

Sunday, May 18, 2008
Pandering Preachers
Jeremiah 23...Key verse: 23

Introduction: America is in real peril today. Many of the signs that we are in the last days are now coming upon our world while our political leaders spend every waking hour strategizing how to turn the misery of human beings to their political advantage. Fuel prices are rising so fast that a growing number of stations don't bother to post the price; medical costs are out of reach for the average wage earning American; the nation has never been more divided as those who seek to lead us continue to be captured on tape revealing corrupt hearts that are bent on attaining power rather than providing leadership. Tragically, a growing number of Americans don't care about the character of our leaders, revealing their own disregard for personal integrity. Meanwhile, many of the children of America are growing up to be pagans, with no moral foundation and little regard for others. Recent videos of Spring Break and Graduation Proms reveal paganism unknown to Western civilization since the last days of the Roman Empire. I believe the same fate that befell Rome awaits America and the West, if revival does not come. What we have witnessed this morning as our AWANA Club has demonstrated the willingness of children to memorize Scripture, should provide us with hope.

My intent this morning is to show you the Problem...and the Solution...to America's peril.

I. America has a Preacher Problem (Jer. 23:1ff)

- A. Selfish (v.1-2)
- B. Sensual (v.9-10)
- C. Secular (v.11)
- D. Satanic (v.13-14)
- E. Subversion (v.15)
 - 1. Spreading ungodliness (v.15b.)
 - 2. Speaking lies (v.16ff)
 - a. False hope
 - b. False piety
 - c. False visions
- F. Certain Damnation (v.39)

II. America's Hope

- A. God is engaged in America's plight (v.23-24)
- B. God is inviting Christians to repent (v.5-7)
- C. God's Standard (Exodus 20)
 - 1. God first
 - 2. No idols
 - 3. Honor God's Name
 - 4. Keep one day for God
 - 5. Honor your Parents
 - 6. Do not murder
 - 7. Do not commit adultery
 - 8. Do not steal
 - 9. Do not lie
 - 10. Do not covet
- D. God's provision (Jer. 23:6)

III. Our Hope

- A. Law Number 1. God has a plan for your life
- B. Law Number 2. You are a sinner
- C. Law Number 3. Jesus died for sinners
- D. Law Number 4. You must receive God's provision for your righteousness

Life Application: We live in perilous times. There are many voices speaking many messages. It is essential that we weigh every message on the scale of God's Word and that we choose to walk in the Spirit and align ourselves with His Truth.

The first and essential step to surviving the times in which we find ourselves is assurance of our salvation.