

Beware

9-13-20

Jeremiah 15:4 (ESV) O/H

And I will make them a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth because of what Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, did in Jerusalem.

God told Jeremiah that irreversible wrath had been determined on Judah because of the unspeakable evil done by the previous evil King Manasseh. After the evil King Manasseh died, we had the good King Josiah, but it didn't make any difference because the evil of Manasseh had permeated society and things reached a point of no return. Nothing was left but the irreversible wrath of God.

2 Chronicles 36:16 (ESV)

But they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words and scoffing at his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD rose against his people, until there was no remedy.

God is full of mercy, grace, and forgiveness, but God will judge persistent sin. The OT and NT warns us that one day there will be "no remedy" and God will pour out HIS wrath.

1 Corinthians 6:9–10 (ESV)

⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **Do not be deceived:** neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

Do not be deceived: God will judge sin!

-Sexually Immoral – The literal term includes various immoral behavior. We get the English word Pornography.

-Idolaters – This is anything put before God. Included with sexual sins because it is an idol turning one's heart from God.

-Adulterers – Immorality but worse. It breaks God's covenant!

-Homosexuality – Sexual relationship with those of the same sex is an abomination to God.

-Thieves, Greedy, Drunkards, Revilers, Swindlers.

Beware: Sin isn't static. Sin progresses; first tolerated, then accepted, then embraced, and then finally promoted. This is true individually, but it is also true nationally. Sin grows and finally permeates the entire population. When it permeates the entire society, Jeremiah declares, "We have reached a point of not return!"

Jeremiah 8:12 (ESV)

No, they were not at all ashamed;
they did not know how to blush.

**Beware: Look at our current situation as a country and blush.
#1 Homosexual and transgender lifestyles have been promoted in our school systems. Key word – Promoted!**

#2 So-called Christian denominations openly embrace Homosexual lifestyle and marriage. This is proof these denominations do not hold to the authority of the Scriptures.

#3 Have you heard of the movie “Cuties” on Netflix? It stars 11-year-old girls in sexually provocative ways. The conservative Bible teacher, John MacArthur commented on this movie, “When you have a dynamic movement in the culture “toward evil” at all levels, it is just not possible to stop it.” Like Jeremiah said, “You don’t know how to blush.”

#4 Last year New York passed a bill where a baby can be terminated at full term. When passed the whole New York general assembly cheered and clapped for what God calls an abomination. “You don’t know how to blush.”

#5 Virginia’s governor shared how he as a doctor would make a newborn baby comfortable until deciding whether to terminate the baby. You can find this on YouTube. **Every person should watch the movie “Unplanned”! It is about Abby Johnson, the former Director of a Planned Parenthood Clinic, who had received various awards for her exceptional work at Planned Parenthood. The movie reveals how she became aware of how barbaric the abortion industry was and became committed to the Pro-Life movement. **As a nation, Biblically, God is not pleased.** What can we do? In Genesis 18 and 19, God is going to judge Sodom and Gomorrah and Abraham pleads with God to show mercy.**

Genesis 18:24 (ESV)

Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it?

Abraham says, “Dear God if there are fifty righteous spare them.” God answers Abraham.

Genesis 18:26 (ESV)

And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

For 50 righteous the city would be spared, the whole city. The presence of God’s people will prevent God’s judgement. The church is essential! The church is the reason God doesn’t bring HIS wrath on this sinful world. The Holy Spirit within the believer is the restraining force against evil delaying the wrath of God. The Apostle Paul tells us that the presence of the Holy Spirit is the reason the Anti-Christ doesn’t come.

2 Thessalonians 2:6–7 (ESV) O/H

⁶ And you know “what is restraining him” (the anti-Christ, Satan) now so that “he” may be revealed in “his” time. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only HE (the Holy Spirit) who now restrains it will do so until HE (the Holy Spirit) is out of the way.

We can get lost in the pronouns, but the Holy Spirit is restraining evil preventing the anti-Christ from coming. The Holy Spirit is within each believer thus within the believing church restraining evil. When the church is raptured, caught up to heaven, evil will move forward unrestrained on the earth. Without the church, there is judgement.

Jesus said we, the church, are the salt and the light of the world, the nation, the county, the city.

Matthew 5:13 & 14 (ESV) O/H

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth!”

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world!”

The church is essential. You are essential! Therefore, we have a job to do. Be salt and light and declare, “Jesus is the light of the world!”

John 8:12 (ESV) O/H

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”