

THE EVERLASTING COVENANT  
Hebrews 13:20, 21

Intro: This is one of the great benedictions of Scripture.  
It is difficult to see how any could be greater.

It is eternal in its extent -- extending from eternity past (when this covenant was made between the Father and the Son) and extending forever into eternity to come ("to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.").

It is a prayer which comes at the end of a lot of wonderful teaching -- teaching that is deep and meaty! And it is a prayer that is based upon that teaching. It is prayer that has to do with that teaching. It is a teacher's prayer when he has finished his teaching. Without the prayer the teaching would never be as effective.

The book of Hebrews is a book which deals with this "everlasting covenant" -- God's promise, agreed upon with His Son, whereby God will save guilty sinners.

Note that it is not a prayer for the salvation of sinners, but it is a prayer for sinners who have been saved.

Look at the two verses. There are several ways in which we can distinguish between them:

- 1) V. 20 has to do with the finished part; v. 21, with the unfinished part.
- 2) V. 20 speaks of what God has done; v. 21, of what He needs to do.
- 3) We could look upon v. 20 as praise; v. 21, as petition.
- 4) V. 20 tells us what the Father did for the Son; v. 21, what He will do through the Son.

The verse runs the whole gamut of salvation.

We see:

- 1) That salvation begins with God.
- 2) That it rests upon Christ.
- 3) That it continues as a work of God.
- 4) That it culminates in the glory of God.

Now let us look at the details under these headings:

- 1) The Persons.
- 2) The price of our redemption.
- 3) The ~~proof~~ perfection of it.
- 4) The prospect, or the praise.
- 5)

#### I. THE PERSONS INVOLVED.

There are three -- actually more than three because the third



Now let us look at . . .

## II. THE PRICE: "through the blood."

That is the picture all through the OT, isn't it?

Whose blood? The Shepherd's. This is one reason we can call Him "great" because of what He has accomplished for His elect -- all of them.

It speaks of both:

- 1) Their need -- our need.
- 2) His love.

## III. THE PROOF (that the covenant has been ratified): It is in the word, "the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus."

The resurrection of Christ removes all doubt as to the existence of the covenant. God has given us undeniable proof -- and in the ascension as well (which is a major emphasis in Hebrews).

## IV. THE PERFECTION. This is where we come to the prayer.

The writer of Hebrews prays for the outworking of this great covenant. How will it come about?

A. That God will fully and thoroughly prepare us to serve Him.

B. That God will prepare us inwardly and outwardly.

Both are absolutely essential.

C. That God will prepare us "through Jesus Christ."

Let us consider each of these points and see how the work of the covenant will be realized in us.

## V. THE PROSPECT.

What is it to be? "To whom be glory forever and ever. Amen" (so let it be).

God has designed salvation for His glory alone and forever.

Concl: Do your prayers sound like this? Is this your concern for your fellow believers -- others who are "sheep" like you are? When you have said all that you can say about salvation, does it leave you praising the Triune God for this "everlasting covenant"? There is no question that it is everlasting because it all depends upon God!