

BEHOLDING THE GOD OF REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL LOVE

(ISAIAH 43:1-7)

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I. INTRODUCTION:

God's Love as Complex, not Simple

UNIVERSAL LOVE

(John 3:16; Matt 5:43-48)

REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL LOVE

(Eph 1:5; Rom 9:13; Eph 5:25)

II. GOD'S REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL LOVE EXTOLLED

A. GOD'S REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL FORMATION ON HIS PEOPLE ESTABLISHED
(Isaiah 43:1)

B. GOD'S REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL COMMITMENT TO HIS PEOPLE EXPRESSED
(Isaiah 43:2)

C. GOD'S REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL LOVE FOR HIS PEOPLE EXPANDED
(Isaiah 43:3-4)

D. GOD'S REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL PLEDGE TO HIS PEOPLE EXTENDED
(Isaiah 43:5-6)

E. GOD'S REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL END FOR HIS PEOPLE EXTOLLED
(Isaiah 43:7)

III. CONCLUSION

A. THE PROBLEM OF EVIL VS. THE PROBLEM OF GOODNESS.

The former is the big problem as we see things, but the latter is the real problem that God faces. How can God show kindness and goodness to those who deserve only his everlasting judgment? That he sends rain on the just and the unjust is remarkable enough (universal love), but far more remarkable is the love (redemptive-covenantal love) he shows his elect in Christ. Marvel at the Problem of Goodness and how God has designed to show favor – even everlasting, saving favor – to those who deserve only his condemnation.

B. EMBRACE THIS SPECIAL LOVE, THIS REDEPTIVE-COVENANTAL LOVE OF GOD FOR HIS OWN.

Be humbled by it, be filled with joy over it, and be empowered to live lives that express the depth of our dependence upon and gratitude for such unspeakably lavish, costly, and undeserved love.