

**No Other Gods - UBC Passion Revisted**  
**Jeremiah 2:9-13; 17:5-13**

**Passion Stated**

*“GLORIFYING God by TREASURING Christ above all things and REACHING others that they may find lasting joy in Him!”*

**A) Glorifying**

- a. God
- b. The Purpose of God in Creation
- c. The Great Commandment (**Luke 10:27 c.f. Deut.11:13**)

**B) Treasuring**

- a. **Christ**
- b. The Purpose of God for His people (**Jude 24-25**)

**C) Reaching**

- a. **Others**
- b. The Purpose of God for the Church
- c. The Great Commission (**Matt.28:18-20**)

**Passion Contended (Jeremiah 2)**

**A) Introduction to Jeremiah**

- a. The Man
  - i. “Weeping Prophet”
  - ii. Think William Wallace, not Willie the Whiner (whoever that is)
  - iii. He was threatened, beaten, imprisoned and kept speaking the truth
- b. The Message
  - i. **45 chapters** of God’s warning, reasoning, and promising of judgment. All the while, Jeremiah can proclaim this message because he knew this was God’s message, not his. He had already dealt with his inadequacies.
  - ii. **Chps.46-52** reveal God’s exacting justice on all the nations against His people (the very covenant people He is so ticked off at).
  - iii. God brought justice to the very nations he used to to discipline His own people (Dever).

- iv. God doesn’t show fairness or justice to His people. God shows mercy.
- v. Emphasized the truths of the Pentateuch, the Psalms -- A strong biblical theology of God and man (his depravity)
- vi. God’s Promises are too great for anyone to keep but God
  1. What God promises can only be fulfilled by God
  2. His people’s idolatrous behavior testifies to that.
  3. God’s aim in the covenant with His people is to dwell with them because He loves them
  4. They have forsaken that covenant and God contends with them
- vii. God’s Promises will be fulfilled and His Justice maintained while Grace is extended to His people
  1. God judges
  2. God will fulfill His covenant in Christ (**Heb. 8:8-12** quotes **Jeremiah 31:33-34**)

**B) God’s Contention with His people**

- a. In spite of God’s promises and grace, the people worshipped other gods
- b. **Jeremiah 2:5-13**
  - i. The horrible exchange
    1. **Rom.1:22-25**
    2. **2 Cor.5:21**
    3. Some have called 2009 the “Year of the Scandal” - Whether men who have claimed Christ and failed or men who “have it all” like Tiger woods, prove the point that there is no treasure more satisfying than our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!
  - ii. Awaken the conscience
  - iii. Two Evils:
    1. Forsaken God
      - The fountain of Living Waters
      - **Charles Simeon** (faithful English pastor of the 18-19th century), “*But the evil incident to these things consists in making them the great end of our life; in suffering them to draw away our hearts from God, or to occupy that place in our*

*affections which is due to God alone. It is in this view that we are to be understood as denominating the pursuit of these things "evil;" and we doubt not but that the consciences of all attest the truth of our statement, and accede fully to that apostolic, that incontrovertible position, that to 'love and serve the creature more than the Creator' is idolatry."*

- This means that we always have a TREASURE and if God is not our greatest, most lasting satisfaction, something CREATED is!
- 2. Hewed out Cisterns (tried to satisfy themselves by the work of their own hands)
  - Created vs. Creator
  - History of men and God's people is marked by this
- iv. See evil for what it is (the imagery provokes understanding of our behavior)
  1. v.19
  2. vv.20-22
- v. Understand our self-deceit
  1. vv.23-24
  2. vv.26-29
  3. vv.31-32
  4. v.35

- c. Trust in Man
  - i. The heart is sick and untrustworthy
  - ii. Heritage (vv.1-2,4)
  - iii. Finances (vv.3,11)
  - iv. Cursed and Dry
- d. Jesus is the fountain of Living Water - the only treasure.
  - i. **John 7:37-38**
  - ii. **Rev.7:13-17**

### Meditation & Application

- A) **So, in order to live out our passion, we must know God as our Glory! This is only in concert with our trusting Him, not man!**
- B) **We have to be resolute that there is a positive and negative to this passion.**
  - a. **Positive:** Treasuring Christ (the Living Water)
  - b. **Negative:** Battling idolatry
- C) **So, how do we do this? (corporately - children of Israel / privately - Jeremiah)**
  - a. **Remember**
  - b. **Repent (Jer. 17:1-6,9-11)**
  - c. **Rooted (Jer. 17:7-8,12-13)**
  - d. **Prayer (Jer. 17:14)**

### Passion Rooted (Jeremiah 17)

#### A) God Prescribed Restoration

#### B) Jeremiah 17:5-13

- a. What we trust is what we worship (simply: Man or God)
- b. Trust in God
  - i. Trust in and is the Lord (abiding...ongoing)
  - ii. Taking root by the fountain of living waters (the very one forsaken in **chp.2**)
  - iii. There will be trial / tribulation, but no fear for one in Him
  - iv. Fruit remains
  - v. Anxiety flees
  - vi. Abundantly Satisfied