

WEEK #7

Isaiah 5

No Knowledge



“...Therefore my people have gone into captivity because they have no knowledge.”

Isaiah 5:13



"...Therefore my people have gone into captivity because they have no knowledge."

Isaiah 5:13

Isaiah by Mail

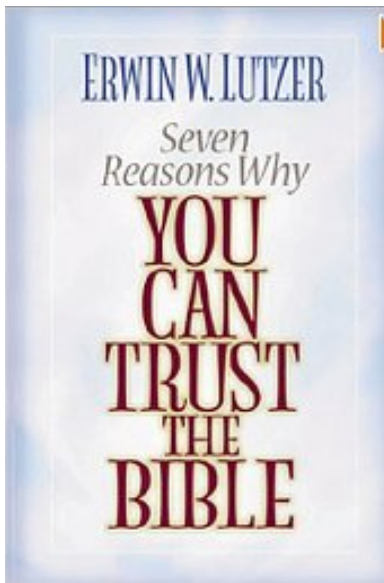
A Bible Study Born in the Midst of Covid

Monday, July 20, 2020

Hi Everyone!

The lesson for this coming week, Isaiah chapter 5, is all about the disaster which comes upon all of us when we

don't take God's own Words to heart!



In "Seven Reasons Why You Can Trust the Bible", by Erwin Lutzer, the Pastor of Moody Church in Chicago gives the following reasons why you can trust that the Bible is the very words of God:

1. The Bible claims to be God's Word
2. History Confirms the Bible's Reliability
3. Bible prophecies Prove its Truthfulness
4. Jesus Himself affirmed the Bible's Authority & Truth
5. Science supports Biblical Creation
6. God People, by His Providence, Recognized the Canon
7. The Bible has Power to Change Lives

Do we believe the Bible is God's words? If so, what are we doing which shows evidence of that belief?

- Do we find ways to learn about it?
- Do we seek churches where it is preached?
- Do we teach it ourselves – to all ages?
- Do we read it...every day?

- Do we live it....unflinchingly? This is really, really hard. It hurts. It makes us unpopular. It is the first thing we tend to avoid. It's the last thing we admit we are not doing when all falls apart.
- Do we memorize it?....oh, yes, we can.
- Do we speak it in our every-day conversations? Why say meaningless things? We can speak scripture and speak the name of Jesus...Often.

In Isaiah 5 the Lord is literally crying out to His beautiful vineyard – His beloved nation of Israel, and saying to them: “Why haven’t you listened to My Words? Why have you brought this disaster upon yourselves?”

They had God’s Words in Old Testament scrolls. But they had not lodged God’s Words in their hearts.

They were prosperous and well-dressed, they had educated and important rulers, but no one had any idea which direction to go!



Challenging chapter.

- Kathleen

Isaiah 5 – No Knowledge Questions

Memory Verse for This Week: Isaiah 5:13
“Therefore my people have gone into captivity,
because they have no knowledge.”

1. 5:1-7 What is the LORD comparing Israel to in these verses?

- How does He feel about the vineyard?
- How hard did He work to plant the vineyard?
- What did He expect of the vineyard?
- What will He do with the vineyard?

2. 5:8-10 Woe to those who _____

3. 5:11&12 Woe to those who _____

4. 5:13 Why has all this happened to Israel?

5. 5:14-17

People shall be brought _____

The LORD shall be _____

The lambs shall _____

6. 5:18&19 Woe to those who _____

7. 5:20&21 Woe to those who _____

8. 5:22&23 Woe to those who _____

9. 5:24&25 God's anger is like a _____

10. 5:26-30 Who does God call to do His work of judgment?

***It sounds, from Chapter 5, like God is through with His vineyard, doesn't it?
But was He? Stay tuned for Chapter 6!***

APPLICATION:

11. Why were the people of God so miserably far away from Him? Because they had no knowledge of Him. And why did they have no knowledge of Him?

12. What changes can you make in your life so that you know God better?

13. Are you ready to guide the people around you to know God better? How will you do it?

Isaiah 5 – No Knowledge Kathleen's Answers and Comments

Memory Verse: Isaiah 5:13

"Therefore my people have gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge."

