

Jeremiah and the False Prophets

July 10, 2016

Jeremiah 23:1-22

I. False Prophets

- A. Participate in the sins of the people
 - 1. Idolatry (8:1-2).
 - 2. Immorality (29:23).
 - 3. Greed and drunkenness (6:13; Isaiah 28:7).
- B. Give false, cheap comfort (8:5, 8-11; 13:25; 14:11-16; 23:17; 28:1-17; 29)
- C. Attack true prophets (20:1-6; 25:38; 26:7-11; 29:27-28; 38:1-13)
- D. Lead people away from the Lord (23:13-15; 14:16)

II. How to Deal with a False Prophet

- A. Grieve (14:17-18).
- B. Don't listen to them (23:16).
- C. Wait for the Lord's hand (20:6; 28:10-17; 29:22; Daniel 3).
- D. Agree with what is true (28:5-17).
- E. Put yourself in the hands of the Lord (26:14-15; Esther 4:16).

III. True Prophecy

- A. True prophets:
 - 1. Experience pain - they're not robots (20:7-8; Luke 6:22-23).
 - 2. Are helpless to *not* prophesy (20:9).
 - 3. Are protected for as long as it serves the glory of God and the good of the people (26:16-23; cf. Micah 3:12).
- B. The message: your sins have exiled you, but God will bring you back (25:1-14; 27:1-11; 51:20; 32:1-15; Luke 22:42).
- C. True return would come when the Christ came (23:1-8; 1 Peter 2:24-25).