

THE HOLY WORD

Respecting & Responding

- I. Proverbs 13:13-If you despise the remedy and push it aside you won't see the results the remedy produces
- A. How you respond to the Word of God is the most important thing in your life
1. So often people don't recognize the holiness of this word and so the respect for it isn't there, the response is wrong and the remedy is missed – Recognizing and acknowledging the holiness of this word sets your response
 2. Most of the problems my people are having are self-inflicted; Here's a truth that many don't want to hear: Had they followed me the majority of the problems they are having, they never would have seen
- B. This verse is true because if you push aside the remedy for being destroyed, destruction is all that's left
1. If you push the word aside you miss the cure; If you'll honor it, respect it, cling to it, it'll be your remedy
- II. Ez20:10-The remedy, what they're supposed to live by they have no time for, they ignore it, treat it like it's nothing
- A. 7-8-These words (V7) should be everything to them but they paid no attention, no interest to them (hearkened not)
- B. 11-We live (live on, live prosperously) by this Word; It is your sustaining source, taking care of your every need-Matt4:4
1. This is word is my salvation, my deliverance, my healing, my joy, my peace, my strength, my prosperity
 2. If you'll give this word place and it means something to you, you'll live by it, it'll be everything to you
 3. *11-MS-I gave them laws for living, showed them how to live well; NLT-I gave them my decrees and regulations so they could find life by keeping them; YL-I give to them my statutes, my judgments I caused them know, which the man who doth – liveth by them*
- C. 13,16-The despised his word (Refuse, reject) – They rejected the remedy, the answer
1. They are not treating God's word like it's holy, they are treating it like it's nothing
 - a. *AC-They walked not in my statutes and they despised and cast away my judgments; VO-Ignored my commands; ERV-Treated my special days of rest as if they were not important*—How they treated His word too
 2. If the Word means something to you, you're a doer of it-You may value hearing the Word, but do you value doing it?
- D. Most ignore his Word and try to pray in results that only following his word can produce
1. Can they just ignore His Word and pray to live well?
 - a. You're not going to despise, reject and push aside the source of life and still get the life
 2. Many don't want to listen to what God says and just want their problems fixed, but the problem with that is the Word is the remedy and so the way to get your problem fixed is to listen to what God says
 3. 15-They don't live (true life is experiencing God's best) and lack of respect for the Word caused it
- III. Isaiah 5:14,24-When they cast away the Word, they cast away their answer, their remedy, their protection
- A. 1-4-God prospered them to max capacity and put them in position to bear the right kind of fruit and yet they didn't
1. 1-2-This is a nice vineyard; Should we flourish and have nice stuff?
 2. 7-8-God was looking for righteousness and found none; They took the prosperity and made it all about them
 3. 12-This is a group of people “enjoying their lives and the increase” but they do not care about God and his things
- B. 5-For them there was a hedge, but it came down and the vineyard was eaten up (consumed, destroyed)-Ps91:4
1. This earth is full of evil and the curse; The only way for it to not come on you is that there would have to be something/someone keeping you, protecting you, shielding you
- C. 13-They're in captivity because they have no knowledge because they rejected knowledge-Hosea 4:6
1. Why don't people have knowledge? They don't have it b/c it's not important enough to them to get it; If you valued it you'd have some, because if it was important enough to you, you'd get some – When it got important to me I got some; When you value it and respect it to the degree you should you go to great lengths to get it
- D. 14-The enemy consumed and devoured them – Why? (24-BECAUSE-Here's why it happened-They rejected the remedy)

1. *24-CEV-You're rejected the teaching of the Holy Lord God All-Powerful of Israel. Now your roots will rot, and your blossoms will turn to dust; VO-Disparaged the Word of the Holy One of Israel*
 - a. Cast way-Despise, reject, refuse; Despised-Spurn, contemn, abhor, deride
2. *Because They-It's not God doing it to them or what God wanted for them; It's the devil doing it and he was able to because the hedge was down and the hedge was down because they pushed aside the shield*
 - a. *18-AC-Who bring punishment to themselves*

IV. Isaiah 30:9-18-They won't hear (yield, respond, regard) what God sent to save them

A. It's not that they aren't hearing, they are hearing, but they won't listen, respond, regard, yield

1. This *hearing* is a picture of someone who's talking and what they're saying means something to you, it's big to you (Hear-Listen to, with attention and interest, yield to, agree, regard, obey; Ancient-A careful hearing of someone as well as responding appropriately in obedience and action)
2. *9-VO-Don't even pay attention to what the Eternal has tried to tell them AMP-Refuse to listen; CSB-Do not want to listen; CEB-Unwilling to hear; MS-Unwilling to listen to anything God tells them; NIRV-Will not listen to what I want to teach them*

B. Herein lies one of the biggest problems on the planet today-WON'T LISTEN (Regard, respond, yield)

1. They won't hear it because it's not holy to them, it's not important to them
 - a. They won't hear what is holy-They should stand up, shut up and take heed; These are the holy words Of God
2. *12-They despise the Word; GV-Cast off; GT-Ignore; NRV-Turned your backs on what I said; NLV-Turned away*

C. 13-14-It's not God's punishment, but the result of rejecting the thing that was to prevent the destruction from coming

1. *MSG-Because you scorn this message, this perverse way of life will be like a towering, badly built wall that slowly, slowly tilts and shifts, and then one day without warning collapses – Smashed to bits like a piece of pottery, smashed beyond recognition or repair, useless, a pile of debris to be swept up and thrown in the trash*
2. *15,16-These words are their answer, their remedy, their cure, but they said no – So what's left if you don't want the life, the protection and the blessing this word provides*

D. 18-What's God waiting on? To have enough respect for the Word to receive it and respond

1. They need a heart adjustment not just a prayer
2. People try to pray, but don't receive or respond to the remedy (Praying for peace, but ignore what God said about it)