There Is A Way That Seems Right (Proverbs 12:15)

Tony Mauck · Jeremiah 28

INTRODUCTION

- The way of a fool is right in his own eyes. But a wise man is he who listens to counsel. We want to be that wise man.
- The tendency that we have to allow our emotions, the passion that we have for something or someone to allow our emotions to rule our head.

1 Make for Yourself Bonds and Yokes

Jeremiah 27; Jeremiah 28; Isaiah 8:20

- God says to Jeremiah, make for yourself bonds and yokes. Okay, this is a literal physical demonstration.
- I have given all these lands in the hands of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. Do not fight this.
- His prophecy, thus says the Lord of hosts, I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.
- God affirms to Jeremiah that the yoke of wood that Jeremiah had on will now become a yoke of iron.
- The Lord has not sent you, and you have made this people to trust a lie.

2 Discerning God's Will

1 Thessalonians 5:21–22

- There's a message here about discerning God's will. And that simply means drawing proper conclusions about thinking and behavior that God either accepts or disapproves.
- You need to be mature because those who are mature have their senses trained.
- We have to spend time in the Word so that we can be sufficiently trained that we can discern good and evil.
- We're admonished to abstain from every form of evil in 1 Thessalonians 5 and verse 22, but the previous verse says to examine everything carefully. Hold fast to that which is good.

3 Obstacles: Appeals to Reverence

- Hananiah was an obstacle to people discerning right things about God's will. He prophesied a lie.
- One of the reasons why it happens is what is called in logic appeals to reverence. That is, we place undue trust in the source that is delivering the information.
- You've got to measure what a guy says against the objective standard of God's word.
- It's not right merely because somebody you respect said it, or my family member believes it.

4 Packaging Righteousness in Terms Palatable to Me

Ephesians 5:8–10; Ephesians 5:15–17

- It's just really tempting to package righteousness or what is right in terms that are palatable to me.
- Paul said, folks are going to want to accumulate teachers that match their desires.
- A lot of things about tradition are right, but things aren't right merely because they're tradition.
- A lot of people can't leave error because they love tradition more than they love God.
- The light consists in goodness and righteousness and truth. That's the standard.

5 Poor Discernment and the People We Influence

Luke 17:1–2

- There is a lesson here in this story about the people we influence.
- It is inevitable that stumbling blocks should come. Hananiah was a stumbling block. It is inevitable that they should come, but woe to him through whom they come.
- It's relevant because non-influence is not an option.

6 Outrageous Behavior and God's Displeasure

Proverbs 14:12; Proverbs 16:25

- When God acts in such a severe way, it is almost always a case where the person doing it should have known better.
- There is a way. It seems right unto a man, but its end is the way of death.
- The bad idea. To reject God's righteousness. And manufacture your own.

THE CHALLENGE

Walk as children of light. Walk in goodness and righteousness and truth. Is there someone in this audience this morning who needs to embrace that walk?

MY NOTES