

## WE GET ALL THE BENEFITS



Gary Wilkerson July 20, 2015

As we reread the gospels, we see that everything Jesus did on earth was for the purpose of fulfilling the terms of the covenant He had made with the Father. He went after lost sheep; opened the eyes of the blind; raised the dead; opened the prison doors; spoke words of eternal life; performed miraculous works; cast out devils; and healed all manner of infirmities. In every verse of the gospels, Jesus was fulfilling the things the Father had sent Him to do.

Through it all, Jesus appropriated His Father's covenant promises to Him: "My God shall be My strength" (Isaiah 49:5). "I will put My trust in Him" (Hebrews 2:13). The Father's faithful words kept Jesus through His agonizing death: "I was not rebellious, nor did I turn away. I gave My back to those who struck Me, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting" (Isaiah 50:5-6).

When Jesus uttered His final prayer, we see once more the open-covenant dealings between Father and Son: "Now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was" (John 17:5). And before He returned to glory, Jesus reminded the Father of His part in the covenant: "Father, the hour is come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You. . . . I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do" (verses 1, 4).

What does all of this have to do with you and me? It's a picture of God's love for His beloved creation! He formed this covenant because He was unwilling to lose a single child to destruction. Jesus is saying here, "Father, I have fulfilled My part of the covenant. I have brought about the redemption of humankind, and I have made Your Body one. Now let's talk about what is going to happen to My seed, all who believe in Me."

In short, God gave His Son, the Son gave His life, and we get all the benefits. "His seed also I will make to endure forever, and his throne as the days of heaven. . . . My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that is gone out of My lips" (Psalm 89:29, 34).

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