

< The prophet which prophesieth of peace > by Jeremiah

Jeremiah 28:8 The prophets that have been before me and before thee of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of war, and of evil, and of pestilence.

28:9 The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the Lord hath truly sent him.

Today, I would like to give a message about "The prophet which prophesieth of peace." It is about how many teachers and prophets that has now become "The prophet which prophesieth of peace." Let's take a closer look at the scripture.

<The prophet of Lord talks about warning, not peace>

The prophets that have been before me and before thee of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of war, and of evil, and of pestilence.

As Jeremiah talks here, the prophets are meant to prophesize about war, evil, and pestilence. There is a reason why God sends prophets, and the reason is not to praise his people but to give warnings.

Say for example, when fire engines run with siren around the town, they are doing so because there is a fire somewhere. They are not running around making the noise to praise someone. This may probably somehow explain what I am trying to say here I hope.

The reason why God sends prophets is the same. He is trying to prophesize disaster to His people.

<Prophets who talk peace often make mistakes>

The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the Lord hath truly sent him.

It says that the prophets who talk about the peace are exceptional people from God's point of view. This message of peace could be doubtful therefore we need to wait upon God until we see the words of the prophets become true. It is necessary to confirm the prophecy of the peace.

<The prophecy of the peace was not fulfilled in Jeremiah's time>

How true is it that we need to be careful about the prophets speaking the peace?

Hananiah prophesized the peace to the people as below.

Jeremiah 28:10 Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and brake it.

28:11 And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, Thus saith the Lord; Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years. And the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

This prophecy of Hananiah was a positive one and gave the people hope. The people and the king must have rejoiced when they heard this. However, this prophecy wasn't from God. Please take a look at the scripture below.

Jeremiah 28:15 Then said the prophet Jeremiah unto Hananiah the prophet, Hear now, Hananiah; The Lord hath not sent thee, but thou makest these people to trust in a lie.

28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will cast thee from off the face of the earth: this year thou shalt die because thou hast taught rebellion against the Lord.

28:17 So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.

As stated here, the prophecy Hananiah delivered was about peace which made people happy, but it was not from God and actually encouraged to become rebellious to God. Consequently, Hananiah paid the price for the false prophecy and died.

<The prophecy of peace didn't get fulfilled at the time of Jesus either>

When Jesus was around, the prophecy of severe warning was delivered to Jerusalem as below.

Luke 19:41 And when he approached, he beheld the city and wept over it,

19:42 Saying, If thou had known, even thou, at least in this day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hidden from thy eyes.

19:43 For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side,

19:44 And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

This word from Lord was about the battle against the city and destruction and was warning against Jerusalem which means it was not talking about the peace. This prophecy was fulfilled 40 years later when Rome attacked the city.

However, it seems that rabbis and Pharisees never gave severe warnings to the people and rather they may have talked about the peace. That is why Jesus spoke as below possibly.

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

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

I am only guessing that the reason why Jesus said “why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?” is because the people were relying on Pharisees and rabbis to judge the era and believed now is the time of peace. Despite the fact that it was the era of God's wrath, they didn't try to judge themselves.

This view of Lord was right, and Jerusalem experienced not peace and happiness but devastating destruction. We can see therefore that the prophecy of the peace was not from God after all at this time.

<Pre-tribulation rapture theory is the prophecy of peace >

Now, let' s bring us back to the current era.

Many teachers and prophets speak peace right now. The prime example is someone who speaks about the pre-tribulation rapture theory. This theory talks about the peace to the people who are willing to hear.

1. Christians will never go through the tribulation and be raised beforehand.
2. When an anti-Christ appears, the church doesn't exist anymore. Therefore, Christians will never receive the persecution.
3. "Covenant of one week" means 7 years of Middle East peace agreement. Therefore, it has got nothing to do with Christians.

These are all not based on the Bible and only give false teachings with no backups. Here is the truth.

1. Righteous Christians will go through the tribulation
2. An anti-Christ will drive out Christ in the middle of the church and claim to be God. He is not unrelated to Christians at all.



Jeremiah gets released by Hananiah

3. "Covenant of one week" in Daniel is the covenant made between an anti-Christ

and rebellious Christians. By making this covenant, Christians will lose the eternal covenant with God.

As you can see, the Bible warns that people will ignore the prophecy of the peace and they will start trusting the false teachings.

<The prophecy of the pre-tribulation rapture theory is not going to be fulfilled>

The Bible talks that "we can only see that the prophecy of the peace is from God if it is fulfilled."

So, based on this fact, how is the pre-tribulation theory doing at the moment? Unfortunately, the pre-tribulation theory is destined to be unfulfilled. Many people insisted on the legitimacy of the pre-tribulation theory, but none of them were correct.

For example, let's look at what Hull Lindsay who wrote: "The late Green Planet Earth" predicted.

1. Soviet Union will become the country of anti-Christ
2. Christ will return by 1988
3. Armageddon or tribulation will occur in 80' s

These prophecies have been completely unfulfilled, and Lindsay's case is not the only one.

<Conclusion: The pre-tribulation theory is not from God>

Based on these facts, we can see that the pre-tribulation theory is not from God and not biblical.

1. It is the prophecy of peace
2. It will not be fulfilled

<Revelation is not about peace>

As we have seen so far, the prophecy which is shared by the prophets sent from God is

not about peace. Instead, they share up-coming disasters and warnings. This is the same in Revelation, and it is not about sharing peace but wars and disasters which will come upon the rebellious church. It also matches with the Bible.

