

June 11, 2023

Sermon Summary

Applying the Promise Jeremiah 29:1; 4-13

Sometimes we receive messages and the content of that message is not what we expect. Sometimes it's good news, sometimes it's bad news, and sometimes we have no idea what to think of it. The Jewish exiles during the time of Jeremiah received a letter just like that. While Jeremiah 29 was written for a certain group of people during a certain period of time, there is ultimately much that the 21st century Christian can apply to their own life. Understanding the Original Context (Jeremiah 29:1)

The letter found in Jeremiah 29 was sent to a particular group of people in a particular place at a particular time and this understanding is key for us to interpret the text properly. It is easy for us to take any verse out of context and apply it solely to our time and circumstances but that is not the way that the Bible should be interpreted. This book remains relevant. There's never been a time when it wasn't relevant yet we still need to recognize that the Bible was written in history and it addresses peoples, places, and times that are far removed from our own and yet despite that, it is totally relevant in the day of Jeremiah and our day as well.

God Has You Where You Are for a Reason (Jeremiah 29:4-7)

You are where you are at because it is God's will for you to be there. Wherever you go, wherever you end up, is ultimately by God's sovereign design. Wherever you are going, you need to represent your God when you arrive. I cannot think of a more critical time than right now for Christianity to infiltrate the culture of the world. Wherever you may go, go with the desire to seek the welfare of the place and people that you are with and there is no greater way to do that than by exposing them to the truths of the Gospel.

Who Are You Listening To? (Jeremiah 29:8-9)

There are a lot of voices that are screaming in your ears, but who are you going to listen to? Not everything that claims to be from God is from God. Not everything that claims the name of Christ is truly Christian. You need to be in a church that takes the Bible seriously. You need to be in a church that is God-centered and Bible-saturated. You do not need a greater word than the Word that God has given in the Bible. Wherever you find yourself in life, you are going to hear false teachers spew their false viewpoints. Learn to discern what is true and run to Scripture and the faithful teaching of God's Word.

The Joy to Be (Jeremiah 29:10-13)

Everything that God brings into the life of the Christian is ultimately for the good of the Christian. If you want a future, if you want a hope, you will find it nowhere outside of Jesus Christ. Man can only benefit from Jeremiah 29:11 if they are first found in Christ! Christians need to understand Jeremiah 29:11 with this mindset: "In Christ, I know that God does have a plan for my life and while that plan will likely take me through times of trouble, times of suffering, even to death itself, I know that this plan is ultimately good because the God I serve is good."