

Introduction:

Jeremiah was sent to preach the word of God to an idolatrous nation. He was to proclaim that God was about to bring death and destruction upon the people, and Jerusalem would be destroyed. Jeremiah was told not to do some things.

I) Do Not Say I Am A Youth, *Jeremiah 1.1-8*

A) Why?

1. God and not Jeremiah was the source of the message, *Jeremiah 1.9*
2. Jeremiah was not to minimize the message by relying on his youth.
 - a. A sermon based upon the word of God is not minimized by a young preacher.
 - b. A sermon given by an older preacher is not more scriptural just because of age.
3. God knew the ability of Jeremiah and He selected the messenger.

B) Application

1. Youth is not an excuse to disobey God,
²²Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 2 Timothy 2:22
2. God knows our abilities and we are answerable to Him.
3. We should never minimize the message of God's word.

II) Do Not Pray For Them, *Jeremiah 7.16*

A) Why?

1. God's punishment was set, *Jeremiah 22.14-25*

- a. Our prayers are limited by two elements; our faith, and God's will.
 - b. We must recognize the will of God in our prayers,
 - ⁴² *saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." Luke 22:42*
2. Prayers asking God to contradict His will, will not be answered,
 - ¹⁴ *Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 1 John 5:14*
 3. Prayer is not a substitute for repentance and/or obedience, *Jeremiah 11.11-14*

B) Application

1. Our prayers must be with faith
2. There are certain things we cannot pray for: God to save the sinner in their sins, to save the lost without obedience or repentance, for Him to do our part.

III) You Can Not Marry, *Jeremiah 16.2*

A) Why?

1. Their impending destruction and death, *Jeremiah 16.3-4*
2. Many would die in battle, the siege of Jerusalem, and captivity, *Jeremiah 19.7-9*
3. Ultimately God was sparing Jeremiah the heartache of seeing his family suffer these things.

B) Application

1. God's restrictions are for a reason,
 - "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. ⁹ "For as the heavens are higher than the earth,*

So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. [Isaiah 55:8-9](#)

2. God's Law seems harsh to many,

²⁰ The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" ²¹ Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." ²² But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. [Matthew 19:20-22](#)

3. Many do not understand congregational discipline or individual discipline
4. Moral behavior such as sex, dress, language, etc.

IV) You Can Not Go To A House of Mourning, [Jeremiah 16.5-7](#)

A) Why?

1. This is not the time to comfort those in sin.
2. Sin brings about pain, death, and destruction.
3. The pain of sin sometimes brings about repentance,

⁹ Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. [2 Corinthians 7:9](#)

B) Application

1. We should not comfort those in sin but pray they will leave the sin.
2. We should pray they will feel enough pain to get out of sin.

V) You Can Not Go into The House of Feasting, [Jeremiah 16.8-9](#)

A) Why?

1. God was about to bring His punishment, [Jeremiah 16.13](#)

2. The time for feasting and having a good time was past.
3. It was not appropriate for Jeremiah to feast with the ungodly.

B) Application

1. God's punishment, the judgment to come should get our attention,

³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Hebrews 10:31

- a. Ex. Authorities wanted those who refuse to leave the coast during a hurricane to write down their next of kin. This got their attention, this was serious.

2. Some things by their very nature are inappropriate,

¹⁵ And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." ¹⁷ Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." ¹⁸ "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:15-18

- a. Jesus addressed this,

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and the tear is made worse. ¹⁷ Nor do they put new wine into old wineskins, or else the wineskins break, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But they put new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved." Matthew 9:15-17

b. Lambs don't wallow in the mire.

Conclusion:

Let us pray for God's will to be done and then do the will of God. Let us rely on the wisdom of God instead of the wisdom of men. Let us pray for the physical suffering so people will turn to God for spiritual healing. Let us take seriously our salvation.