

A Den of Robbers?

Jeremiah 7:1-15

Review:

1. Engaging in half-hearted religious practices so we can get what we want is robbing God of the exclusive love and devotion He deserves
2. None of our rituals or ethical actions have the power to save us or transform our lives – and all those things will eventually disappear
3. It is Christ alone Who can save us, and allow us truly to draw close to Him.

Reflect:

1. Where do you feel closest to God? What sorts of things do you expect to receive from public worship? Would you come to worship even if you didn't get any of those things?
2. In what things, people, or relationships are you tempted to put your trust? Have any of those things ever let you down? How did you feel about that?

Go Further: Read Jeremiah 10:1-16

1. What does the Lord want us not to learn? Of what should we not be terrified?
2. How does God describe the idolatrous customs of the peoples, the unbelieving nations?
3. According to verse 3, how do the people prepare the wood for their idols?
4. How do they decorate their idols? What do they have to do to keep them from tottering?
5. According to verse 5, what two things are these idols unable to do?
6. Why does the Lord say His people shouldn't be afraid of idols?
7. In contrast, how does verse 6 describe the Lord?
8. What title does Jeremiah use for the Lord in verse 7?
9. In verse 8, why does Jeremiah call the unbelieving nations stupid and foolish?
10. How does Jeremiah describe the decorations and ornaments of the idols in verse 9?
11. In contrast, how does Jeremiah describe the Lord in verse 10?
12. What effect does God's wrath have on the earth and the nations?
13. In verse 11, what does the Lord say will happen to the false gods?
14. According to verse 12, what three things did God use to make the heavens and the earth?
15. According to verse 13, what effect does God's voice have on the weather?
16. In contrast, how does Jeremiah describe "every man" in verse 14?
17. What do idols do to their creators and why?
18. In verse 15, how does Jeremiah describe the false idols? What will happen to them?
19. In verse 16, how does Jeremiah describe the Lord? What name does he use for God?
20. How does verse 16 describe God's relationship with His people?

Summary and Application:

1. Jeremiah 10:9 indicates that false idols can be quite impressive in their appearance. Why are idols necessarily deceptive? How does focusing on the reality of God's power and glory help to reveal idols for what they really are?
2. Verse 15 says that all the false idols will be punished and perish. Does remembering this make idols less attractive? Why or why not?

3. Does focusing on God's relationship with His people help to make idols less attractive? Why or why not?