

Andrew Murray's Abiding in Christ

Chapter 30

Murray wants us to think about Christ as our priest/mediator bridging the gap between God and man. Dwelling on this should effect our daily Christian walk.

Points of Chapter:

(1) A pardoning God and an obedient people: these are the two parties who are to meet and to be eternally united in the new covenant.

A covenant between two parties requires faithful trust on both sides. Israel could not be faithful to the old covenant. There was a problem with first covenant (based on law) – man (Israel) could not keep his part of the covenant and did not maintain an ongoing relationship with God. They rejected Him, left Him for other gods, etc. Therefore God provided a New Covenant. As God provided a new heart in man God secured man's faithfulness. We are now able to have an ongoing relationship with God, sealed by His spirit.

(2) Jesus was made the surety of the better covenant.

God provided Jesus as the guarantee of the better covenant. Christ draws the two parties together. With our new birth & life in Christ, man has security (as we abide in Him) to keep the covenant in which we enter with God.

(3) Our hearts are changed.

God not only undertakes in the covenant that He will never turn from His people, but also to put His fear in their hearts, that they do not depart from Him.

(4) We have a mediator/everliving priest.

Under law, Aaron and his sons (Israel's priest) died.

Christ (our high priest/mediator) is everliving. He makes intercession, mediates, makes unceasing pleadings so that we enjoy uninterrupted blessings of heavenly life (being kept by the power of God).

“He ever lives to pray; there is not a moment that as surety His prayers do not rise Godward to secure the Father's fulfillment to us of the covenant.”

(5) Possibility of abiding in Jesus every moment is secured by the very nature of this everliving priesthood of your surety.

Every moment His intercession rises up, grace (to be kept) is descending upon us. He does not leave us for one single moment to yourself. He dares not do so, or He would fail of His undertaking.

How does this insight impact (effect your ability to be faithful in keeping of the covenant?)

In light of this, what is our part?