

LET IT ALL FALL DOWN

BUILDING OUR CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST

a study in jeremiah

#8 Wasted Days & Wasted Nights

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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I have seen all the things that are done under the sun and have found everything to be futile, a pursuit of the wind. Ecclesiastes 1:14 HCSB

We Waste Our Lives when WE PURSUE MEANING AND FIND CONFIDENCE IN ANYTHING OTHER THAN GOD

The sound of voices comes drifting out of the hills, the unhappy sound of Israel's crying, Israel lamenting the wasted years, never once giving her God a thought. "Come back, wandering children! I can heal your wanderlust!" Jeremiah 3:21-22 MSG

I. Jeremiah 13:1-11

This is what the LORD said to me: "Go and buy a linen belt and put it around your waist, but do not let it touch water." ...³ Then the word of the LORD came to me a second time:⁴ "Take the belt you bought... and go now to Perath and hide it there in a crevice in the rocks."...⁶ Many days later the LORD said to me, "Go now to Perath and get the belt I told you to hide there."⁷ So I... dug up the belt... but now it was ruined and completely useless.⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to me:⁹ "...In the same way I will ruin the pride of Judah...¹⁰ These wicked people... will be like this belt—completely useless!¹¹ For as a belt is bound around the waist, so I bound all the people of Israel and all the people of Judah to me... But they have not listened."

We Waste Our Lives when WE SEPARATE AND HIDE OURSELVES FROM GOD

Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy.¹⁴ Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

Romans 13:13-14 NLT

II. Jeremiah 13:12-14

¹² “Say to them: ‘This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Every wineskin should be filled with wine.’ And if they say to you, ‘Don’t we know that every wineskin should be filled with wine?’ ¹³ then tell them, ‘...I am going to fill with drunkenness all who live in this land, including the kings who sit on David’s throne, the priests, the prophets and all those living in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ I will smash them one against the other, parents and children alike, declares the LORD...”

We Waste Our Lives when WE SEEK TO BE FILLED BY THINGS WE KNOW DISPLEASE GOD

So be careful how you live. Don’t live like fools, but like those who are wise. ¹⁶ Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. ¹⁷ Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. ¹⁸ Don’t be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit...
Ephesians 5:15–18 NLT

III. Jeremiah 13:15-22

¹⁵ Hear and pay attention, do not be arrogant, for the LORD has spoken. ¹⁶ Give glory to the LORD your God before he brings the darkness before your feet stumble on the darkening hills. You hope for light, but he will turn it to utter darkness and change it to deep gloom.

The Consequence of a Wasted Life is DEPRESSION, DESPONDENCY AND DIRECTIONLESSNESS

Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, “I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.”
John 8:12 NLT

IV. Jeremiah 13:23-27 Exposure

²³ Can an Ethiopian change his skin or a leopard its spots? Neither can you do good who are accustomed to doing evil... because you have forgotten me and trusted in false gods. ²⁶ I will pull up your skirts over your face that your shame may be seen...”

The Consequence of a Wasted Life is THE ULTIMATE EXPOSURE OF OUR HIDDEN SELF

My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵ Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men’s hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God. 1 Corinthians 4:4–5