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Salvation by Conquest
Series: The Weeping Prophet
The Village Church at Shell Point
Evening Service
December 11, 2022

I. **Views of the Atonement**

- A. Based on needs
 - 1. OT Foundations
- B. **Guilt**
 - 1. Sin problem
 - 2. Need: Forgiveness
 - 3. Adam and Eve
 - a. Clothing provided by God
 - 4. OT sacrificial system
 - a. Laying on of hands
 - b. Temporary
 - 5. Christ's sacrifice – **Hebrews 10:4–10** (ESV) —
 - a. 4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
 - b. 5 Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me;
 - c. 6 in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.
 - d. 7 Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’ ”
 - e. 8 When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law),
 - f. 9 then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He does away with the first in order to establish the second.
 - g. 10 And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- C. **Wrath**
 - 1. Need: Propitiation!
 - 2. God is angry – **Exodus 32:7–10** (ESV) —
 - a. 7 And the LORD said to Moses, “Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves.
 - b. 8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them.
 - c. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped

it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ”

- d. 9 And the LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people.
- e. 10 Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you.”
- f. Moses then interceded for them

3. **Numbers 21:5–9** (ESV) —

- a. 5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.”
- b. 6 Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died.
- c. 7 And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you.
- d. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.
- e. 8 And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.”
- f. 9 So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

4. **John 3:14–16** (ESV) —

- a. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
- b. 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.
- c. 16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

5. **Romans 5:9** (ESV) —

- a. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

D. **Enmity**

1. God is our enemy

2. **Jeremiah 44:11** (ESV) —

- a. 11 “Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will set my face against you for harm, to cut off all Judah.

3. Need: Reconciliation

4. **Romans 5:10–11** (ESV) —

- a. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.
- b. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

5. **Colossians 1:19–22** (ESV) —

- a. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
 - b. 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.
 - c. 21 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,
 - d. 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,
6. **2 Corinthians 5:18–19** (ESV) —
- a. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;
 - b. 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

E. **Bondage**

- 1. Condition: Enslaved
- 2. Need: Redemption – atonement concept
- 3. **Exodus 2:23** (ESV) —
 - a. 23 During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God.
- 4. Atoning work: Kinsman-Redeemer
 - a. Relative with the right and obligation to buy the relation who was sold into slavery
- 5. **Romans 6:6** (ESV) —
 - a. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.
- 6. **Romans 6:17–18** (ESV) —
 - a. 17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.
- 7. Redemption Scriptures
 - a. **Romans 3:24** (ESV) — 24 ... and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...
 - b. **Ephesians 1:13–14** (ESV) — 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

II. **Christus Victor**

- A. **Gustav Aulen – Christus Victor**
- B. **Need – Conquest**
 - 1. Defeat the Enemy of our souls
- C. NT Scriptures

1. **Hebrews 2:9–15** (ESV) —
 - a. 9 But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.
 - b. 10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.
 - c. 11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers,
 - d. 12 saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”
 - e. 13 And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.”
 - f. 14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,
 - g. 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.
2. **John 12:31** (ESV) —
 - a. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

D. **Exodus 14:27–30** (ESV) —

1. 27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea.
2. 28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained.
3. 29 But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.
4. 30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

III. OT **Picture of Christus Victor – Jeremiah and Babylon**

A. **Remarkable turnaround**

1. Theme – Babylon will defeat Judah
 - a. Warning
 - b. Prophetic reality
2. Babylon is the agent of God
3. Resistance against Babylonians is futile
 - a. Fear them
 - b. Pray for them!
 - c. **Jeremiah 29:7** (ESV) —
 - (1) 7 But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare

you will find your welfare.

4. Not only Judah would be defeated by Babylon
 - a. Egypt, Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar, Elam
 5. Chapter 50 – tables are turned
 - a. Now Babylon is to be destroyed!
 - (1) By God
 - b. **Jeremiah 50:15** (ESV) —
 - (1) 15 Raise a shout against her all around; she has surrendered; her bulwarks have fallen; her walls are thrown down. For this is the vengeance of the LORD: take vengeance on her; do to her as she has done.
 6. “Biblical version of what goes around comes around.”
- B. **Irony and sarcasm** to mark the turnaround
1. **Jeremiah 50:3** (ESV) — 3 “For out of the north a nation has come up against her, which shall make her land a desolation, and none shall dwell in it; both man and beast shall flee away.
 - a. She who came from the north for her conquests
 - b. Now is attacked from the north
 2. **Jeremiah 50:21** (ESV) — 21 “Go up against the land of Merathaim, and against the inhabitants of Pekod. Kill, and devote them to destruction, declares the LORD, and do all that I have commanded you.”
 - a. Merathaim and Pekod – real place names in Babylon
 - b. Sounds like Hebrew for “double rebellion” and “punishment”
 3. **Jeremiah 50:22–23** (ESV) — 22 The noise of battle is in the land, and great destruction! 23 How the hammer of the whole earth is cut down and broken! How Babylon has become a horror among the nations!
 - a. Babylon used to be the hammer
 - b. Now the hammer is hammered
 4. **Jeremiah 50:24** (ESV) — 24 I set a snare for you and you were taken, O Babylon, and you did not know it; you were found and caught, because you opposed the LORD.
 - a. Babylon used to set traps
 - b. Now she is trapped
 5. **Jeremiah 50:29** (ESV) — 29 “Summon archers against Babylon, all those who bend the bow. Encamp around her; let no one escape. Repay her according to her deeds; do to her according to all that she has done. For she has proudly defied the LORD, the Holy One of Israel.
 - a. Babylon set the siege
 - b. Now she is besieged, surrounded
- C. **Defeat would be total** – all that she relied on, that marked her existence would be destroyed
1. **Jeremiah 50:35–37** (ESV) —
 - a. 35 “A sword against the Chaldeans, declares the LORD, and against the inhabitants of Babylon, and against her officials and her wise men!

