

SEEK THE OLD PATH OF REST

A Sermon Outline

Presented to

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By

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Text: Jeremiah 6:16

Thesis: To motivate brethren to seek and remain in the good old way of salvation.

INTRODUCTION

1. God is always pleading with mankind to return unto Him.
2. God pleaded with the children of Israel through Jeremiah to make the right choices and look for the path that leads to eternal rest, yet they rejected that (Jer. 6:16-17).
3. The same sermon preached by Jeremiah is needed by this generation of ours (Rom. 15:4).
4. In this lesson we shall consider three main points:
 - a. Stand and see the ways.
 - b. Ask and walk in the good old way.
 - c. Rejecting the good old way.

DISCUSSION

I. STAND AND SEE THE WAYS (Jer. 6:16).

A. It was time for the people of Israel to stop and come to their senses (Jer. 6:16).

1. The Hebrew word “stand” means to cease, stop, freeze.
2. Stop journeying on the new path and realize that there are several roads and each of them is leading to a different destination.
3. God called on the people of Israel to stop their journey on the path of idolatry, disobedient to the law of God, adultery, etc and think for a moment (Jer. 4:2, 8-9; 5:25-31).
4. They were to come to their senses and realize that there was more than one way, and they were not on the right path (Jer. 6:16; Deut. 30:19).

5. Like the prodigal son, mankind needs to stop and think about their situation (Luke 15:17-20).

B. It is time to observe the differences of the ways.

1. The children of Israel were called to look at the ways of their religiosity and see the differences (Jer. 6:16).
2. God had in chapter five challenged them for a search of a righteous man among those who are walking on the new path, and none was found (Jer. 5:1,4-5; Rom. 3:9-18).
3. Jeremiah's sermon to the nation was to leave their comfort zone and step outside their dogmatism so that they would realize the position they have taken.
4. This generation of 21st century need to do the same and step out of our comfort dogmatic zone to realize the meaninglessness of some religious beliefs some uphold.

C. The religious world today must realize the differences between the old path of God (the biblical way) and that of manmade teachings.

1. All ways are not the same; for there is a way that seems right but the end of it is death (Prov. 16:25).
2. People need to read their Bibles, evaluate and analyze what they read in comparism to what are being taught in their church meetings.
3. Since, our modern world claims to be smart and intelligent in all things (education, business, health, political, etc.), same effort must be put in our reasoning on spiritual matters.

4. However, the unfortunate situation is that people are opened to reasoning in all matters except those that will determine our eternal lives after here.
5. God tells the children of Israel to pause and put their thinking cap on and see the difference of where their new path (manmade doctrines) would lead them.

II. ASK AND WALK IN THE GOOD OLD WAY (Jer. 6:16).

- A. The plea of God to all people is to seek and walk in the good way (Jer. 6:16).
 1. Not all path leads to the good way so one needs to ask for the old path.
 2. Jesus is pleading that we strive to enter the good way (Mat. 7:13-14; Luke 13:24-28).
 3. God is pleading that mankind finds the old path and return to Him.
 - a. Let us return to Him and He will return to us (Mal. 3:7; Zec. 1:3).
 - b. Let us return unto Him and He will heal us (Hos. 6:1-2)
 - c. Come and let us reason together says the Lord (Isa. 1:18).
 - d. God is appealing to mankind to reconcile with Him because He loves us and do not want any to perish (2 Cor. 5:19-21).
 4. We must therefore ask the right questions concerning God's way.
- B. Ask about the authority in God's house (Jer. 6:16; Isa. 2:2-5; 1 Tim. 3:14-15).
 1. What does God teach about authority in religion?
 - a. All authority is vested in the Lord Jesus Christ for everything in this life (Mat. 28:18).
 - b. In the Worship of God, man can bind or loose based on what God has already bound or loosen (Mat. 16:19).
 2. Enquire about how to establish authority in religion.

- a. Authority in religion is given by direct command.
 - b. Authority is established by example.
 - c. Authority is established by implication.
 - d. Authority is established by expediency.
3. God expects man to submit to the righteousness of God (Rom. 10:1-3).
- C. Ask about God's way to salvation and walk in them.
1. God wants man to find rest for his soul (Jer. 6:16).
 2. He wants man to walk circumspectly as wise (Eph. 5:15-17).
 3. God want man to ask for the old path to salvation (Acts 2:37; 9:6; 16:30).
 4. Withdraw from manmade doctrines that do not lead to the old path.
 - a. Avoid Manmade doctrines that suggest that man has nothing to do for his salvation.
 - b. Avoid manmade way require recital of the sinner's prayer.
 - c. Avoid manmade ways that suggest the practice of baptism by sprinkling and pouring.
 5. Ask and follow the old biblical steps unto salvation.
 - a. Bible way is to first Hear the word (Rom. 10:17).
 - b. Second step is to Believe the message (John 8:24).
 - c. Third step is to Repent from sins (Acts 2:38, 17:30-31; 2 Pet. 3:9).
 - d. Fourth step is to Confess the Sonship of Christ (Acts 8:37).
 - e. Fifth step is to be Baptized in water by immersion (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:15-16; John 3:3-5; Rom. 6:1-4).
 - f. Final step is to remain Faithful in the Lord's church till the end (Acts 2:47; Rev. 2:10).

6. Ask for the old path of worship that is pleasing to God and practice same.
 - a. To be steadfast in the apostle's doctrine which are the doctrines of Christ (Mat. 28:20; Acts 2:42; 2 John 9).
 - b. To sing without the accompaniment of mechanical instrument of music (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16).
 - c. To pray spiritually and without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17; Eph. 6:18; 1 Tim. 2:8; Mat. 6:5-15).
 - d. To give to support the work of the church by free will (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:5-7).
 - e. To remember the Lord Jesus through the partaking of the Lord's supper (Acts 20:7; Mat. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-27).

D. Acknowledge the old path of salvation and live to that standard.

1. We must love God with our all in all and be obedient to Him (Mark 12:29-30; Deut. 10:12-16).
2. Live to love and serve other fellow men (Mark 12:31; Gal. 5:13).
3. Pursue the old narrow way which leads to salvation (Mat. 7:13-14).
4. Eternal rest cannot be obtained outside Christ (Eph. 1:3-7).

III. REJECTING THE GOOD OLD WAY (Jer. 6:16).

- A. God pleaded with them to find rest for their souls, yet they rejected it saying, "we will not walk therein" (Jer. 6:16).
- B. The result of their rejection is the reward of going into captive at Babylon (Lam. 1:1-7, 13-18).
- C. Jesus has warned us that anyone who rejects Him will be judged by the message they reject (John 12:48).

D. No one will escape the punishment that comes with rejecting the good way (Jer. 5:7-10; 6:1-8, 2 Pet. 2:1-9).

1. Adam and Eve did not escape (Gen. 3:22-24).
2. The people in Noah's time did not escape (Gen. 7:21-24; Mat. 24:38).
3. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah did not escape (2 Pet. 2:6-9).

E. The only way to obtain eternal rest and salvation for our souls is to come unto Christ through the old path (John 5:24-29, Rom. 8:1, Mat. 11:28).

CONCLUSION

1. Desire to please God, for in that we can find rest for our souls.
2. Search to know what pleases God (Rom. 12:1-2).
3. Do what pleases God by walking daily in His ways.
4. Remember that the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep His commandment (Eccl. 12:13-14).