- A. **JESHURUN**,
 - 1. **upright**; a symbolic name for Israel: 4 times in the O T.
 - 2. Strongest irony here. Their name meant righteousness , but their condition was destitute of it .
- B. WAXED FAT AND KICKED."
 - 1. Allusion to an ox grown fat through good feeding and which had become un-manageable(**Deut. 6:10-12 ; 8:10 ; 31:20**).
 - 2. Men repay God's prosperity by "kicking" ... rebelling.
Luther: "*A full stomach does not promote piety , for it stands secure , and neglects God.*"
George Home: "*Prosperity too often has the same effect on its possessor , that a calm sea has on a Dutch Mariner , who frequently , it is said ,in these circumstances ties up the rudder , gets drunk , and goes to sleep.*"
Talmage: "*Prosperity is like salt water , the more you drink the thirstier you get.*"(**Ecc. 5:10-12**).
- C. FORSOOK GOD AND LIGHTLY ESTEEMED THE ROCK OF THEIR SALVATION.
 - 1. No acknowledgment or appreciation(**Rom. 1:21**).
 - 2. Moved Him to jealousy with strange gods and provoked Him with abominations (**vs. 16, 20-21; Rom. 1:22-23**).

III. WHAT DID GOD DO ABOUT IT?

- A. HE REFUSED TO CONTINUE DELIVERING THEM(**vs. 20; Isa. 59:1-2**).
- B. HE CEASED GUIDING THEM(**Judges 17:6; Rom. 1:24-28**).
- C. HE CAST THEM AWAY AND TOOK ANOTHER(**vs. 21; Matt. 21:42-44**).

IV. ISRAEL, IMAGE OF GOD'S PEOPLE NOW(1 Cor. 10:1-11).

- A. WE HAVE A HOLY NAME, **CHRISTIAN**(**1 Pet. 4:16**).
- B. **WE HAVE WAXED FAT** UNDER GOD'S BLESSING.
 - 1. Spiritual blessing of Salvation, Hope, Fellowship, his word (**James 4:17-18; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3, 11; John 3:16**).
 - 2. Material blessings un-namable(**1 Tim. 6:17; Matt. 6:33**).
{*Abundant employment; Manifold conveniences , labor-saving devices, Beautiful houses, Money, Friendships, More food than we can eat.*}
 - 3. A strong congregation built on the Rock of the gospel(**1 Cor. 2:2; 3:11**).
 - a. Some of you weren't here when the battles were fought and the work was being done.
 - b. You eat at a table others have spread. **Appreciated it!**
- C. ARE WE **THANKFUL**?(**Col. 3:17**). **OR DO WE KICK?**
- D. THE DREAD OF WEALTH(**Rev. 2:2-4; 3:1-2; 3:15-17**).
 - 1. Perceived wealth, unfinished works, loss of zeal in spite of doctrinal strength.
 - 2. Where are we? Where can we go?

V. SALVATION AND DELIVERANCE IN REPENTANCE.

- A. FOR ISRAEL THERE IS HOPE(**vs. 36, 39-43**).
- B. AND FOR HIS PEOPLE TODAY(**Rev. 3:18-20**).
- C. ANOTHER WAY OF SAYING TO US, "GET A CLUE."

CONCLUSION:

- A. WE HAVE WAXED FAT AT THE LORD'S TABLE.
- B. LET'S NOT KICK LIKE THE SPOILED OX.

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