

Sermon Reflections

Happy Holydays (Exodus 23:10-33)

Summary: Keep the faith in His future promises by never forgetting his past faithfulness.

Two Looks of Faith

1. Look Back and Be Thankful (vv. 10-19)

- A Sabbath rest every seventh year and every seventh day would cause Israel to rely on God for provision through these periods of rest. What are some areas of your life where you are tempted to be too self-reliant? What are some gifts from God you can thank him for today?
- We may not ascribe our blessings to Baal, but we are very prone to credit ourselves with our provisions and success. How can you combat this sinful desire to take credit for your success?
- Israel was given three specific feasts to hold annually, with each one pointing to a specific reason to remember and celebrate what God had done and continued to do for Israel. Do you spend enough time praising God for his faithfulness to you in the little things (e.g. food) and the big things (e.g. salvation)? If not, why not? How can you work on that this week?
- What are some examples where you can look back on God's faithfulness in your life?

2. Look Forward and Follow (vv. 20-33)

- We may not have a messenger from God leading our every step, but we have God's Word in Scripture and the Holy Spirit to guide us. Are there any parts of Scripture that you do not follow as closely as you ought? What are some ways you can more consistently follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in your life?
- What are some habits from your life before Christ that you have had difficulty conquering? Who can you bring alongside you to help vanquish these foes? What do you need to cut off today?
- God explained to the Israelites that while they would be the ones driving the peoples out of the promised land, God would ultimately be the one orchestrating the driving. What are some examples of times that God desires specific actions from you while he is working out his plan? How can you stay fully prepared for these moments of action?