The LORD Himself is breaking forth in song here about Someone and something He loves so much! Jesus is the "Well-Beloved" in this song. Israel is the vineyard which the "Beloved" has planted.

But this is such serious language in this passage...what does it all mean? It means the people of Israel, God's "vineyard", had not taken seriously the Word of God which they had heard. They had definitely heard the true Words of God, but they had not acted on them. They had not let the Word of God go any further than their heads. It had never affected their hearts.

So, by the "Word of God", do we mean the Bible? In Isaiah's time they didn't have Bibles, like we do. They didn't have a book comprised of the Old and New Testaments. But they did have the Words of God in scrolls. (just big, tube-like books, right?). They had the very Words of God we see in our Old Testaments – but they were not in "book" form, they were in "scroll" form. Same Words of God. Same power. Same authority.

And, like us so often, they heard and learned those Words of God, but ignored them.

This is a good place for us to ask ourselves why we put so much value in the Bible – and why the people of Israel should have put more value in their scrolls.

Let's start with a really important question: Has God Spoken? It opens up the door to all the other important questions...and it tells us why the Bible is so insanely important.

- If God has **not** spoken, then we're on our own, and we just have to do the best with what we receive in this life.
- But if God **has** spoken....if He **has** spoken....then run as fast as you can to get a copy of His Words. Sell all you have to get just a chance to read them! And then change your life if necessary to be just like Him!!!

We Believe God Has Spoken. We believe the Bible is what He has spoken. Here are some words which help us understand exactly how He accomplished getting His Words into our hands and then into our hearts:

- **Dual Authorship** - God spoke through men. He used their personalities and experiences and used their very hands to write out His words, but those words are, word-for-word, His very words.-
- **Inspired** – God inspired men to write the words He wanted them to write. They were not their own thoughts. They are totally trustworthy to be directly from God. Therefore, they apply directly to our lives today, even though they may have been written 6,000 years ago, and they applied directly to the lives of those in Isaiah's day, too.

And not only were the words inspired, but also the men who decided which books would make up the Bible were inspired, too. They were led by God to determine, in a logical and normal way, which letters and writings to include in the canon of the Bible, and which to exclude.

- **Sola Scriptura** – There is no other book like this one. There is no other authority which competes with this one. Church tradition does not. The Book of Mormon does not. The Koran does not. There is no other word from God which would negate anything in the Bible.

Here are three powerful Bible passages which assure us we are right in putting such a high importance on God's Word:

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." **Hebrews 4:12&13**

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." **2nd Timothy 3:16&17**

"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward." **Psalms 19:7-11**

The people of Israel went into captivity because they had no heart-knowledge of God's incredible Words!

1. 5:1-7 What is the LORD comparing Israel to in these verses? - A vineyard.

- How does He feel about the vineyard? He loves it. He expected to be proud of it.
 - How hard did He work to plant the vineyard? He labored hard.
 - What did He expect of the vineyard? He expected a crop of grapes bursting with flavor, and he expected many future wonderful harvests.
 - What will He do with the vineyard? He will break it down.
2. 5:8-10 Woe to those who keep building up their ownings, their properties, and don't see how truly poor they are.
 3. 5:11&12 Woe to those who party all the time, gather friends together to celebrate, but do not do the work God pointed out to them.
 4. 5:13 Why has all this happened to Israel? Because Israel heard God's Words, but did not "know" God's Words. They did not take God's words to heart. They didn't choose to love those words, or live by those words.
 5. 5:14-17

People shall be brought low – as low as Hell itself.

The LORD shall be exalted.

The lambs shall be safe in their fields, but strangers will care for them.
 6. 5:18&19 Woe to those who pull sin closer and closer to themselves
 7. 5:20&21 Woe to those who call evil good, and darkness light.
 8. 5:22&23 Woe to those who get drunk on wine, and neglect justice for people who deserve it.
 9. 5:24&25 God's anger is like a fire.

10.5:26-30 Who does God call to do His work of judgment? Other nations.

It sounds, from Chapter 5, like God is through with His vineyard, doesn't it?
But was He? Next week Chapter 6 begins to answer that question!