

Listen to the Sound of the Trumpet

Jeremiah 6: 16-20

2/16/03

Intro

.....
Jeremiah was a reluctant prophet, but is now speaking for God and trying to get the people to listen.

He speaks to a nation that is perilously close our own. And the Lord is calling out to you and me just as he did to them.

These verses are the words of the Lord calling out to His people and giving them a hope and a vision of what could be if they would only turn and listen.

The theme is found in verse 17, **“Listen to the sound of the trumpet...”**

This is the part of the trumpet call to us as it was to them.

What is that God wants us to hear?

I. Walk in the good way.

A. There are many paths to choose from.

- And we must decide every day on which path we will walk.

Jeremiah 18:15, “My people have forgotten Me, they burn incense to worthless gods and they have stumbled from their ways, from the ancient paths, to walk in bypaths, not on a highway.”

- God calls it the “Highway of Holiness.”

Isaiah 35: 7-10

B. Ask for the ancient paths.

- There comes a time when we should ask for directions.

Illus – Why is it that men don’t like to ask for directions?

- But what are we trying to find? (Happiness, satisfaction, contentment, peace, joy..)

Matthew 6:33, “Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.”

- The ancient paths are the ways of God that are eternal and true from the beginning.

C. Walk in the way that is good.

Matthew 7:13-14, “Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who find it. For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.”

- There are many ways to death, but only one way to life.

Illus – The modern thing today is to proclaim that there are many pathways to God. It’s the opposite, there are many pathways away from God, and only one way toward Him.

II. Find rest for your souls

A. Rest is relief from anxiety.

- Jesus is our Sabbath rest.
- Why do we have rest in Him?
 - because our decisions have better consequences
 - because we are resting in the One who is the resource of heaven.

B. The 'rest' is for our souls.

- Anguish of the soul is very painful

Matt 11: 28-29, “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls.”

- In “rest” we will find joy in our God and joy in our walking.

III. Seek those things which please God?

Vs 20

A. A humble heart

- God dwells with those who are humble and contrite in heart.

Illus – Let Him lead you with his eye.

Isaiah 31:21, “Your ears will hear a word behind you, ‘This is the way, walk in it,’ whenever you turn to the right or to the left.”

B. Faith.

- Without faith it is impossible to please God, but with faith, God is very pleased.

C. Desire for God in the heart.

- There is a desire in the heart for God that is unseen by others. That is a heart after God.

Conclusion

Matthew 21:28-32, “A man had two sons...”

God has given us a vision of life and of death because he loves us and wants us to choose life.

God’s greatest desire for us is that we would have life and have it abundantly.