

II.IX REJECTING THE MORAL LAW OF GOD LEADS TO DISASTER: Jeremiah 6:19 - Shepherd School

I. OPENING RAYER: All.

II. SERMON: REJECTING THE MORAL LAW OF GOD LEADS TO DISASTER: Jeremiah 6:19

INTRODUCTION. What happens to sinners, personally speaking, when God's Law is rejected by the masses? What happens to a society when God's commands are ignored? What happens to believers when the moral Law of God is thrust aside? What happens to God's ascribed glory when His Law is not proclaimed and read and adhered to? These are questions that this text of Scripture, and the application which follows, answer for us.

CONTEXT. Israel had forsaken the LORD (Ch. 2). Israel refused to repent, despite being sent the LORD's Prophets to warn them (Ch. 5:1). The LORD proclaimed judgement to them (Ch. 5:14). Now, in chapter 6, the LORD details the specifics concerning how they rejected Him and what He will bring upon them (Ch. 6:19).

Now, I would remind you that these things were written down for our instruction. Though America is not Israel, we as a nation must learn from Israel.

DOCTRINE. When the Law of God is rejected, disaster befalls a people, and this disaster comes upon individuals, homes, churches, and societies.

OUTLINE. Three points from the text and four inferences.

I. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE LORD BRINGS DISASTER UPON A PEOPLE (Jer. 6:19a).

Jeremiah 6:19a

"Hear, O earth; behold, I am bringing disaster upon this people,
the fruit of their devices,"

Note, this is something the LORD wants the entire earth to behold.

- **CALVIN:** “He would have directly addressed the Jews, had they ears to hear; but as their vices and contempt of God had made them deaf, it was necessary for him to address the earth.” — **John Calvin, Commentary, Jeremiah 6:19**

The LORD makes examples of people who reject Him by bringing disaster upon them if they will not repent!

Also note, this is the fruit of their devices (or *thoughts*).

- **MATTHEW POOLE:** “They may thank themselves for what is come upon them, being the fruit of all these contrivances and wicked imaginations that their hearts were full of, Proverbs 1:29-31; see Isaiah 59:7, Jeremiah 4:14; by which phrase is also intimated that their sins were not some slight oversights, but meditated and digested wickedness; and therefore God will bring upon them the just punishment for their doings.” — **Matthew Poole, Commentary, Jeremiah 6:19**
- **JOHN TRAPP says, concerning the words, ‘I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts’ in Jeremiah 6:19,** “Why, then, should any man think that “thought is free?” Free they are from men’s courts and consistories, but not from God’s eye, law, or hand.” — **John Trapp, Commentary, Jeremiah 6:19**

Learn from Jeremiah 6:19 that it is the LORD Himself who brings disaster upon a people!

- **Isaiah 45:7** “I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the Lord, who does all these things.”
- **Amos 3:6**
 “Is a trumpet blown in a city,
 and the people are not afraid?
 Does disaster come to a city,
 unless the Lord has done it?”

Write it down in your minds. *THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE LORD BRINGS DISASTER UPON A PEOPLE (Jer. 6:19a).*

TRANSITION. Now, what are the reasons expressly mentioned for which the Lord is bringing disaster on this people?

II. THE LORD BRINGS DISASTER UPON A PEOPLE FOR NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO HIS WORD (Jer. 6:19b).

Jeremiah 6:19b

“because they have not paid attention to my words;”

- **MATTHEW HENRY:** “They would never have been ruined thus by the judgments of God's hand if they had not refused to be ruled by the judgments of his mouth: therefore you cannot say that they have any

wrong done them."