- B. Two great OT redemptive events
1. Exodus from Egypt
 2. Return of exiles from Babylon
 3. Both required the defeat of enemies
 4. **Jeremiah 50:33** (ESV) —
 - a. 33 “Thus says the LORD of hosts: The people of Israel are oppressed, and the people of Judah with them. All who took them captive have held them fast; they refuse to let them go.”
 - b. Hear “Let my people go!”
- C. **Redemption language**
1. **Jeremiah 50:34** (ESV) —
 - a. 34 “Their Redeemer is strong; the LORD of hosts is his name. He will surely plead their cause, that he may give rest to the earth, but unrest to the inhabitants of Babylon.”
 - b. The Lord Himself is redeemer
 2. Strong redeemer
 3. **Jeremiah 50:44–46** (ESV) —
 - a. 44 “Behold, like a lion coming up from the thicket of the Jordan against a perennial pasture, I will suddenly make them run away from her, and I will appoint over her whomever I choose. For who is like me? Who will summon me? What shepherd can stand before me?”
 - b. 45 Therefore hear the plan that the LORD has made against Babylon, and the purposes that he has formed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the little ones of their flock shall be dragged away; surely their fold shall be appalled at their fate.
 - c. 46 At the sound of the capture of Babylon the earth shall tremble, and her cry shall be heard among the nations.”
 4. **Jeremiah 50:25** (ESV) —
 - a. 25 The LORD has opened his armory and brought out the weapons of his wrath, for the Lord GOD of hosts has a work to do in the land of the Chaldeans.
 - b. Lord GOD of hosts – God and His army; the warrior God
- D. Another remarkable turnaround – **battlefield to courtroom**
1. Book’s early chapters show God as prosecuting attorney, pressing the covenant lawsuit
 2. Now He has become their defense attorney
 - a. **Jeremiah 50:34** (ESV) —
 - (1) 34 Their Redeemer is strong; the LORD of hosts is his name. He will surely plead their cause, that he may give rest to the earth, but unrest to the inhabitants of Babylon.
- E. **Repentance** is enabled by conquest
1. **Jeremiah 50:4** (ESV) —
 - a. 4 “In those days and in that time, declares the LORD, the people of Israel and the people of Judah shall come together, weeping as they

come, and they shall seek the LORD their God.”

2. Ryken: The return from exile was well-lubricated with tears.
 3. **Nehemiah 8:9** (ESV) —
 - a. 9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law.
 4. **Ezra 10:1** (ESV) —
 - a. 1 While Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, a very great assembly of men, women, and children, gathered to him out of Israel, for the people wept bitterly.
 5. **Luke 18:13** (ESV) —
 - a. 13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’
 6. **Matthew 26:75** (ESV) —
 - a. 75 And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.
- F. **Covenant obedience** is enabled by conquest
1. **Jeremiah 50:5** (ESV) —
 - a. 5 They shall ask the way to Zion, with faces turned toward it, saying, ‘Come, let us join ourselves to the LORD in an everlasting covenant that will never be forgotten.’
 2. New Covenant
 - a. Everlasting
 3. Ryken: The reason the New Covenant cannot be forgotten is because God’s own Son will always remember it. If the New Covenant depended on us, it could not last forever. We are too forgetful. The New Covenant does not depend on us, however, but on the person and work of Jesus Christ. We enter the covenant in and through him. Jesus Christ keeps covenant for his people. Therefore, the New Covenant is everlasting.
- G. **Forgiveness** is enabled by conquest
1. **Jeremiah 50:20** (ESV) —
 - a. 20 In those days and in that time, declares the LORD, iniquity shall be sought in Israel, and there shall be none, and sin in Judah, and none shall be found, for I will pardon those whom I leave as a remnant.
 2. Ryken: One of the best places to look for Israel’s guilt is the book of Jeremiah. How could anyone miss it? Jeremiah took great pains to document all of Israel’s sins, in all their sordid detail – homicide, infanticide, adultery, idolatry, lying, cheating, stealing, and all the rest of them. Yet Jeremiah imagined someone – maybe God himself? – going on a quest to find Israel’s sin. But the quest was futile. The search was in

vain. After a long hard search, there was no sin to be found. The guilt of God's people seemingly had vanished.

3. Christ's death provided forgiveness for every sin of every believer, past, present and future
 - a. How? Rendered powerless the devil
 - b. **Hebrews 2:14** (ESV) — 14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil...