

I. God's Sovereignty Over Man's Sinfulness (v 11, 17).

- A. Heber the Kenite, an apostate and covenant-breaking branch of Israel (Num 10:29-32; Ex 2:16; (Mt 13:20-21; Isa 26:3).
- B. God's Sovereignty over Man's Sinfulness
 - 1) God sovereignly and sinlessly uses the sinfulness of man to achieve His holy purposes
 - 2) What are such purposes as seen in this text? (a) To have the wicked presume upon their own security (Psa 35:8); (b) To demonstrate the might of His converting grace; (c) To shame the so-called wisdom of this world; (d) To bring the wicked to their destruction; (e) To deal mercifully His Church; (f) To magnify the graces and virtues wrought in the saints; (g) To cover the earth with His glory.
- C. Uses from the Point
 - 1) We see the sinfulness and the seriousness of the sin of covenant-breaking and apostasy.
 - 2) We may not excuse our own sins with the fact of God's sovereignty. This is sinful for at least three reasons: (a) It blasphemously calls God the author or approver of sin; (b) Our concern is with the revealed will of God in Scripture, not the secret will of God in His eternal decree; (c) It undercuts the command of God in the Gospel to repent.
 - 3) We may be comforted to know that God will bring good to the repentant and humble.
 - 4) Let us look for the good which He brings forth and praise Him accordingly (Gen 50:20)

II. Biblical Femininity (vv 18-22, 5:24-25).

- A. Brief Exposition
- B. Jael is a picture of godly femininity (Lk 1:42, 48).
- C. The Virtues of a Godly Woman brought forth in this Text
 - 1) The home is central to her vocation (Pr 31:27; Titus 2:4-5a)
 - 2) She is meek in her manner

- 3) She is generous and nurturing in her hospitality (Psa 144:12).
- 4) Her attention is toward the needs of the Church (1 Tim 5:10)
- 5) Her allegiance is to the Lord
- 6) Her obedience is to the Law of God
- 7) She is a woman of courage and action (Pr 31:17)
- 8) She is delights to be under the authority (1 Cor 11:8-9)

D. Uses from the Text

- 1) Women, aspire to/cultivate these virtues by the grace of God.
- 2) In both preaching and practice, the Church is to uphold godliness, particularly that of godly masculinity and godly femininity.
- 3) Men and women ought to prefer true graces in one another rather than fleeting delights (Pr 31:30)

III. The Church Militant Triumphant Over Her Enemies (vv 18-24, 5:24-27).

- A. The Doctrine: The virtuous wife is not merely a picture of a godly woman, but of the faithful Church (Eph 5:25-27)
- B. What then are these instructions and comforts?
 - 1) We are to wage war against our enemies
 - 2) That the Lord will protect us in the midst of our enemies, whether we live or die
 - 3) The weapons of the Church are not carnal (2 Cor 10:3-5).
 - (a) Love toward our enemies (Rom 12:14, 17-21); (b) The Gospel of grace through Jesus Christ (Isa 55:1); (c) Gentle and yet unwavering faith in and faithfulness toward the Lord
 - 4) The Church will see the downfall of the wicked (Psa 76:5)
 - 5) The earth will have rest with the flourishing of the Gospel (Isa 2:2-3)
- C. Uses from the Text
 - 1) Self-Examination: How are you fulfilling your vows to the Lord and serving in the life of the Church?
 - 2) We are to be faithful to the Lord in each of the points of this history we find ourselves in (Rom 15:4); whether: (a) Prayer to God under His judgments; (b) Perseverance in the midst of the battle; (c) Preparation for victory.