- **CALVIN:** "We may learn from this passage, that nothing is more abominable in the sight of God than the contempt of divine truth; for his majesty, which shines forth in his word, is thereby trampled under foot; and further, it is art extreme ingratitude in men, when God himself invites them to salvation, willfully to seek their own ruin and to reject his favor. It is no wonder then that God cannot endure the contempt of his word; by which his majesty, as I have said, is dishonored, and his goodness, by which he would secure the salvation of men, is treated with the basest ingratitude." — **John Calvin, Commentary, Jeremiah 6:19**

**TURN WITH ME*

Proverbs 1:20-33

20 Wisdom cries aloud in the street,
in the markets she raises her voice;
21 at the head of the noisy streets she cries out;
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
22 "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
and fools hate knowledge?
23 If you turn at my reproof,
behold, I will pour out my spirit to you;
I will make my words known to you.
24 Because I have called and you refused to listen,
have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded,
25 because you have ignored all my counsel
and would have none of my reproof,
26 I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when terror strikes you,
27 when terror strikes you like a storm
and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come upon you.
28 Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
they will seek me diligently but will not find me.
29 Because they hated knowledge
and did not choose the fear of the Lord,
30 would have none of my counsel
and despised all my reproof,
31 therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way,
and have their fill of their own devices.
32 For the simple are killed by their turning away,
and the complacency of fools destroys them;

33 but whoever listens to me will dwell secure
and will be at ease, without dread of disaster."

THINK WITH ME:

- (i) How will someone know who God is and what He is like in His holiness if they do not pay attention to His words? How will they fulfill their chief end, to glorify and enjoy God?
- (ii) How will someone know who they are in their sin if they do not pay attention to God's words?
- (iii) How will someone know how to be saved from the penalty, power, pleasure, and presence of sin if they will not pay attention to God's words? How will they know how to grow in holiness?
- (iv) How will men know how to love their wives if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (v) How will women know how to submit to their husbands if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (vi) How will children know how to honor their parents if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (vii) How will men know how to order and lead their homes if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (viii) How will pastors know how to lead and love Christ's church if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (ix) How will masters know how to do business and conduct themselves towards their servants if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (x) How will servants know how to work heartily for the Lord and not for me, while walking honorable toward their masters, if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (xi) How will civil magistrates know how to do justice if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (xii) How will citizens know how to do walk honorably before the civil magistrate if they will not pay attention to God's words?
- (xiii) How will neighbors know how to love their neighbors if they will not pay attention to God's words?

USE FOR WARNING

NOTE, an individual, family, church, or society can only survive for so long being disconnected from the lifeline of the Scriptures.

God will not allow His Word to be ignored forever, without pouring out His wrath in the here and the now, as evidenced by Romans 1:18-31.

EXAMPLE

Some of the Puritans said that they believed this was one of the primary causes of the Great Ejection in 1662. The people of England had such great

preachers—probably the greatest band of preachers the world has ever seen—but many of the people did not listen, ignoring God’s Word.

USE FOR EXAMINATION

- Q. What kind of legacy will you leave?
- Q. What are you modeling for your family day in and day out, from Lord’s Day to Lord’s Day, or with your Community Group?

Mark it down. *THE LORD BRINGS DISASTER UPON A PEOPLE FOR NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO HIS WORD (Jer. 6:19b).*

III. THE LORD BRINGS DISASTER UPON A PEOPLE, MORE SPECIFICALLY, FOR REJECTING HIS MORAL LAW (Jer. 6:19c).

Jeremiah 6:19b

“and as for my law, they have rejected it.”

IV. FOUR INFERENCES TO CONCLUDE.

Q. Why does God bring disaster on a people when they do not pay attention to His words and reject His Law?

I) When the Law of God is rejected, sinners are not properly shown their sin and driven to Christ for justification.

- **THOMAS ADAMS:** “The law gave menaces; the gospel gives promises. . . . The office of the law is to kill, the office of the promise to give life.” — **Thomas Adams, Exposition upon Second Peter, pg. 34**

II) When the Law of God is rejected, society as a whole suffers because the magistrates are not properly approving of the good nor punishing the wicked.

- **PIERRE VIRET:** “If this Law is not obeyed, we can expect nothing but the horrible confusion, destruction, desolation, and utmost ruin of all empires, kingdoms, countries, cities, communities, peoples, nations, and all commonwealths. We have sufficient examples of this in all the kingdoms and in all the peoples who have ever existed on the earth since the beginning of the world to induce us to believe it.” — **Pierre Viret, Instruction chrestienne en la doctrine de la Loy et de l'Evangile (Geneva, 1564).**

III) When the Law of God is rejected, the saints are not properly

instructed in living a life of gratitude for their redemption.

