<Introduction>

"Seeing with your own eyes" by Jeremiah

Luke 12:56 Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?

12:57 Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?

This time, I would like to give a message about "seeing with your own eyes". I am going to talk about how we could end up believing false doctrines unless we have the habit of seeing with our own eyes.

As shown above, the Lord pointed out that the crowd didn't judge what is right by themselves. Also He told them off saying, "discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?"

What was the era of the Lord looking like when the crowd couldn't judge properly? We may be able to understand by reading the scripture below.

Matthew 16:4 A <u>wicked</u> and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

Mark 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

As you can see, these days are the evil era in the eyes of our lord Jesus and in the eyes of God. This evil era saw Jesus crucified after He was accused of being a sinner despite the fact that he was God's only Son who was sent by God. Therefore, the wrath of God was kindled against the evil and sins they committed and Jerusalem was conquered by the Romans and every single Jew was killed in A.D 70.

So, again, the era when Jesus was on the earth was a bad era where more sins were committed and the wrath of God was about to come down anytime soon. However, it seems that the crowd at the time didn't notice or understand it at all.

They may have even thought that they are loved and blessed by God. They may have misunderstood. That is why the Lord told them off as we can see in this scripture extract, "Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?

We can see how there was difference between the situation of the era and understanding of the crowd. In relation to this misunderstanding, let's have a look at this scripture extract: "Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?"

What is this scripture trying to say or what is its background? We can understand that the crowd at the time didn't try to judge the era or what is right. In fact, they blindly believed Pharisees and rabbis therefore couldn't judge the era correctly.

The Pharisees who were the leaders couldn't judge the era, and rather preached the sweet sounding messages and blessings. They must have not mentioned anything about the wrath of God that was impending during this evil era. That is why the crowd could not understand the era hence, made wrong judgments.

The Lord also points out that "not judging what is right" which means leaving all judgment to other people is the problem. However, leaders at the time were spiritually blind. The Lord described blind Pharisees as we can see from the scripture reference below.

Matthew 15:14 Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit."

Now, the Bible often points out how you will become unable to see the truth because you don't make judgment yourself but leave it to others.

Isaiah 6:9 He said, "Go and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.



A pastor gives blessings to same sex marriage: A Classic example of apostasy

Isaiah 6:10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

It says, "lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed". This also means if the crowd was able to see and hear with their eyes and ears, they could understand the current situation and get healed. However, they believed the leaders like Pharisees and failed to judge their situation properly. This scripture tells us that is why they didn't go back to God to receive healing.

So, we can see the leaders who misunderstood and were blind as well as the crowd who accepted their judgments and doctrines right away here.

And this scripture from Isaiah gets mentioned number of times in the New Testament. Therefore we can see that God emphasizes it is important to see and hear for yourself. Even if it was preached by the church leaders, we are encouraged not to believe, regardless.

By the way, examples like this can often be seen amongst Christian churches. Roman Catholic churches are a classic example. They eagerly worship the statue of Mary but it is idol worship. It is unclear whether they worship Jesus or Mary after all.

Those people lift Mary so high that they even see her as sinless and a savior like Christ. All Catholic believers actually believe such ridiculous doctrine. Why do they accept this kind of strange doctrine which is far from what the Bible says? That is because they blindly believe what their leaders such as the Pope preach.

Also, the Catholic don't try to read the Bible, pray, listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit by themselves. If they did, they would surely have noticed that Jesus has never put Mary in a special position. The Bible indeed doesn't mention that Mary was sinless, raised to heaven, and a co-savior with Jesus Christ. This is all because of the mistake they made which is not to see with their own eyes and listen with their own ears.

The same thing can be said with The Watchtower. They learn about their own textbooks over and over again. They end up being forced to believe that Christ is not a Savior after using their own twisted version of the Bible. This is brainwashing. That is why every believer says exactly the same thing which is "As you can see, the Bible says Christ is not God".

None of their doctrines are based on the fact that they see and listen. Again, if they do, they will realize who Christ was (i.e. God). But they don't even try to read the Bible and listen to what God says.

As a result, they fail to escape from the trap of cult doctrine.

Now, since I am a Protestant Christian, I would like to talk about the Protestant church. In my opinion, Protestant people also make the same mistakes. Therefore, they don't read the Bible and fail to notice the wrong doctrine.

