

Jeremiah 10 False Idols vs. The True God

Sunday School
11/7/2021

I. The Commandment

v 1 - 2

v 2 *Learn not the way of the heathen* who: **Ps 79:6**, Ps 2:1 what: **Ps 59:5**

how they live: *dismayed at the signs of heaven* **Joshua 1:9**

Heathen are : *superstitious* **Acts 17:22**

God's People were Commanded - **Leviticus 18:1-3**

Hx: Heathen imagined the occurrence of comets, eclipses, northern lights, whirlwinds, and other atmospheric events, whether good or bad were omens of future events.

(ancient Greek historian Diodorus Siculus, 1st century BC).

Spir: Today's heathen rely on astrology and good luck charms, while they are *dismayed* by numerous phobias & fears (# 13, black cat, broken mirror, a ring around the moon...).

II. The Contrast

v 3 - 16

Hx: Idolatry was the great sin of Judah. So Jeremiah shows the contrast between 'idol gods' and the one, Great True God of Israel.

v 3, 4 The Formation of Idols - **Isaiah 40:19 41:7 46:6**

v 5 The Folly of Idols - *they speak not, they cannot go, they cannot do evil ... neither good*

v 8 - *they are brutish* (11x) ... *a doctrine of vanities* (13x) **Jonah 2:8, Acts 14:15**

v 11,15 The Fate of Idols - *they shall perish from the earth*

The Fear of the True God (v 6-7, 10, 12-13)

v 6 *the great Lord* **Isaiah 45:5-6**

v 7 *the King of nations* **Revelation 15:4**

v 10 *the true God* **John 17:3** - *the only true God* (1 Thes 1:9)

the living God **Psalm 84:1-2, Daniel 6:26**

the everlasting king **Psalm 90:1-2 & 145:12**

v 12 *the Creator* **Isaiah 40:28 & 45:12 & 48:13**

the God of Power **Psalm 29:4 & 62:11**

the God of Wisdom **Romans 11:33, 1 Timothy 1:17, Jude 25**

v 13 *his voice* comes from ***the Word*** **John 1:1-3**

Doct: *We know that an idol is nothing ... and there is none other God but one.* 1 Cor 8:4

III. The Captivity of Idolators

v 17 - 18

Hx: The Babylonian captivity was God's retribution upon the people of Judah.
 They lost their possessions (v 17) and their land (v 18).
 This caused them & their children *distress* and sorrow.

Spir: *The way of transgressors is hard.* Proverbs 13:15
Tribulation and anguish upon every soul that doeth evil. Romans 2:9

IV. The Conditions of Idolatry

v 19 - 25

v 19 *This is a grief, and I must bear it*

v 20 The *spoiling* of - *tabernacle* (i.e. your home)
 - *children*
 - *worship* (your church)

v 21 *brutish* (11x) *pastors* (see v 8 & 14) *who have not sought the Lord*
 These are leaders who do not study the scriptures.
 They rely on idolatrous methods of learning.
 The great modern *idol* is seminary training in Hebrew & Greek.

v 22 *bruit* - [Webster 1828 = rumor] which leads to *commotion, desolation, and dragons*

v 23 Their takes a confused, broken, wandering path.

Man's goings are of the Lord; how can a man then understand his way ? Prov 20:24

v 24 God's children engaged in idolatry need to be chastised !

v 25 Heathen idolators will experience God's wrath.

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references :

- *Analytical Bible Expositor*, vol 8, John G. Butler, 2013, LBC Publ.

- *The Common Man's Reference Bible*, David Hoffman, 2004, purewords