Reflection Questions

Doctrine (What does this passage teach us):

What does it mean that God could change His mind (13)?

Reproof (What wrong thinking does this passage expose):

What are some essentials that we might be tempted to omit from God's Word as we share the Gospel?

Correction (How does this passage fix wrong thinking):

How did Jeremiah defend himself and how does this compare with how we are tempted to defend ourselves?

Instruction in Righteousness (How does this passage help us to continue):

How does the primary audience of a passage help us to understand the application?

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Isaiah 6:1-7

Song #27 ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Job 17:1-16

Song #242 ~ Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Scripture Reading: Job 18:1-21

Prayer

Sermon ~ Jeremiah 26:1-24

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #252 ~ See, What a Morning

Jeremiah 24:7

"I will give them a heart to know Me, for I am the Lord; and they will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with their whole heart."

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Text: Jeremiah 26:1-24

Theme: The Lord of Hosts has spoken, listen carefully.

Introduction: Notice the shift in audience. For most of the book the Israelites are the primary audience (Jeremiah is preaching to Israel). In chapter 26, Jeremiah is the primary audience (God or Israel is speaking to Jeremiah; cf. 2, 4, 8-9). Whenever we apply a passage of scripture we must start with the original audience—in this case Jeremiah. Because Jeremiah is similar to us (i.e. given a new heart to obey God), we can apply this passage directly to our lives.

I) Even though many will not listen, God requires His servants to give all His words regardless of the cost (1-24).

    A. Do not omit a word (2, 4-8).

        1. When God spoke to Samuel about the impending judgment for Eli's children, Eli told Samuel to not hide any of God's words from him (1 Sam. 3:10-18).

        2. Likewise, we have a similar responsibility. How do you share the Gospel with people? Are you ashamed to point out the first 3 chapters of Romans? Mankind is living in rebellion against God and is in desperate need of a Savior. God's command to Jeremiah has not changed. You are called to give the Good News to people without omitting anything.

    B. Perhaps they will listen (3, 8-11).

        1. Their response is out of your control. It's likely that the message will be completely rejected, just like it was for Jeremiah (8-9). In fact, they wanted to kill him after they heard the message.

    C. When you preach all God's words, there is no need to defend yourself (12-15).

        1. When you are confident that you have faithfully given all of God's words, there is no need to defend yourself. Paul told Timothy that "all who will live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution". In the book of Acts, Stephen willingly gave up his life (Acts 7:54-60).

        2. Polycarp, the early church martyr said, "you threaten me with a fire that burns for a season, and after a little while is quenched; but you are ignorant of the fire of everlasting punishment that is prepared for the wicked."

        3. Jeremiah's message of judgement was also a message of hope (13).

        4. Jeremiah appealed to their conscience—"do with me as is good and right in your sight" (15). Our tendency is to take matters into our own hands.

    D. Some will face no persecution for proclaiming God's words, while others will die (16-24).

        1. Micah's prophesy is almost identical to Jeremiah's, yet the king responded in repentance (18-19). In fact, King Hezekiah began to fear the Lord.

        2. Uriah's prophesy about the city, which was the same as Jeremiah's and Micah's message, resulted in death (20-23).

        3. In Jeremiah's case, God protected him. But notice the response from Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they were being threatened by the fiery furnace (Dan. 3:16-18).