This shows that Protestant Christians also don't read the Bible by themselves, and blindly believe what leaders, pastors, and teachers say. One of the mistakes they make is the Pre-tribulation theory.

This teaching tells you that Christ will come before the tribulation and raise us to heaven. This promises us not to face the hardship but this is absolutely ridiculous. If you read the Bible by yourself, you will realize the inconsistency of this doctrine. As you read the Bible, you will realize that the righteous Christians will face the tribulation as described below.

What we know from reading Matthew 24 is that Jesus himself never mentioned "Tribulation will come but you will be raised before that". Rather, He implied that the righteous Christians will face tribulation by saying in this scripture extract: "but the one who stands firm to the end will be sayed".

So, if we are to read the Bible with our own eyes, we can see that being raised before the tribulation is absolutely anti-biblical doctrine.

Now, I would like to talk about another thing. That is, we need to judge the kind of era it is right now. Lord said to the crowd of that time "but how is it that ye do not discern this time?"

This means that the crowd didn't understand the spiritual status of that era.

Despite they were living in rebellious era when the wrath of God was just about to erupt, they didn't get the seriousness of it and never worried or repented.

Consequently, the crowd in Jerusalem who failed to judge the era they were living in continued to commit sins and ended up killing Jesus. This is how they were destroyed by the wrath of God. The Lord indeed pointed this out saying "Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?"

The crowd blindly believed what their leaders said which was sweet in their ears and failed to understand the era properly.

This happened in the time of Jesus but how about this era? Are Protestant Christians being able to judge this time? If so, what kind of era is it now?

These days there, are lots of churches which accepts homosexuality and they even welcome homosexual pastor. The fact that homosexuality is prohibited is completely ignored here. Also some churches are pro-abortion. In this case, the teaching of not to kill is also ignored. By witnessing things like these, it seems that we are in the era when the wrath of God is about to be poured onto us as we are becoming more like Sodom or Egypt.

However, there doesn't seem to be many Christians who are aware of the situation. No

one seems to be worried that the time will come when the churches and Christians are going to be judged. The reason for that is because they blindly believe the words of the church leaders, pastors, and teachers without reading the Bible to find the truth for themselves.

If you read the Bible with our eyes and leave the wrong doctrines behind, we will realize that this is the era when the wrath of God is piling up. The Lord talked about His second coming as below.

Matthew 24:30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

What is written here is that the day of Lord's second coming is not going to be a happy day for every Christian. Rather, for those Christians who belong to the world, follow the worldly logic, accept homosexuality, and agree with abortion, it will be a sad and disastrous day.

Not all Christians will be welcomed as God's bride. In fact, the Bible describes that there is a wise daughter who gets welcomed as a bride of the Lord as well as silly one who does not get welcomed (Matthew 25:1-13). This shows that there are separations amongst Christians on the day of Jesus' second coming.

Therefore, we need to read the Bible with our own eyes and listen to the Holy Spirit with our ears without blindly accepting the wrong doctrines.



Wise daughter and silly daughter

I would like to talk about what I learned at discipleship meeting on Saturdays. There was a man called "Jeroboam" in the Old Testament. You might have heard about him before. Personally, I thought he has got nothing to do with modern Christians because this is a story of Old Testament before I started coming to Remnant church. But I have found that it is related to us somehow and I thought we needed to know anyway, so I would like to share it with you.

Here is the message by Pastor Jeremiah.

Before we look at the scripture, let me talk about something a bit. What happened in the time of the Old Testament is believed to be repeated at New Testament church, it seems. Therefore studying the history of the Old Testament leads to the history of the New Testament. For example, we all know the movie called "Back to the future". If we wanted to see the future, we go back to before and study the Old Testament. So, studying Jeroboam helps us to know what happens in the future. During the time of David, Israel had 12 tribes. Solomon had the same but at the time of Rehoboam, they split into Israel (North) and Judah (South). I wonder if this applies to the New Testament churches; Catholic and Protestant. Jeroboam is the first king of the Catholic so he is the key person to understand the issues around Catholic. All disasters of Catholic occurred through Jeroboam. Also Jeroboam and Rehoboam mean "Many tribes" and Christian churches got split into two groups during their time. That is why I think Jeroboam will be the key to understanding the issues of the Catholic Church. So, we would like to take a look at the scriptures to understand the problems with Jeroboam.

## 2 Chronicles 11:5 And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for defence in Judah.

Rehoboam is the king of Judah which is the proper family line of David. He is the right successor of Jesus. This means that there is no God's favor in Jeroboam. This can also be seen as prophecy about the works of Protestant.

