**Jeremiah 26:1-24**

***Every Time God Speaks***

Introduction:

1. Every time God speaks, there is a conflict.

2. Every time God speaks are you willing to adjust your life to do what He says?

3. Jeremiah 26:1-24 this is vividly portrayed.

Every time God speaks are you willing to adjust your life to do what He says? There is conflict.

**I. THE REVELATION OF THE MESSAGE 26:1-6**

 ***A. The When of God’s Message 1***

**1.** The date is 609-608 B.C. The date is earlier than (25:1) Israel still had time to get

 right with God.

 **2.** God’s message to you is at a specific time with a specific set of circumstances. NOW

 ADJUST YOUR LIFE!

 ***B. The Where of God’s Message 2***

**1. For God’s People 2a** *Stand in the court of the Lord’s house*

 *\**To gain the greatest attention…this was where the people assembled. It was no doubt

 a feast day when the people from the towns of Judah came to worship.

 \*The message from God is first for His people. These are the ones to whom God

 speaks.

 **2. From God’s Precepts 2b**

\*God uses ordinary men to convey absolute truth.

 \*Today we fell forth God’s word. When you hear or read these words they sound or

 look like plain, ordinary words.

 ***C. The What of God’s Message 3-5***

*Hearken* is used 4 times in 3 verses. Do what I say when I say it…Obedience is the

 word.

 **1. If You Obey…God will respond positively.** In this case the judgment of the

 Babylonian captivity will not come.

 **2. If You Will Not Obey…God will respond negatively. 4, 5**

 **\***He removes His hand of blessing.

 \*God gets you in a FIX and you fix the FIX. Finally, God gets you in a FIX and you

 cannot fix.

 ***D. The Who of God’s Message 5***

**1.** God’s men, speaking God’s Word. Jeremiah was one of many.

 **2.** The words of these men became the Bible. *But you would not hearken.* Is that your

 problem? When I (Pastor Murray) speak, if it is God’s word then you must deal with

 Him!

 ***E. The Why of God’s Message 6, 7***

**1.** Shiloh was not far from Jerusalem and was destroyed in 1050 B.C. It was the first

 resting place of the ark of the covenant.

 **2.** Jerusalem would be an object lesson of the consequences of not listening.

 **3.** You can name person after person who went their way. Lehman Strauss knew of 43

 preachers who fell into sin. Thank God for the heroes of the faith who did what God

 said when He said it.

 **4.** In v. 7 the priests, the false prophets and the people heard (vss. 8, 11, 12, 16). They

 have heard…are they willing to adjust their lives?

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**II. THE RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE 26:7-11**

The message is rejected.

1. ***Destroy The Message 8***
2. The same ones who heard are now responsible. Jeremiah has done all he was to do.
3. Before you roast the preacher: Is it true? Is it biblical?
4. ***Deny The Message 9***
5. False prophets had said God would never destroy the city of Jerusalem or the temple.
6. They felt Jeremiah spoke blasphemy, and thus worthy of death.
7. If we don’t like what God says…if it calls for too much sacrifice or too much adjusting…deny the message and destroy the messenger.
8. It’s my stick in the pack of dogs theory…the one who gets hit yelps!!
9. ***Demand the Message 10, 11***
10. The leaders…princes came from the king’s house to the Temple.
11. They demanded (v. 11) not that they change, but kill the message by killing the messenger.
12. To turn around is to repent. We can be pretty obstinate when it comes to denying. We really feel great when we are in the majority. The majority can be wrong and usually are when it comes to obedience to the difficult passages of God’s Word.

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**III. THE REALITY OF THE MESSAGE 26:12-16**

Jeremiah’s defense and the defense of every preacher should be: By what authority? If God

 is behind what is being said…then your struggle is with God.

1. ***The Authority 12***
2. *The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city.*
3. Ephesians 4:11 *And he gave (edoken…gave as a gift)some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists and some pastor teachers.*
4. God’s men are God’s gift to equip God’s people. It will be through God’s Word.
5. ***The Audacity 13***
6. He says the same thing again in a different way.
7. Adjust your lives. Do what God tells you to do. Repent (turn around) and God will bless your life.
8. You can always be bold when you are speaking God’s Word.
9. ***The Attitude 14, 15***
10. It’s an attitude of absolute surrender.
11. The sovereign God He preached about was the God who must sustain him.
12. We can act against God’s Word and God’s authority, but there is a high price to pay.

*For the truth of the Lord hath sent me to speak****. 15***

1. ***The Acknowledgment 16***

When the authority of heaven has authorized the message, God’s messenger can be bold!

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**IV. THE REWARD OF THE MESSAGE 26:17-24**

As His servants, God can do whatever He wants.

1. ***Some Repent 17-19***
2. Micah of the 8th century is given by older men of a prophet who spoke against the city

Zion…Jerusalem…the Temple

1. Did Hezekiah put him to death? (19) Jeremiah was acquitted.
2. Learn from the past…those repented…they hearkened…for a moment God spared the city. *“I’ve a message from the Lord. Look and Live!”*
3. ***Some Refuse 20-23***
4. Uriah was a faithful prophet who was put to death.
5. Jehoiakim sought to put Jeremiah to death. He began reigning in 608 B.C. to 606 B.C. He was part of the first deportation.
6. This incident would have been fresh. **You can’t reject God’s voice and not pay.**
7. v. 24 they release Jeremiah.

There is no turning. You can boldly reject or quietly reject. Either way…God walks away.

You can never say no to God and not pay.

Is there something that God has been saying to you? Say “yes”.

Adjust your life. Do what He says when He says it, and God will bless your life!!

What happens to you isn’t as important as being true to His Word.