Jeremiah 5:20-6:15

*“A God of Love Would Never...”*

Introduction:

1. Is it true? A God of love would never…? What will you do in the end?

2. In Jeremiah 5:20-6:15 Jeremiah addresses three groups of people...Doubters Of God’s Judgment:

Is it true? A God of love would never...? What will you do in the end?

**I. FAULTY PERSPECTIVE** **5:20-25**

They were *without*:

 ***A. They Were Without Understanding Of The Things Of God 20-21***

**1. Powerful Declaration** *Announce…Proclaim…****It is God’s Word that must***

 ***be declared!!***

 **2. Practical Defiance** *Foolish…the fool has said, “No God”.*

 \**Leave God out and life doesn’t make sense!*

 *\*Leave God out and there is no beginning or end...’senseless existence’!*

 **3. Personal Deadness**

 **\***Their eyes and ears and minds were shut to the Word of God.

 \*There is a spiritual problem.

 *\**They denied that a living God had a claim on their lives and would judge them for

their sins. (6:10)

***B. They Were Without Reverence For The Power Of God 22-23***

**1. The Who Of Reverence 22a**

 **\****Should you not fear Me?*

 *\*Should you not tremble in My presence?*

\***We have lost the awesomeness of God!**

 **2. The Why Of Reverence 22b**

 **\****His mighty power over the sea…(22b)*

 \***How mighty God must be to rule over the sea!**

 **\***He has set the oceans in their places and bound them with dry land. Yet our

 culture refuses to give God the glory for the work of creation…although evolution

 is a mathematical impossibility.

 \**“Design? Absolutely...without question. Designer? Not a hint.” Carl Sagen*

 *\**The secular mind thinks merely in natural terms. They consider molecules in

 motion. They never acknowledge that the principles that govern the universe

 comes from a Mind that governs the universe, the mind of God!

**3. The Won’t Of Reverence 23**

 \*Only a stubborn, rebellious heart would refuse to revere the God of creation.

 \**They have turned aside and gone away.*

 ***C. They Were Without Gratitude For God’s Grace 24-25***

 **1. God Acknowledged**...*’they do not say’* **24**

 \*He addresses God’s work of providence by reminding all of the way. He

 continues to uphold and sustain everything He has made.

 \*God did not make the world and then walk away. He did not wind it up and

 let it wind down.

 \***Great Is Thy Faithfulness** *O God my Father…summer and winter, spring*

 *time and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature*

 *in manifold witness to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.*

**2. God Abandoned 25**

\*These *blind fools* have forgotten all of that.

 \*They are beginning to reap the consequences of their ingratitude. *There is a*

 *drought in Israel…your sins have kept these away (Deut. 11:16, 17)*

\*Are hurricanes, earthquakes, floods and droughts signs that God is trying to get our

 attention?

Is it true? A God of love would never...? What will you do in the end?

**II. FAILED PRIORITIES 5:26-30**

Riches...materialism...getting ahead at any cost...is what it is all about!!!

 ***A. They Catch 26***

**1.** They use people. *They lie in wait. They set snares.*

**2.** Winning is everything! Winning is what it’s all about!

 ***B. They Connive 27***

**1.** *A cage full of birds…*these were their trophies!

 **2.** *So are their houses full of deceit…therefore…*they have become great and rich!

 **3.** Stuff has a way of deadening our senses toward God. Riches give a false

 impression of our true worth and value.

 ***C. They Calculate 28***

**1.** *They grow fat and shine…*we would call them ‘fat cats’.

 **2.** They look good and they make an impression.

**3.** They are only concerned about themselves…YET THEY PROSPER!

 **4.** They have no time for the less fortunate. They live for the moment. **It’s their**

 **money!**

Is it true? A God of love would never...? What will you do in the end?

**III. FALSE PREACHERS 5:30,31; 6:13-15**

The Lord’s condemnation against wayward preachers:

 ***A. It Is Appalling 30***

**1.** It is appalling when preachers do not proclaim God’s truth.

 **2.** It’s appalling when preachers say merely what people want to hear.

***B. It Is Appealing 31b***

**1.** *My people love to have it so…*

**2.** It is a humanistic Gospel. Don’t preach on sin, hell or judgment…some will be

 offended. *90% of the preachers in American never preach on those things that*

 *might offend.*

**3. The big lie in the pulpit: God will not, nor does He judge sin.**

***C. It Is Alarming***

**1.** *“What will you do in the end?”*

 **2.** Revelation 20:14-15 Only those who trust Christ will be saved. All others will

 be cast into the Lake of Fire.

 ***D. It Is Alluring 6:13***

**1.** *Greed is good. Covetousness…makes money!*

 **2.** *Everyone deals falsely…***the preachers became a product of their society!**

***E. It Is Abusing 6:14***

**1.** They were shameless liars. They abused their authority.

 **2.** They preached their own message instead of God’s Word. “*Peace, Peace…when*

 *there is no peace.”*

 *“A minister who ceases to believe in the authority of Scripture, who denies the*

 *certainty of the last judgment, who sees the pastorate as a prosperous career*

 *rather than a sacrificial calling ought to drop out of the ministry.”*

**3. The people loved it!** *Preaching that entertains more than it instructs, soothes*

 *more than it convicts, and appeases more than it confronts has become the rule*

 *rather than the exception in the evangelical church.*

 “***A God without wrath brings men without sin into a kingdom without judgment***

 ***through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross.” Richard Niebuhr***

**What will you do in the end?**