



Embracing The Truth About Some Religious Leaders (Five Warnings to Leadership)

February 27, 2022

Jeremiah 29:8

- 8 Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: **“Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you.** Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have.
- 9 They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the Lord.

Series Summary:

1. They Needed to Embrace the **New Reality**
2. The Need to Embrace a **Mature Attitude**
3. The Need to Embrace the Truth About Some **Religious Leaders**
4. The Need to Embrace a New **Timeline**

Big Question: Are you following a good leader?

- 8 Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: **“Do not let** the prophets and diviners among you **deceive you.** Do not **listen** to the dreams you encourage them to have.
- 9 They are prophesying **lies** to you in my name. I have **not sent** them,” declares the Lord.

I. Five Key Warnings for Leaders

1. Do not listen to everyone who claims to speak for God
2. Do not let the prophets and diviners deceive you
3. Do not allow people you lead to pressure you into bad decisions
4. Do not believe prophetic lies they make up
5. Do not believe I sent them

Statement: Leaders are important people that can have a large impact on how we think, what we do, and often what we become. Our first leadership experience is at home.

Three Important Questions:

- How well did your family lead you and prepare you for the world?
- How well did your friendships lead you and support you in your growth?
- How much damage was done to you because of disappointing leadership?

II. The One Place Everyone Needs to Be The Trap Leaders Fall Into

Bonus Thought: The Leaders at The Tower of Babel had a vision that God disagreed with



Text: Genesis 11:1-9

1. Leaders Wanted Everyone in One Place

- Genesis 11:1–4: Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. 2 As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.
- 3 They said to each other, “Come, let’s make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, **“Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”**

2. God Wanted Man All Over the Earth (cp. Genesis 1:28 Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth...)

- Genesis 11:5–9 (NIV): 5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building.
- 6 The Lord said, “If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then **nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.** 7 Come, let us go down and **confuse their language so they will not understand each other.**”
- 8 **So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth,** and they stopped building the city. 9 That is why it was called Babel —because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

Note: Five Observations

1. They wanted everyone to be in one geographical place
2. They wanted everyone committed to one project
3. They wanted everyone committed to follow one leader or group
4. They wanted everyone to commit to this city’s lifetime priority
5. They wanted to ignore God’s plans and replace it with their plans

Next Time: They Need to Embrace a New Timeline (70 Years)

10 This is what the Lord says: **“When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place.**

Question:

How good are you at waiting?

How long has God had you waiting?