

ADDICTED TO SIN!

Jeremiah 2:1-5

INTRODUCTION: Even though our secular world does not believe in sin and evil we know that they not only still exist but they are oppressive and destroying our families and friends. Our nation is not the first one to turn away from God and not even know how to define what sin and evil are. In our reading today, Jeremiah is talking about what happens to a nation or a person in spiritual decline.

I. THE FORCEFULNESS OF SPIRITUAL ATTRACTION!

In Jeremiah 2:1-3 he shows us the forcefulness of spiritual attraction using the imagery of a young married couple, hopelessly in love with each other. Remember your honeymoon, how deeply in love you were? Yet in far too many marriages the honeymoon doesn't last long; the bloom of love soon fades as it did with the nation of Israel toward its God, as new gods attracted their attention: Jeremiah 2:4-8. In Jeremiah 2:20 the Lord speaks of their idolatry once again in the imagery of sexual sin. God uses sexual imagery because at the spiritual level in our hearts there is strong attraction that draws us away from the love of our Lord. Jeremiah 2:23-25. Everyone must have some meaning in their life or their life will seem empty, but we cannot create our own meaning. Spiritually speaking, if God is not producing that feeling in your life you will seek someone or something else to produce meaning in your life. That someone or something then steals God place in your heart and life. God longs to be the lover of your soul. Psalm 42:1-8; John 4:23-24.

II. THE FORCEFULNESS OF SPIRITUAL ADDICTION!

Jeremiah is warning us that if someone or something has taken God's place in our heart we are in spiritual addiction and it will have severe consequences: Jeremiah 2:27. When we say to anyone or anything that it is them that makes our lives worth living, it is them that gives us our worth we become addicted to that thing. Chasing after any other god leads to addiction: Jeremiah 2:25. The word "must" here is so important: if God is not the center of your affections something or someone else is and you have become an idolater! You now have a lover god who gives meaning, security, and worth to your life. No created being should ever become your primary love. There is only One who you can count on to love you and be with you all the days of your life: Hebrews 13:5-6.

III. THE FORCEFULNESS OF SPIRITUAL RESTORATION!

How can any of us possibly avoid the fatal attractions of this life? If it is already too late to avoid them; how can we get out of the bed with our lover gods? Do you understand yet that most all our problems in this life come from these fatal attractions? Let me ask you tonight: "What is it that you feel you must absolutely have to feel fulfilled?" "What or who has my heart right now more than Jesus Christ?" If you would be free from your lover gods there are three things we must do. 1. We must personalize our understanding of sin in our lives: Jeremiah 2:1-3. If we are breaking the heart of our Savior God. 2. Remember God's grace given for you and too you! Jeremiah 2:5-7: Because they forgot God's grace they chose to follow other gods. How did God say His people remembered His grace? Amos 5:21-27. Our God wants us to know that Jeremiah 2:5 happened because Jeremiah 2:6 did not happen. Let me ask you the question that Jeremiah asked in Jeremiah 2:32. Our Lord Jesus came not only to save us but to make us His spotless bride: Ephesians 5:25-27; 2 Corinthians 5:21.