Let' s take a look at the text from Revelation which is about prophesying disasters coming upon the church.

Revelation 6:3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.

6:4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

Red is the color of fire and fire represents spiritual aspect.

This explains that the revival will come in the church like the third wave of Holy Spirit and the spirit will bring separations and conflicts. The scripture below describes the day this prophecy is fulfilled.

Luke 12:49 I have come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it is already kindled?

12:50 But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it is accomplished!

12:51 Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? I tell you, No; but rather division:

12:52 For from henceforth, there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three.

12:53 The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

Why is there going to be conflicts when Holy Spirit comes down? That is because He is a different spirit from the rest of the spirits that lead certain people. When the Holy Spirit came down on the Day of Pentecost, it actually didn't bring peace and unity among Jews.

It rather brought arguments and conflicts in Jerusalem, and people like Peter and John who received Holy Spirit were persecuted, and Stephen even got killed. That was because Pharisees and rabbis opposed to the spirit and wanted to kill. What happened on the day of Pentecost will happen again in End Times. So, this is not a prophecy of peace in the church but conflicts and separation among rebellious churches, and even some life threatening incidents towards Christians.

Let' s look at another scripture.

Revelation 6:5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.

6:6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

Black is in perfect contrast with the white robe of righteousness, meaning sin and death. This indicates that what is written here is the prophecy of the day when sin and death will cover some churches. Barley and wheat which are like the word of God will become precious and expensive to some. There will also be an attack on the work of Holy Spirit. As you can see, Revelation talks about the wars and disasters some churches will face, so we need to acknowledge that properly.

Amen



Four horses in Revelation

Understanding the era “Prayer of pagan” by H.F

Jesus told us to know the era, so what kind of era are we in now?

2 Kings 16:9 And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him: for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to Kir, and slew Rezin.

16:10 And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglathpileser king of Assyria and saw an altar that was at Damascus: and king Ahaz sent to Urijah, the priest the fashion of the altar, and the pattern of it, according to all the workmanship thereof.

16:11 And Urijah, the priest built an altar according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus: so Urijah the priest made it against king Ahaz came from Damascus.

16:12 And when the king came from Damascus, the king saw the altar: and the king approached the altar, and offered thereon.

16:14 And he also brought the brasen altar, which was before the Lord, from the forefront of the house, from between the altar and the house of the Lord, and put it on the north side of the altar.

What Ahaz did was basically to swap the altar with that of pagans. Although it is in the same place, it symbolizes that the prayer has changed and lost its purity. The essence of the prayer is no longer the same.

The Bible exists to teach and train us. It is said that what happened in the Old Testament will also happen in the era of New Testament.

Some people warn that the essence of the prayer among Protestant churches are changing. Therefore, we are seeing the changes taking place right now, unfortunately.

For example, 90% of Protestant Christian institutes in the U.S are said to offer Spiritual Formation program according to Lighthouse Trails.

Spiritual Formation program encourages students to try Catholic way of prayer as well as yoga and some creative prayers. The most popular method is to listen to what the Bible says, according to Christian Research Service.

They try to make it look like that they are following the biblical method of prayer.

This may be interpreted somehow like the same as what Ahaz did with the alter. This is being employed by many Protestant schools at the moment.

Similarly, many Protestant schools are employing Catholic way of spiritual prayer. Ray Yungen said, "Despite there is a difference in doctrine between Catholic and Protestant, we are becoming more open to the Catholic way of prayer."

Henri Nouwen, a Catholic religious scholar, explained in his book "Pray to Live" that Thomas Merton, a famous adviser for spiritual prayer, is influenced by Hindu monks.

Nouwen is also very popular among the leaders of the Protestant church and was ranked at the 2nd most influential after Billy Graham by 3400 leaders in the U.S back in 1994. He has influenced many Protestant leaders so far.

However, Ray Yungen said "Nouwen supports the book of Eknath Easwaran who is a spiritual teacher of Hinduism, and he has taken part in writing a book which is half Christian half Hinduism in essence. The book is very open to Buddhism and Muslim as well. Nouwen also insisted that everything is together and this is actually Pantheism's view." This makes me wonder if Nouwen has the biblical faith.

Traditional Catholic's prayer and centering prayer are influenced by oriental thoughts which are about waiting on God in silence while stopping thinking process to seek inner silence and emptiness. Has Christ taught such prayer? The Bible never mentions anything like that. If you become spiritual in a non-biblical way, you will experience the works of other spirits than Holy Spirit.

Protestant has been accepting such Catholic prayer which is influenced by foreign

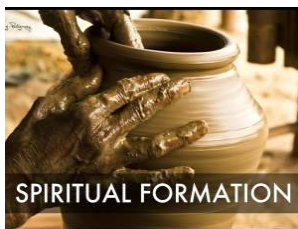
religions, and the prayer is clearly changing its essence.

Now, what does Jesus say about this kind of prayer?

Matthew 6:7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Jesus told us not to pray like heresies. He said that their prayer is about repeating the same prayer over and over. Catholic prayers such as meditational prayer and the prayer using Rosario repeat the same phrase many times.

I wonder if you could possibly say this is what Jesus was talking about the prayer of heresies. The essence of prayer is changing right now. Therefore, we need to judge the era.



Spiritual Formation