

“Refuge”

Heb. 6:18

Introduction

- I. Refuge can be understood as finding safety amidst trouble.
- II. Long ago, God gave Israel “cities of refuge” (Num. 35:9-34; Deut. 19:1-13; Jos. 20:1-9).
- III. Let us see why these cities were given, and what does that have to do with us today?

Discussion

- I. First of all, “cities of refuge” were places of mercy.
 - A. The penalty for sin is death (Rom. 6:23).
 - B. We all need mercy because we are all guilty of sin (Rom. 3:23).
 - C. Mercy is given today by being a member of the church of Christ (Acts 2:47; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; Eph. 2:11-12).
- II. “Cities of refuge” were available and reachable.
 - A. Today, the Gospel is to be preached unto all (Mark 16:15-16; Rom. 1:16; Titus 2:11).
 - B. In regards to salvation, God is not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34-35).
- III. The way to the specific city was indicated very well.
 - A. Today, there is one specific “Way” to refuge, Jesus Christ (John 14:6).
 - B. Coming to Jesus requires being a part of His church, and entrance is easily identifiable (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; 1 Cor. 12:13).
- IV. The “slayer” was only safe while in the city.
 - A. Other cities that were not designated for refuge were not good enough.
 - B. Safety is found only in the church of Christ, not any other (Matt. 16:18).
 - C. One must remain faithful to Jesus as a member of His church (John 15:6-7; 2 Pet. 2:20-22).

Conclusion

- I. Have you fled to Jesus for refuge?
- II. Are you saved in His church?