Fortified (Jeremiah 15:20)

Tony Mauck · Jeremiah 15:15–21

INTRODUCTION

- The weeping prophet, Jeremiah, who was bearing the burden of God's message to a quite obstinate people who are right for judgment.
- He asked for God to assess the difficulties of his circumstances.

1 Jeremiah's Desperate Appeal

Jeremiah 15:15; Isaiah 5:20; Isaiah 30:9–11

- He calls upon God to avenge those who have persecuted him.
- Those who have mistreated him, the reason for this appeal is because they are enemies of God. They are enemies of righteousness.
- They say, speak to us pleasant words. We don't want to hear any talk of judgment or God being dissatisfied with us in any way.

2 Your Words Became a Joy; I Sat Alone

Jeremiah 15:16–18; 1 Peter 4:4; Psalm 142:4

- But I ate thy words, and they were a joy and a delight to me.
- God's truth is an anchor for every storm of life.
- This message, following it in our lives brings us to fellowship with God, and that always trumps everything.
- While he is true to his commitment, his calling, his holy calling by Jehovah, he is very much alone.
- Human companionship is little solace in our pain.

3 If You Return, Then I Will Restore You

Jeremiah 15:19

- The words spoken to Jeremiah are the words of deliverance spoken to everyone who needs to return.
- Sometimes each of us loses our way a bit.
- The downtrodden need to be concerned not about the assessments of others, but about returning to the source of restoration.
- It's God's assessment that ultimately is going to matter, and you need to make certain that you are standing before Him.

4 Extract the Precious From the Worthless

Luke 10:38–42

- Our value system is under attack constantly.
- The devil is doing to us is encouraging us to value things that are far less valuable in the whole scheme of things and to devalue those things which are infinitely more valuable.
- Mary has chosen the good part. And that shall not be taken away from her.
- Respect what God has said. And you will be extracting the precious from the worthless.

5 You Must Not Turn to Them

- God doesn't charge you or me with conversion.
- Let's just be about doing the best that we can to proclaim this great message.
- They may turn to you, but you must not turn to them.
- The influence of peers is a powerful thing.

6 A Fortified Wall of Bronze

Jeremiah 15:20; Revelation 21:3

- If you'll return to me, if you will not turn to them, I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze.
- Don't ever lose sight of the power of a right relationship with God, despite any threat, any adversary, any persecution, any pain that you may experience.
- Allow nothing to keep you from being his fortified wall.

THE CHALLENGE

Who needs to have the courage to come to the front of this auditorium tonight and say, I need to serve the Lord. I need to have my sins forgiven by the blood of Christ.

MY NOTES