

Providence Reformed Baptist Church – Sunday, July 14, 2024
Sermon Series: The Potter & the Clay – Jeremiah/Lamentations
Message 11. It's not Enough to Have the Word – Jeremiah 7:30-8:12
Pastor Phillip M Way

Intro: Last Sunday we learned that “Religious attendance is no substitute for a real meeting with God.” This Sunday we see that “Possession and knowledge of the Word of God is no substitute for a genuine response to it.” (Walter Kaiser)

- I. Evil, Detestable Things – 7:30-31
 - A. Idols in the Temple
 1. Abominations of Idolatry – Ezek. 5:11; 8:6
 2. Idols in Our Hearts – 1 Cor. 6:19
 - B. Child Sacrifice
- II. The Death of Joy – 7:32-34
 - A. The Days are Coming – 15X
 - B. The Valley of Slaughter – a monument to their sin
- III. Bones, Bones, Bones, Bones, Bones – 8:1-3
 - A. Astral Worship – 2 Kings 21:3, 5; 23:4; Zeph. 1:5; Ezek. 8:16
 1. Loved
 2. Served
 3. Walked After
 4. Sought
 5. Worshipped
 - B. Unburied and Shamed under the Heavens – 2 Sam. 21:12-14; Psa. 53:5; Isa. 14:18-19; Ezek. 6:5
 - C. The Curses – Deut. 28:65-67; Lev. 26:36-39
- IV. Greedy Liars – 8:4-12 (Why pretend possessing God's Word is better than obeying it?)
 - A. The Lying Pen of the Scribes (vs. 4-9)
 1. Falling without getting back up – Prov. 24:16
 - a. Backsliding
 - b. Refusal to Repent (Return, Turn Back)
 - c. No pause (“What have I done?”)
 2. Even the birds know when to migrate but My people are willingly ignorant
 3. We've got the Word of God! – James 3:14-16
 - a. Scribes misinterpret it
 - b. Wise men reject it
 - c. What kind of wisdom? Demonic!
 - B. The Lying Preaching of Prophets and Priests (vs. 10-12)
 1. Therefore – judgment is coming – they will fall
 2. Greedy for Gain – 2 Cor. 2:17
 3. Practicing Lying – Col. 3:9-10; Rev. 21:27
 4. Superficially Healing
 - a. Pop psychology
 - b. Peace, peace – it won't be that bad
 - c. God is love
 5. No Shame or Dishonor
 - C. We Have the Word and Must Obey It – James 1:21-25

Cross References

Ezekiel 5:11

11 So as I live,' declares Lord Yahweh, 'surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable idols and with all your abominations, therefore I will also withdraw, and My eye will have no pity, and I will not spare.

Ezekiel 8:6

6 And He said to me, "Son of man, are you seeing what they are doing, the great abominations which the house of Israel is doing here, so that I would be far from My sanctuary? But yet you will see still greater abominations."

1 Corinthians 6:19

19 Or do you not know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

2 Kings 21:3, 5

3 Indeed, he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them.

5 Indeed, he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of Yahweh.

2 Kings 23:4

4 Then the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the doorkeepers, to bring out of the temple of Yahweh all the vessels that were made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven; and he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel.

Zephaniah 1:5

5 And those who worship on the housetops the host of heaven, And those who worship and swear to Yahweh and yet swear by Milcom,

Ezekiel 8:16

16 Then He brought me into the inner court of the house of Yahweh. And behold, at the entrance to the temple of Yahweh, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs to the temple of Yahweh and their faces toward the east; and they were prostrating themselves eastward toward the sun.

2 Samuel 21:12-14

12 So David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the men of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the open square of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hanged them on the day the Philistines struck down Saul in Gilboa. 13 And he brought up the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from there, and they gathered the bones of those who had been hanged. 14 Then they buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the land of Benjamin in Zela, in the grave of Kish his father; thus they did all that the king commanded, and afterwards God was moved by the entreaty for the land.

Psalm 53:5

5 There they were in great dread where no dread had been; For God scattered the bones of him who encamped against you; You put them to shame, because God had rejected them.

Isaiah 14:18-19

18 All the kings of the nations lie in glory, Each in his own place. 19 But you have been cast out of your grave Like an abhorred branch, Clothed with those killed who are pierced with a sword, Who go down to the stones of the pit Like a trampled corpse.

Ezekiel 6:5

5 I will also put the dead bodies of the sons of Israel in front of their idols; and I will scatter your bones all around your altars.

Deuteronomy 28:65-67

65 Moreover, among those nations you shall find no relief, and there will be no resting place for the sole of your foot; but there Yahweh will give you a trembling heart, failing of eyes, and despair of soul. 66 So your life shall hang in doubt before you; and you will be in dread night and day and shall not have any faith in your life. 67 In the morning you shall say, 'Would that it were evening!' And at evening you shall say, 'Would that it were morning!' because of the dread of your heart which you dread, and because of the sight of your eyes which you will see.

Leviticus 26:36-39

36 As for those of you who may remain, I will also bring weakness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies. And the sound of a driven leaf will pursue them, and even when no one is pursuing they will flee as though from the sword, and they will fall. 37 They will therefore stumble over each other as if running from the sword, although no one is pursuing; and you will have no strength to stand up before your enemies. 38 But you will perish among the nations, and your enemies' land will consume you. 39 So those of you who may remain will rot away in their iniquity in the lands of your enemies; and also in the iniquities of their fathers they will rot away with them.

Proverbs 24:16

16 For a righteous man falls seven times, and rises again, But the wicked will stumble in calamity.

James 3:14-16

14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom is not coming down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil practice.

2 Corinthians 2:17

17 For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, in the sight of God, we speak in Christ.

Colossians 3:9-10

9 Do not lie to one another, since you put off the old man with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new man who is being renewed to a full knowledge according to the image of the One who created him—

Revelation 21:27

27 And nothing defiled, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

James 1:21-25

21 Therefore, laying aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in gentleness receive the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But become doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for once he looked at himself and has gone away, he immediately forgot what kind of person he was. 25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of freedom, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this man will be blessed in what he does.