

Bethel

Prayer Meeting Addresses

Number 67

None Like God – None Like His People

Reading: Deuteronomy 33. 26-29

26 There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun, who rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky.

27 The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.

28 Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of

corn and wine; also his heavens shall drop down dew.

29 Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.

Address

People usually are very interested in the last words of any eminent man. These were the last words of Moses, the man of God. But he knew they were his last words, because he knew that that day he was going to die. I wonder how you and I would be if like Moses we knew that when a day came, that before its close we should die. Now Moses was ready, and it is your mercy and mine if we are ready, clothed in the Saviour's righteousness, washed in His precious blood.

And what blessed words these are that Moses speaks! He speaks well of his God. He says, "There is none like Him." And then he speaks well of the people of God, because of what the Lord has done for them.

"There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun," none like the Lord in His sovereignty or in His greatness or in His mercy or in His love. There is none like Him. You remember when David came to the house of the priests at Nob, he enquired for a sword. They said, There is only one. We have the sword of Goliath, whom thou didst slay. David said, "There is none like that; give it me." Really, all the Lord's people are brought to say that of their God: "There is none like Him," especially when they view Him in the Person of His beloved Son.

“Compared with Christ, in all beside
No comeliness I see.”

“There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun” – Jeshurun, the upright one, being a name for the people of God, a name for Israel. “There is none like Him.” And Moses tells us why. He “rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in His excellency on the sky.” Now this is a blessed word. I have often thought of it something like this. In former days, if someone broke a leg on the top of one of our mountains, it was almost impossible to get to him, or if they did, it took a long time. Now, in the days of helicopters, they can come there so quickly to the rescue. So there is no hindrance, no impediment in the Lord’s way. It is a wonderful thing in your need, in your sorrow, in your trouble.

“He sees when we are sunk in grief,
And quickly flies to our relief.”

“There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun.” Has He ever ridden upon the heavens for *your* help and in His excellency on the sky? Then He reveals Himself – it must be one of the most loved words in all Scripture: “The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.” Our hymnwriter says,

“The arms of everlasting love
Beneath my soul He placed,
And on the Rock of Ages set
My slippery footsteps fast.”

“Underneath are the everlasting arms.” And of course, the simple, beautiful point: however deep you sink and however low you fall, you cannot get lower than this *underneath*.

“For sovereign grace is underneath,
And love eternal, strong as death.”

Well, may some of you feel it tonight. “The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.”

And if there is none like God, there is none like His people. “There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun.” But, “Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee” – *who is like unto thee* – “O people saved by the Lord?” To look on the blessedness of the people of God and to long and pray that that blessedness might be ours! “Happy art thou, O Israel” – the only happy people, their happiness not in carnal things, material things, but in Christ. “Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord.”

I think it is good Matthew Henry who lists nine different points in these verses in which there are none like the people of God. But the verse that has always attracted me is this: “Israel then shall dwell in safety alone.” Safety *though* alone; safety *because* alone. “Israel shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine.” This is that sacred river that proceeds from beneath the throne of God and of the Lamb, this sacred river that flows by the way of the cross, the sacred river that flows among the Lord’s people, the true Israel, and into their hearts, and that is why there is prosperity in the church of God, and that is why there is fruitfulness, because of the streams of this river.

“I stood amazed, and wondered when,
Or why, this ocean rose,
That wafts salvation down to men,
His traitors and His foes.”

This is the fountain of Jacob, and wherever it flows, there is the “land of corn and wine,” and there is the prosperity. Now may it be so at Bethel, and may it be our prayer tonight.

And the last word is not the least important; it is a good one: “Also His heavens shall drop down dew.” What sacred seasons these are in the church of God when there is that sweet, bedewing work of the Holy Ghost, when there is the heavenly dew attending the preaching of the Word, because it softens, and it penetrates, and it refreshes, and it revives, and it makes fruitful. That beautiful word – “’Tis Jesus speaks the word” – “I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.”

Well, beloved friends, there is real prosperity here, and Moses rejoiced in it, and then he went up to the top of Mount Nebo and he died there and the Lord

buried him, and no man knows where his sepulchre is to this day. The Lord buried Moses, but these two things: none like the Lord; none like His people.

This address was given at Bethel Chapel, Luton, by Mr. B. A. Ramsbottom, on Monday, 28th September, 2009