



Communal Culture: Redemption for the Father's House

Notes

The Bet Av's greatest core values

- God/gods
- Family/people
- Land

Threats to the Bet Av

- God/gods
 - Follow the wrong God/gods
 - False prophets, idolatry
 - Disappointment with God/gods
- Family/people
 - Sickness, injury
 - Death/manslaughter/murder, no son to inherit land or care for widow/orphans
 - Slavery or oppression
- Land
 - Loss of crops
 - Loss of land

Exile -- all three areas of threat

- God - Has God abandoned them, too weak, or unwilling to prevent their exile?
- Family - people taken away or killed, loss of national identity
- Land - separated from ancestral land

Protection/solution: Redemption

- Leviticus 25:47-49 -- Redemption for people
- Leviticus 25:25 -- Redemption for land
- Book of Ruth -- Redemption of a family
 - God -- Naomi's faith in God restored
 - People -- Boaz the kinsman-redeemer provided an heir to carry on the family name
 - Land -- bought the family land

God as redeemer

- Exodus 6:6-8 -- God redeemed Israel out of Egypt
- Exodus 20:2 -- God's identity as the one who brought Israel out of Egypt
- Isaiah 43:1 -- Prophets called God the redeemer of Israel

Exile

- Ezekiel 36:24 -- Israel exiled due to sin, God promised to re-gather from exile
- Luke 24:21 -- In the first century, Israel was looking for a redeemer
- Colossians 1:13-14 -- Jesus, our redeemer; paid with his blood
- Jeremiah 15:19 -- if people repent/return (*shuv*), God will restore (*shuv*)
 - "Repent" (*shuv*) = return, turn around and go the other way -- physical and spiritual

Redemption

- Past: God redeemed Israel and redeemed us through Jesus for those who repent
- Present: We need continual repentance; God continues to redeem us
- Future: Revelation 21:2-3
 - God -- dwelling with him, relationship restored
 - People -- communal -- WE are his people
 - Land -- perfect place to live

Discussion

1. Read 1 Kings 16:11. The word translated here as "relatives" is the Hebrew word that is usually translated as "redeemer." How was the Bet Av of Baasha affected?
2. Look at Romans 8:19-23. It speaks of creation's longing for the redemption of the cosmos. How does that show God's plan for redemption going beyond the salvation of individuals and about the effects of sin?
3. The Israelites were redeemed out of slavery in Egypt. Read 2 Peter 2:19. In what ways can Jesus deliver us out of slavery?
4. What are some ways we live in "exile"?
5. The Greek word translated as "repent" means "a change of mind." How is that different from the meaning of the Hebrew word for repent? Which meaning is more commonly thought of in the church?
6. Should we repent more than at the time we accepted Christ? Why?

Recommended Resources

[Exile](#) (Bible Project)

Reflections on the theme of exile



[The Epic of Eden](#) by Sandra Richter

The first chapter focuses on patriarchal culture and the Bible as a story of redemption.

