

THE HARVEST IS PAST AND WE ARE NOT SAVED JEREMIAH 7-10

Text: Jeremiah 8:20

Jeremiah 8:20

The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.

Introduction:

I suppose that one of the saddest sermons that has ever been preached is the sermon that we have just read from. Jeremiah states that the harvest has past, the summer has ended, and people were not saved.

Their concern was not that of salvation, their concern was that of safety. Their concern was not that of salvation, their concern was that of satisfaction. Their concern was not that of salvation, their concern was that of self righteousness.

Ladies and gentleman the greatest need in the life of an individual is that of salvation. The saddest words an individual can hear the Lord say is, "Depart from me, I never knew you."

When we think of those who are not saved or a Christian, we often think of those in society who are consider a nuisance, or a bother. But as we will discover that is not always the case.

This message that was delivered by Jeremiah was his third message to Judah and Israel. And it was a message delivered on behalf of God, and as we will see it was a salvation message preached to the most unlikely crowd.

As we consider this thought this morning it is not my intention to confuse anyone regarding their salvation, but for each one to make certain that the summer doesn't end and the harvest past and they are not "Saved".

Notice:

1. THE PLACE (JER 7:2)

Jeremiah 7:2

Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the Lord.

A. The gate or entering in of the Lord's house

2. THE PEOPLE

A. Those that came to worship the Lord in the Lord's house.

Yes it is true and I believe that it is many who attend church services have never been saved.

Illustration: Wheat and tares (Matthew 13:24-30)

Note

- They were sowed in the same place.
- They grew together.
- They looked the same.

Illustration:

Kissing the Door of Heaven but Spending Eternity in Hell (Judas)

- He saw amazing miracles: walk on water, sight to the blind, dead raised to life.
- He served the multitudes with the Lord
- He sat at supper with the Lord

- He squandered his chance to be saved

3. THE PREACHING

God told them through Jeremiah to thoroughly amend their ways.

Jeremiah 7:3

Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.

Jeremiah 7:5

For if ye throughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye throughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbour;

Note some of the things that need amended.

A. They deceive themselves by

1. Worshiping idols (Jer 7:17-18)

Jeremiah 7:17-18

Seest thou not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? [18] The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.

2. They failed to hear and heed God's words and warnings (Jer 7:13-14, 22-26)

Jeremiah 7:13-14

And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the Lord, and I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not; and I called you, but ye answered not; [14] Therefore will I do unto this house, which is called by my name, wherein ye trust, and unto the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

Jeremiah 7:22-26

For I spake not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices: [23] But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you. [24] But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward. [25] Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt unto this day I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them: [26] Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers.

3. Truth had perished (Jeremiah 7:27-28)

Jeremiah 7:27-29

Therefore thou shalt speak all these words unto them; but they will not hearken to thee: thou shalt also call unto them; but they will not answer thee. [28] But thou shalt say unto them, This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the Lord their God, nor receiveth correction: truth is perished, and is cut off from their mouth.

4. The sin in a blatant manner (Jer 7:30)

Jeremiah 7:30

For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the Lord: they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it.

B. They destroy themselves by:

1. Destroyed their own children (Jer 7:31)

Jeremiah 7:31

And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart.

2. Wrong thinking (Jer 8:3) - death is chosen rather than life.

Jeremiah 8:3

And death shall be chosen rather than life by all the residue of them that remain of this evil family, which remain in all the places whither I have driven them, saith the Lord of hosts.

3. Continue backsliding (Jer 8:5)

Jeremiah 8:5

Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding? they hold fast deceit, they refuse to return.

4. Full of pride (Jer 8:8,12)

Jeremiah 8:8

How do ye say, We are wise, and the law of the Lord is with us? Lo, certainly in vain made he it; the pen of the scribes is in vain.

Jeremiah 8:12

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the Lord.

We must remember the pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.

C. The departure in the church

1. Worldliness

Jeremiah 10:2

Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.

2. The pastors have not sought the Lord

Jeremiah 10:21

For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the Lord: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.

4. THE PROGNOSIS

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Matthew 7:21-23

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. [22] Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

[23] And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Luke 13:23-28

Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

[24] Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. [25] When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: [26] Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. [27] But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. [28] There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

Close:

I'm convinced there are people who sit in churches every week who are lost. Like Judas, many have kissed the door of Heaven and went to Hell.

There may be someone here this evening like this. What a shame it would be to squander away you chance to get saved.

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