God's Refusal to Give Up on Man

Tommy Peeler · Series: **From Sinner to Saved**

INTRODUCTION

- I'm telling the story of the Bible with an emphasis on the fact that God loves us and refuses to give up on us.
- Man sins, man rebels against God, and God keeps reaching out to man to bring man back to himself.

1 Man Sins, God Punishes, but God Is Merciful

Genesis 3; Genesis 4; Genesis 6

- In Genesis 1 through 11, we see man sinning and man departing from the living God.
- Man sins, God punishes man for his sin. But God is merciful to man in spite of his sin.
- That story says as much about the salvation of Noah and his family as it does the judgment of the wicked world.

2 God Works Through Abraham; God Is the Hero

Genesis 12:1–3; Genesis 22:3–4; Genesis 50:20

- God begins to work through one man through him planning to reach all nations for him.
- His obedience was prompt, his obedience was prolonged, and his obedience was complete.
- In spite of those acts of faith, he is a sinner. And God is the hero of this story.
- The very sins that the brothers commit, the very wrongs they do. God uses that to bring about deliverance and salvation for his people.

3 God Delivers Israel and Doesn't Give Up on Them

Exodus 32; Exodus 25:8; Exodus 40:34–35

- God brings them out by his mighty hand and by his outstretched arms.
- Moses' anger in throwing down the tablets of stone, I think is a living illustration of God's anger at the sin of the people in worshiping the golden calf.
- Let them construct a sanctuary for me that I may dwell among them.
- While the people are guilty of gross sin in Exodus 32 through 34, God still doesn't give up on them. He is still seeking to bring them in fellowship with himself.

4 The Distressing Days of the Judges and the Kings

Judges 2:11–19; 1 Samuel 15; 1 Kings 8:10–11

- The people sinned against God. Then the Lord handed them over to foreign armies who oppressed them and mistreated them. Then the people cried out to God. And then God raised up a deliverer.
- There was no king in Israel. And every man did what's right in his own eyes. But still, God doesn't give up on the people.

- Their problems are bigger than just needing a human leader.
- God is showing in a visible way, in a dramatic way, that he is dwelling among this people.

5 In Captivity, God Hasn't Given Up on Them Yet

Psalm 74; Daniel 3; Ezra 4:1–5

- God's people by their sin and by their wickedness and by their sinfulness have brought shame on the name of the Almighty God. And yet God hasn't given up on them yet.
- But you see, God doesn't give up so easily on Israel. He is longing to bring them into fellowship with himself.
- Our God is able to deliver us. But even if he doesn't, we will not bow down to your image.
- God's name has been profaned. But God is still God. And God's promises aren't dead. And God's love for Israel is not dead.

6 God's Persistent Love Shown in Jesus Christ

John 1:14; John 21:25; Acts 2

- The greatest display of God's persistent love, God's love that refuses to give up on us is shown in Jesus Christ.
- But more than anything, Jesus came to die. He came to die on the cross.
- But the gospels don't end with the death of Jesus. They end with the resurrection of Jesus. Jesus is alive.
- And through him, we have hope of forgiveness and hope of salvation.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Others may have washed their hands of us a long time ago. But God refuses to give up on you and seeks to bring you into fellowship with himself.**

MY NOTES