

SERIES: *CROSSROADS*

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, September 5-6, 2026

SERMON: *"He Said, What?"*

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 16:1-13

Jeremiah 16:1-13

[1] The word of the LORD came to me:

[2] "You must not marry and have sons or daughters in this place."

[3] For this is what the LORD says about the sons and daughters born in this land and about the women who are their mothers and the men who are their fathers:

[4] "They will die of deadly diseases. They will not be mourned or buried but will be like dung lying on the ground. They will perish by sword and famine, and their dead bodies will become food for the birds and the wild animals."

[5] For this is what the LORD says: "Do not enter a house where there is a funeral meal; do not go to mourn or show sympathy, because I have withdrawn my blessing, my love and my pity from this people," declares the LORD.

[6] "Both high and low will die in this land. They will not be buried or mourned, and no one will cut themselves or shave their head for the dead.

[7] No one will offer food to comfort those who mourn for the dead - not even for a father or a mother - nor will anyone give them a drink to console them.

[8] "And do not enter a house where there is feasting and sit down to eat and drink.

[9] For this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Before your eyes and in your days I will bring an end to the sounds of joy and gladness and to the voices of bride and bridegroom in this place.

[10] "When you tell these people all this and they ask you, 'Why has the LORD decreed such a great disaster against us? What wrong have we done? What sin have we committed against the LORD our God?'

[11] then say to them, 'It is because your ancestors forsook me,' declares the LORD, 'and followed other gods and served and worshiped them. They forsook me and did not keep my law.

[12] But you have behaved more wickedly than your ancestors. See how all of you are following the stubbornness of your evil hearts instead of obeying me.

[13] So I will throw you out of this land into a land neither you nor your ancestors have known, and there you will serve other gods day and night, for I will show you no favor.'

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SERMON: "He Said, What?"

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Why did God say these things?

1. Because of the _____ of our sin.

- **Jeremiah 17:1,9** "Judah's sin is engraved with an iron tool, inscribed with a flint point, on the tablets of their hearts and on the horns of their altars." ⁹The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?
- **Psalms 51:4** Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

2. Because _____ and _____ do not get better with age.

- We become like our fathers and only make their sin _____.
- **Jeremiah 16:12** But you have behaved more wickedly than your ancestors. See how all of you are following the stubbornness of your evil hearts instead of obeying me.

3. Because sin hurts _____ more than anyone else.

- We _____ the goodness and blessing of God.
- Our sin hurts the people we _____
 - Our celebrations become difficult at best.

4. Because of God's desires that we _____ and experience _____.

- God desires that no one should _____
2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
- God is _____
1 John 4:7-8 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.
- God's desire is for our forgiveness and _____
1 John 4:9-11 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
- God wants our _____
 - Only God really knows what "best" is.
 - We must be fully aligned with the God who created us.

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Why did God say these things?

1. Because of the gravity of our sin.

- **Jeremiah 17:1,9** *“Judah’s sin is engraved with an iron tool, inscribed with a flint point, on the tablets of their hearts and on the horns of their altars.”* ⁹*The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?*
- **Psalm 51:4** *Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.*

2. Because rebellion and hard-heartedness do not get better with age.

- We become like our fathers and only make their sin worse.
- **Jeremiah 16:12** *But you have behaved more wickedly than your ancestors. See how all of you are following the stubbornness of your evil hearts instead of obeying me.*

3. Because sin hurts ourselves more than anyone else.

- We reject the goodness and blessing of God.
- Our sin hurts the people we love
 - *Our celebrations become difficult at best.*

4. Because of God’s desires that we repent and experience wholeness.

- God desires that no one should perish
2 Peter 3:9 *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*
- God is love
1 John 4:7-8 *Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.* ⁸ *Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*
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