

The Righteous Branch - Jeremiah 23:1-40

Topics: Adultery, Anger, Answers, Benefits, Caring, Darkness, Earth, Evil, Faithfulness, Fear, Forget, Forsake, Fruit, Heart, Heaven, Hiding, History, Holiness, Hope, Injustice, Justice, Leadership, Listening, Lying, Mind, Opposition, Peace, Questions, People, Prophecy, Punishment, Responsibility, Repentance, Restoration, Right, Righteousness, Salvation, Security, Shame, Stubbornness, Understanding, Wisdom, Words

Open It

- * 1. What are your expectations of the persons who teach or care for your children?
- 2. When have you had the experience of your words being misquoted, distorted, or taken out of context? What resulted?

Explore It

- 3. What technique did God use to describe the relationship between His people, Israel, and their leaders? (23:1)
- * 4. What did God promise to do for His “flock” after He delivered them from evil rulers? (23:3-4)
- 5. What were the characteristics of the King God promised to raise up? (23:5-6)
- 6. What great event, foretold by Jeremiah, would take precedence over the historical importance of the Exodus out of Egypt? (23:7-8)
- 7. What did God promise to do with people who claimed to be His prophets or priests but were in fact godless and wicked? (23:11-12)
- 8. What different, but equally abhorrent, deeds were done by the prophets in Israel and Judah? (23:13-14)
- 9. Where were the false prophets getting the “visions” they reported? (23:16)
- 10. What lie did the false prophets tell those who rejected God’s ways? (23:17)
- * 11. What would have characterized the message of the prophets if they had truly heard from God? (23:21-22)
- * 12. What questions did God ask of those who underestimated His power? (23:23-24)
- 13. Where did the “dreams” of the false prophets come from, and what were they designed to accomplish? (23:25-27)
- 14. How does God’s Holy Word contrast with the contrived dreams of faithless people? (23:28-29)
- 15. What kind of prophet does God oppose? (23:30-32)
- 16. Why were the people of Israel forbidden to use the word “oracle”? (23:33-36)
- 17. What would become of those who insisted on claiming to speak God’s Word even after they were warned of His judgment on their lies? (23:37-40)

Get It

- 18. What truths about God are implied in the rhetorical questions He asks in 23:23-24?
- 19. Why are false prophets such a dangerous attraction for the people of God?
- * 20. Who are the unbelieving “prophets” (that is, people who falsely claim to have special insights into the truth) of our day?
- 21. Why can someone’s claim of a dream or vision be hard to refute?
- * 22. How can we distinguish between someone who falsely speaks in the name of God and someone who is speaking the truth about God?
- 23. What sobering truths should we take into consideration before we claim to speak for God?

Apply It

- * 24. What is one thing you can do to avoid being naive or misled by others who misrepresent the facts?
- 25. What pleasant statements or predictions have you heard recently that you need to examine in the

light of God's Word?