

Personalizing Salvation: Law & Gospel

Part 4

Discussion based on Jeremiah 4 & 5 ...

1-2: What did the Lord want from His people Israel?

How were they to show they wanted this too?

Not only Israel would have been blessed by this action, who also would have been blessed by it?

What passage speaks to the hope God has for all His human creation?

How are the people to go about revealing they get this and appreciate it?

As the church holds firm to the Lord, who benefits and how so?

As the nation holds firm to the Lord, who benefits and how so?

Describe the church, and the nation, at this moment. What is the conclusion from our description?

4: What does the Lord want His people to do and why?

Matthew 22:37-40

5-10: What does the Lord see instead and so what is His response?

What is the 'deception' talked about in verse 10?

What is the deception message of today?

14: What does this verse tell us about God and the situation then and today?

18: What message does the world need to hear?

Why would the 'world' have a problem in admitting this truth?

22: Why are the words 'fools' and 'senseless' fitting words to describe OT Israel/Judah?

How is the church today 'foolish' and 'senseless'?

What is the theme which keeps repeating itself in the days of Jeremiah and in our own day?

Have we reached a point in our day that it is too late to repent, that it will not do any good to witness?

Why does the world seem to have a problem in taking God, and His faithful messengers, seriously?

5:18-31: Despite the warranted destruction/end of all people to hell, what does the Lord promise to do?

People tend to ask 'why...why is this happening,' and you can tell them what?

What is the 'shocking thing' noted in verses 30-31?

Examples of this today are ...

Again, we established the need for God's Law and for His Gospel, spoken without apology or with twists.

Are you up for the challenge?

1 Peter 3:15,16

2 Peter 3:18

Ephesians 2:8-10

Ephesians 6:10-18

- Some Practical Offerings –

How has our culture changed over the years and how do you see those changes in our society and in our churches?

Agree or Disagree. People no longer appear to know what sin is. Explain your answer (give examples).

What do we need to change, if anything, when it comes to how we are to go about reaching this current culture?

If people do not see anything wrong with their current way of life, then what will be the conclusion?

We have looked at the Great Exchange as one way to start or continue a conversation; another approach could be to talk about the 7 C's – Creation (Gen 1), Corruption (Gen 3), Catastrophe (Gen 6), Confusion (Gen 11), Christ (Lk 2) Cross (Mt 26), Consummation (Mt 24).

As we are having a conversation with someone about the Bible/faith matters, it is a good idea to listen for

What is the stated objection or problem

What may be the real issue lying behind it

What is the mood: angry, defiant, hurt, confused, frustrated, sincere

(C Driesbach – pastor admit sinner)

Grant the person his/her opinion ... does not mean you agree with it but for conversation sake you go with it

As you catch the key word or phrase in the objection, use that to get to Law / Gospel talk

Have some key words ready which you would like to branch off of in either starting or continuing a conversation

Upon meeting someone for the first time, will the first words out of your mouth be something to the effect “Do you know Jesus?”

Agree or Disagree. Inability to answer an objection is a disadvantage.

You have to answer every question or objection.

I do not believe in a God. Response: Would you mind telling me how you arrived at that opinion? ... Let me tell you what I believe about...

When someone say “I do not need to go to church,” you say...

“I am not a sinner”

“There are too many hypocrites who pretend to be such good church members”

“If there is a God in heaven, why does He allow people to suffer and have so many troubles”

“I do not believe in hell”

“I do not want to be a part of a church that is against everything”

1 Corinthians 12:3

Extra: “Lutheran church drops support of Scouting and takes heat...”