

# Jeremiah 26 – 25 May 2014

## Intro Story

Most of us have a family member who's religious but not saved or you're just not sure of. I have a brother and a father. How do we help them?

In this message God will give us four rules to utilize when witnessing to religious people.

- Vs 1-2
  - **First Rule: Give them all of God's Word, opinion not needed.**
  - ...diminish not a word...
  - Learn all of God's Word
    - You need to know it to give it.
    - Law shows sin, then Jesus shows salvation
  - We're not NT Christians, we're biblical Christians!
  - Act 20:27
  - Every word is important
    - Matt 22:32

- Gal 3:16
- Be balanced in your approach.
- Vs 3-7
  - **Second Rule: Show them the path of both choices.**
  - Here comes a message of judgment, but first verse 3!
    - A message of mercy
    - “Repent” at its root is sigh in relief.
  - If you don’t follow the Law then Jerusalem shall be laid desolate like Shiloh.
- Vs 8-9
  - **Third Rule: Don’t get frustrated when they take you out of context.**
  - They acted like they didn’t hear an option in the message.
    - They skipped right over the option to repent and walk in the Law.
      - They thought they already were?
      - Didn’t care to follow the Law?

- Vs 10-11
  - They held a full-blown trial to execute Jeremiah. Waited and brought the rulers.
  - Their charge was correct, that he prophecy against the city.
    - Was their charge against him in the Law?
    - Was their charge against him just simply against their traditions?
- Vs 12-15
  - **Fourth Rule: Accept that they can do whatever they want with you and your message, don't force it.**
  - Jeremiah admits that however they choose to react to the message AND the messenger is in their power.
  - Do whatever you want with me; I'm just an innocent messenger.
  - Jeremiah squarely makes them see that they're not running away from him, but running away from God's message.
    - Tell story of my last talk with my Dad.

- Don't let them be distracted thinking that their problem is with a person; it's not, it's with God.
- Vs 16
  - A reasonable person said, "He's of God".
  - Reasonable but not smart, b/c then the next question is, "Why aren't you then amending your ways?"
    - Matt 21:25 – Was John's teaching from heaven or from men?
    - Pharisees were smart enough to know that both answers would lead to BIG changes for them.
- Vs 17-23
  - The elders seem to be saying that whatever the king decides is right, whether to kill or not to kill the prophet.
- Vs 24
  - The princes and people (from vs 16) along with Ahikam prevailed to save Jeremiah alive.