**Jeremiah 28:1-17**

***“When Confronted With Truth”***

Introduction:

1. Have you been confronted with Truth? When confronted with truth...it is either accepted

 and applied or you must come up with your own form of truth that is not true.

2. In Jeremiah 28 Judah has been confronted with Truth:

Have you been confronted with truth? Are you coming up with your own form of truth?

**I. THE REACTION TO TRUTH 28:1-4; 10-11; 15-17**

 ***A. The Direction 1***

**1.** Get someone with some authority. Give it exposure. Say it with confidence. Say

 it loud enough and long enough…it must be true. Evolution…Global Warming…

 Trump colluded with Russia, etc.

 **2.** *In the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah* which lasted for 11 years. According to

 Jewish usage the date was in the beginning, for the Jews divided periods of time into

 halves. It means, *in the first half of his reign.*

**3.** Hananiah the false prophet had the right title…*prophet.* He had the right publicity.

 He had the right exposure. The people were either celebrating New Moon or

 Sabbath. To contradict what Jeremiah had just said in 594 or 595 B.C., this was in

 the 5th month which makes it the summer season.

 **4.** Get a place to spread a message, in this case the *Temple*. He goes to God’s house

 to people who are searching.

 ***B. The Directive 2a***

**1.** *Thus speaks the Lord of host…*what is your authority??

 **2.** It sounds much like the true prophet, *God says…God has spoken (27:2,4,8,11,15*

 *16,18,19,21,22)*

**3.** He is claiming inspiration…authority from God.

 **4.** People can make the Bible say anything that promotes their belief system or agenda.

 ***C. The Denial 2b***

 *I have broken…I will break.*

1. **You come up with your form of truth.**
2. It’s just the opposite of what Jeremiah, the true prophet, was saying.
3. Hananiah uses what is called in Hebrew a prophetic perfect which emphasizes the certainty of a future event or promise.
4. Have your truth or authority in place or you will be led astray, because it sounds like the real thing!!

***D. The Distortion 3-4***

**1.** Jeremiah has said the Captivity would be for 70 years. Hananiah says 2 years.

 The vessels and Jeconiah will be returned. *For I will break the yoke of Babylon.*

**2.** When you want something bad enough, you will believe anything!!

 **3.** We always want short term discomfort, and 2 years sure beats 70 years.

 **4.** The Denial and Distortion of the Central Message brings Confusion.

 ***E. The Destruction 10-11***

**1.** In verses 5-9 the word of God is spoken by the man of God.

 **2.** Hananian took the yoke from Jeremiah and broke it!

 \*Get loud and demonstrative...become emotional.

 \*Sincerity and emotion does not change the truth!

 **3.** v. 11 Repeat your point over and over. Convince as many as possible. The

 majority rules. Get enough people saying the same thing and it makes it

 right…abortion, transgender, LBGTQ, etc. There is no Virgin Birth or Resurrection.

 The Bible is not the word of God. **WRONG!!**

 ***F. The Death 15-17*** *There comes a day of reckoning.*

**1. False ‘truth’ will kill you.**

 **2.** After some interval, Jeremiah received word from the Lord against Hananiah.

 **3.** v. 15 The Lord said He had not sent Hananiah. *You make these people trust lies.*

 *I will send thee from off the face of the earth. v. 17* In two months he died. It was

 the Jews penalty for apostasy. **Pay Day Someday.**

**4. It’s not what I think. It’s what He thinks!**

Have you been confronted with truth? Are you coming up with your own form of truth?

**II. THE RESPONSE WITH TRUTH 28:6-9; 11b; 12-14; 15-17**

What do you do when someone rejects truth? How do you respond?

***A. Pray 6***

**1.** *Amen…*some feel Jeremiah is being sarcastic. *Amen* is spiritual acceptance.

 **2.** *So Be It…Yes Lord* He truly wished Hananiah’s prophecy would come true,

 that the Exile would last only 2 years. I wish that hell were not real. I wish there

 were no eternal punishment. I wish I could make eternal damnation a pleasant

 thought, but I can’t!!

 **3.** “What ifI’m right and you are wrong?” You have everything to lose. “What if,

 you are right and I am wrong?” I have nothing to lose. I gain in this life!

**4.** Judgment is horrible. Given the choice between praying for justice (what you

 deserve) and mercy (not giving me what I deserve). **We pray for mercy!!**

 ***B. Patience 7-9***

No sooner does Jeremiah pray:

1. *Nevertheless* president has been set by the prophet before me.
2. Fulfillment is the proof of prophecy. 8,9

\*Listen and watch: Look at the history of humanism and its effect on society.

\*Listen and watch: Look at the history of liberalism…does it work??

\*Listen and watch: Look at liberal theology…does it work?

\*Listen and watch: Look at the history of Communism and its effect on society.

**Does It Work??**

 **3.** Is your belief system founded on Truth?

 ***C. Peace 11b***

**1.** Does your belief system produce peace? If a prophet spoke of plagues, war, and

 disaster, he would usually be right because of the wickedness of human nature.

1. Now *Peace* that’s rare among human beings. Hananiah was on probation until

 peace broke out.

1. Jesus Christ promised peace:*Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world gives, give I unto you (Jn. 14:27) In Me you have peace (Jn. 16:33b)*

 Jesus gives Peace…Peace with God as salvation through Jesus Christ. Peace of God to face the trials, burdens and heartaches of life.

1. *And the prophet went his way*

 \*There are times it is better to not say anything, especially when aggressively confronted.

 \*Jeremiah simply walked away.

 \*Jeremiah demonstrates that at times the most godly thing to do is nothing until God gives you something to say. He did not defend himself or stick up for his rights.

 \*The first time he spoke, the second time he walked away.

 ***D. Proclamation 12-14***

**1.** Now *go and speak…*God has given him something to say.

 **2.** You have broken the yoke of wood, but God has a yoke of iron of which you cannot

 break. God’s word cannot be broken by mere man or the word of man.

 ***E. Punishment 15-17***

**1.** He seems to have gone to Hananiah privately.

 **2.** What you believe and teach is a lie. You taught rebellion against God.

 \*This is only after he had a clear message from God.

 \*It’s a serious thing to distort and deny God’s word. v. 17

 **3.** A God of love and mercy is also a God of justice and judgment. *You will die v. 16…*

 *he died v. 17.*

***What God Has Said Is True, and You Can Bank On It!!!***