

Passion Revisited
Jeremiah 2:11-13

Introduction:

OUR PASSION:

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

Glorifying (vv.11-12)

- A) Glorifying is...revealing God as glorious, bless-worthy in all things.
- B) The problem with Glorifying is that we love ourselves
- C) The glorifying of God is what was exchanged and forsaken. This is where understanding our passion begins
 - a. Being appalled / desolate is a command.
 - b. Implications that this ridiculous exchange is first healed by the great exchange of Christ's righteousness for ours (Rom.5:8)

Treasuring (v.13)

- A) Treasuring is...keeping something / someone as the most valuable
- B) The trouble with Treasuring is that we treasure worthless things
 - a. Forsaken God – abandonment, desertion. Is there anything more sickening on the battlefield? What have we forsaken?
 - i. The Source
 - ii. The Source of all-satisfying life (animated, absolute life – descriptions of springtime...blossoming)
 - b. Hewed out Cisterns

i. Cisterns

- 1. **Jeremiah 38:6** (irony – place of outcast persecution)
- 2. **Jeremiah 41:9** (graves)
- 3. **1 Samuel 13:6** (hiding in our sinful replacements of God – a picture of cowardice toward Philistines)
- 4. **Deut.6:10-15** (provision of God, not a replacement of God)
- 5. **Gen.37:20** (Joseph....connection with Christ-type)

ii. They don't satisfy (BOTTOM LINE...cheap, idolatrous substitutes for the glory of God)

c. How did we get here? (**vv.14** →)

i. Sin (turning from God and his promises)

ii. Forgetting God

1. **Psalm 106:7**

2. **Psalm 106:36-37**

iii. Forgetting His view of sin (**vv.20-29, if time v.37**)

1. Slave vs. Servant

2. Bride vs. woman of the "night"

3. Sons vs. thieves

iv. Just what He says...we've valued the created above the Creator (**Romans 1:21-25**)

Reaching

- A) Reaching is...extending something of great value to any and all.
- B) The difficulty in Reaching is that we do not value what we offer
 - a. The people did not like what Jeremiah had to say and persecuted Him
 - b. Jeremiah struggled with his own abilities, understanding and trust in God. But essentially he continued to do what the Lord commanded trusting the results to God alone!

- c. Jeremiah would not be called by many SBC churches today. His baptismal record would stink.
- d. IN a sense, EVANGELISM is a work of faithfulness to proclaim and little else. So, we must be faithful to proclaim the whole gospel to the lost REGARDLESS of results.
- e. If we truly want to be an evangelistic church, reaching the greater Fayetteville community and particularly the University of Arkansas, then we will seek earnestly treasuring and valuing the gospel that we offer the them!
- f. You are built to naturally share what you value the most (sports, success, relationships, etc...)

- b. The choice of man works within God's sovereign plan, not without it
- c. Truth & Consequences (**illus: Cardboard testimonies last week**)

Conclusion

- A) Implications that this ridiculous exchange is first healed by the great exchange of Christ's righteousness for ours (Rom.5:8)
- B) In order to have your passion for God, we need a new heart. Our hearts are deceitful and we need a transplant first (**Eze.36:26; Gal.4:6-7**) – the gospel is essentially about your quest for joy.
- C) As a member of UBC, will you fight to live out our passion: **GLORIFYING God by TREASURING Christ above all things and REACHING others that they may find lasting joy in Him!**

Restoring Your Passion (Jeremiah 17:7-18:12)

- A) Trust God, not self (**vv.7-10,5-6**)
 - a. Trust Him to satisfy your heart's desires
 - b. Trust Him to do so when in dry places
- B) Cry out to God (**vv.14-18**)
 - a. Pray for healing (acknowledging you're sick)
 - b. Take refuge in God
 - c. Trust His righteousness (not your own)
- C) Keep the Sabbath Holy (**vv.19-27**)
 - a. First things first
 - b. Your healing will occur when the object of your worship is God alone
 - c. Proclaim the Word of God faithfully for all to hear
 - d. Lay your burdens down
 - e. Perk up your ears! (notice what happens when we don't listen to God)
- D) Acknowledge the Sovereignty of God (**18:1-12**)
 - a. Get Perspective (potter and clay)
 - i. **Romans 9:19-23** (in view of **chps.10-11**)
 - ii. Pleading with others to be saved, trusting God's work