11:11 And he fortified the strong holds, and put captains in them, and store of victual, and of oil and wine.

"Victual, and of oil and wine" are parables of the word of God and the Holy Spirit. Therefore, this explains that the work of the Holy Spirit has progressed through Judah.

11:12 And in every several city he put shields and spears, and made them exceeding strong, having Judah and Benjamin on his side.

"Shield" is a parable of the scripture or doctrine, so this part means doctrine has become strongly supported.

11:13And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts.

11:14 For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the Lord:

We need to focus on "the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel". Levites live separated in each tribe. They are like pastors and priests in this era. Levites also go everywhere. This means Levites are even in Northern Israel (Catholic). Therefore, "And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts" means pastors (or priests) abandoned the land they are in charge of and became Protestant. They left Catholic, left churches and congregation behind, and came to the side of Protestant. By the way, Levites means "stick together". So, God's will is found in Protestant. It is where everything is started. Catholics may have many believers, but the favor of God is on the side of the Protestants.

11:15 And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made.

Jeroboam is doing something silly here. As described, "the calves which he had made", the problem is that he created the calves. The will of God is not found here. "Calves" or "goats" are parable of Christians, which means this describes that they worshiped an idle. Catholics worship humans like the Pope, Mother Theresa, and Saints as if they are gods. This is what is clearly written in Old Testament. Let's keep learning about this from 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 13.

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 13:3 And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of valiant men of war, even four hundred thousand chosen men: Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, being mighty men of valour.

13:4 And Abijah stood up upon mount Zemaraim, which is in mount Ephraim, and said, Hear me, thou Jeroboam, and all Israel;

13:5 Ought ye not to know that the Lord God of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?

The kingdom of Israel was given to David and his children therefore we can see Jeroboam is not a real king although he has many people under him. Indeed, Catholics has more people than Protestant at the moment, but God has granted Protestant to inherit the kingdom of Israel (Christian church). You could say Catholics have no connection to Christ.

13:6 Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, is risen up, and hath rebelled against his lord.

Plus, Jeroboam went against Solomon (Holy Spirit) so the country he created can be said to be the one which is against the Holy Spirit. If I am allowed to say this, I think the Catholic don't get the works of the Holy Spirit very much. The statue of Mary with blood streaming down like tears is a classic example.

13:8 And now ye think to withstand the kingdom of the Lord in the hand of the sons of David; and ye be a great multitude, and there are with your golden calves, which Jeroboam made you for gods.

"Kingdom of the Lord" is Judah in south; Protestant. Catholic is the kingdom which went against Protestant and they attack Protestant. By the way, there is a historical incident where many Protestant people got killed by Catholic believers. It is noticeable that Catholic has many believers and I wonder this is because many people are living the worldly life. Also, when we talk about Catholic, we can't go past the idle worship issue.

13:9 Have ye not cast out the priests of the Lord, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and

have made you priests after the manner of the nations of other lands? so that whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young bullock and seven rams, the same may be a priest of them that are no gods.

The problem of Catholic pastors and priests is the fact they are not Levites as described "Have ye not cast out the priests of the Lord, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made you priests after the manner of the nations of other lands?" Basically, no one but Levites should serve God. But priests of Jeroboam are not Levites, and Catholic priests are not intending to serve God. They are rather serving Pope and churches. If the Pope says there is no hell, they follow the teaching. They are following something other than God and this ungodly teaching is what the Catholic doctrine is based upon.

13:10 But as for us, the Lord is our God, and we have not forsaken him; and the priests, which minister unto the Lord, are the sons of Aaron, and the Levites wait upon their business:

This tells us that the value of the Protestant is based on God who supports Levites.

13:11 And they burn unto the Lord every morning and every evening burnt sacrifices and sweet incense: the shewbread also set they in order upon the pure table; and the candlestick of gold with the lamps thereof, to burn every evening: for we keep the charge of the Lord our God; but ye have forsaken him.

This is what Ps. Jeremiah shared and I hope you could understand his message from Jeroboam's case. Like how I used to be, many Protestant Christians don't seem to know much about Catholic and its issues. However, what I mentioned here is also a prophecy of End Times therefore I decided to share with you this time. I thank God who always speaks to us something very important.



The statue of Mary weeping, shedding blood as tears.