- **JOSIAH SHUTE (1588-1643):** "If we do not allow the Law to be our bridle to restrain us from sin, it will become our scourge to punish us for our sins." — **Josiah Shute, Sarah and Hagar, ed. C. Matthew McMahon (Crossville, TN: Puritan Publications, 2024), 189.**

IV) When the Law of God is rejected, the triune God is not glorified by His image bearers properly imaging Him in His world.

- **FRANCIS TURRETIN:** "The moral law (which is the pattern of God's image in man) ought to correspond with the eternal and archetypal law in God, since it is its copy and shadow... Hence we cannot conform ourselves to the image of God (to the imitation of which Scripture so often exhorts us) except by regulating our lives in accordance with the precepts of this law." — **Francis Turretin, Institutes of Elenctic Theology, trans. George Musgrave Giger, ed. James T. Dennison Jr., 3 vols. (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 1992-1997), 2:12 (11.2.16).**

(i) Individual disaster.

(ii) Family disaster.

(iii) Church disaster.

(iv) Society disaster.

May it not be so with us. May God have mercy on us and revive an interest in His Holy Law for His great glory!

The inverse is also true.

When the Law of God is proclaimed and kept, sinners are convicted and driven to Christ for redemption; society flourishes as the magistrate punishes the wicked and praises the good; the church is faithful as they know how to love and honor God in their worship and mission; the home is holy as fathers, mothers, and children walk in the light of God's precepts; and individuals know how to glorify the Lord in their everyday lives.

BE CLEAR ON THE THREE USES OF THE LAW:

1. To drive men to Christ
2. To justly order society
3. To guide the believer in holy living

May God give us a revival of interest in His Law and all its uses. Soli Deo Gloria.

III. SONG:

B r e a k (start back at 7:10pm)

IV. 1689 Confession: Ch 24. Par 1-3 (finish by 7:35pm)

V. DISCUSSION (finish by 8pm)

God's Law Made Easy

The Ten Commandments

Closing Prayer

SYLLABUS

📖 SHEPHERD SCHOOL - SEASON TWO (2026) - THE WORD, THE GOSPEL, & THE LAW 📖

WEEK	Scripture	Book I <i>(read before)</i>	Book II <i>(read before)</i>	1689 Confession	Certificate Essays	Certificate Exposition
1. 2/12	2 Timothy 2:1-7	INTRO	INTRO	INTRO	INTRO	INTRO
2. 2/19	1 Thessalonians 2:13	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 1: Authority and Clarity <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 334-351)	The Ten Commandments Obedience & Love by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 1-3		
3. 2/26	Isaiah 8:19-20	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 2: Necessity, Unity, Efficacy <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 352-370)	The Ten Commandments The Preface to the Commandments (pg. 12-29) by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 4-5		
4. 3/5	Psalms 19:7-11	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 3: Inerrant Veracity <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 371-382)	The Ten Commandments The Preface to the Commandments (pg. 29-43) by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 6-8		First Draft Exposition Due *Certificate path will meet an extra night this week
5. 3/12	2 Timothy 3:15-17	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 5: Sufficiency <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 395-408)	The Ten Commandments The Right Understanding of the Law by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 9-10		
6. 3/19	Matthew 19:17 + Romans 2:14-15	Introduction + The Essence of God's Law <i>God's Law Made Easy</i> by Kenneth Gentry (pg. 1-24)	The Ten Commandments The First Commandment by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 19 Par. 1-2		
7. 3/26	Matthew 5:17-20	Christ and God's Law + The New Testament and God's Law <i>God's Law Made Easy</i> by Kenneth Gentry (pg. 25-46)	The Ten Commandments The Second Commandment by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 19 Par. 3-5	Short Essay on the Sufficiency of the Scriptures *1,000-1,200 words	

