

**EVANGELIZING LIKE JEREMIAH**  
**1 SAMUEL 17:51**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. Jeremiah is one of the greatest prophets of Old Testament history. (Matt. 16.14; cf. 7.29).
2. Jeremiah was hesitant to serve as a prophet because *“I cannot speak, for I am a youth”* (Jer. 1.6). But God insisted. (v. 7).
3. From Jeremiah 1.9ff, consider the characteristics of Jeremiah’s preaching.

**I. JEREMIAH PREACHED BIBLE**

- A. **JEREMIAH 1.9:** *“I have put My words in your mouth.”*
1. Jeremiah preached the very words of God.
  2. Reference is made to the word of God 862 times.
- B. We need reach out to others with the message the Bible.
1. **2 TIMOTHY 4.2:** *“Preach the word!”* In context, we are to preach from the word because God is watching. (v. 1).
  2. Paul is an example of someone who preached from the scriptures. (Acts 17.2,3)

**II. JEREMIAH PREACHED WITH BALANCE**

- A. **JEREMIAH 1.10:** *“To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant.”*
1. God is responsible for what Jeremiah was to say. (v. 10).
  2. He was both to root out and to plant. He was both to thrown down and to build. He preached with balance.
- B. We need to reach out to others with a balanced message.
1. **2 TIMOTHY 4.2:** *“Convince, rebuke, exhort”*
  2. Paul is an example of someone who preached in a way that was balanced. (Acts 17.20,21,27,30)

**III. JEREMIAH PREACHED WITH BOLDNESS**

- A. **JEREMIAH 1.11,12:** *“I am ready to perform My word.”*
1. God ensured Jeremiah that His word that Jeremiah would preach would be effective. (cf. Isa. 55.11)
  2. God showed Jeremiah an almost tree to remind him that He is watching. (Jer. 1.11).
- B. We need to reach out to others with boldness.
1. **2 TIMOTHY 4.2:** *“be ready in season and out of season”*
  2. *“Be ready”* Literally, to stand firm and uncompromising.
  3. Paul is an example of someone who preached with boldness. (Acts 28.31; cf. Eph. 4.15)

**CONCLUSION:** With the gospel, you can change lives.

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*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”*  
-Mark 16.15

**September 18, 2022**

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**MEETING TIMES:**

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM**  
**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM**

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## IT IS WHAT YOU KNOW

Have you heard the expression, “It’s not what you know. It’s who you know?” The idea is that success in this world hinges not on how much education you have had, but on your social connections. In the secular world, it is suggested that the family member of the boss is more likely to get the job than the well educated college graduate.

The Bible teaches us that what you know is just as important as who you know. Paul laments over his Jewish brethren, *“For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge”* (Rom. 10.3). Peter tells us that we have precious promises and have escaped from the pollutions of the world *“through the knowledge of Him who called us”* (2 Pet. 1.3,4).

Our relationship with God is not established on the foundation of our relationships with others. The unbeliever is not saved because his/her spouse is a faithful Christian. The unbelieving son/daughter is not saved because their parents are members of the church. An unfaithful Christian is not seen as faithful because he goes to the “right church.” It is not who you know. It is what you know.

You do not have to know everything. But you do need to know the basics of who Jesus is and how to be saved (Acts 8.35,36). If you want to know about salvation, we are always ready and willing to study with you. All you have to do is ask. CLP

## WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

### 1 PETER 3:21

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Baptism is used in the Bible in three different ways.
  - a) It is used in preparation of what is to come. (Luke 3.3)
  - b) It is used to describe the conversion of the lost. (Act 2.38)
  - c) It is used to motive the saved. (1 Cor. 12.13; Col. 2.12)
2. Why should I be baptized? Because baptism is how we are cleansed of our past sins. (Acts 22.16).

#### I. BAPTISM IS AN IMMERSION

- A. **1 PETER 3.21:** *“There is also an antitype which now saves us – baptism”* [Greek: baptisma – literally, immersion]
- B. Common sense helps us understand the definition.
  1. **MARK 1.5:** *“all baptized by him in the Jordan River”*
  2. John the Baptist did not pour or sprinkle individuals into water. He immersed them.

#### II. BAPTISM IS A CLEANSING

- A. **1 PETER 3.21:** *“There is also an antitype”*
  1. Baptism is compared to the flood. (1 Pet. 3.20)
  2. The world’s condition. (Gen. 6.5,11,12)
  3. With the floodwaters, God cleansed the world. (Gen. 6.17)
- B. Just as it was with the flood, the waters of baptism cleanses us from the corruption of our past. (1 Cor. 6.11)

#### III. BAPTISM IS SALVATION

- A. **1 PETER 3.21:** *“which now saves us—baptism”*
  1. How? The blood. When? Baptism. (1 Pet. 1.18,19)
  2. Salvation is now. (Rom. 8.1; Gal. 3.27)
- B. Who are the saved? (1 Pet. 1.2,22; 2.9,10; 3.21)

#### IV. BAPTISM IS A REQUEST

- A. **1 PETER 3.21:** *“not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God”*
  1. Answer (eperotama): a request, a beseeching.
  2. Baptism is the answer to the question, “How can I have a good conscience toward God?”
- B. All this is possible through the resurrection of Christ.
  1. **1 PETER 3.21:** *“through the resurrection of Jesus Christ”*
  2. Without the resurrection of Christ, baptism does us no good. (Rom. 1.4; 1 Cor. 15.17-19)
  3. **1 CORINTHIANS 15.20:** *“But now Christ is risen”*

**CONCLUSION:** 1 Peter 3.21 gives you reasons to be baptized.

## IT IS WHO YOU KNOW

In the article on the front of the bulletin, we addressed the idea of having knowledge. Salvation is not yours because of your association with those who are saved or your connection to the Lord’s church. It is because you have the knowledge of Jesus and how to be saved as revealed in scripture and acted on that knowledge. Salvation is also based on who you know. Only those who know God are the saved. How do we know God?

We know God when we keep His commandments. **1 JOHN 2.3** says that *“by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.”* He goes on to say that the one who claims to know God but does not keep His commandments *“is a liar, and the truth is not in him”* (1 John 2.4). There are those who say they know God, but they do not feel the need to obey His commandments. Jesus asked, *“Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do the things which I say?”* (Luke 6.46).

We know God when we love one another. 1 John 4.7 teaches us *“Beloved, let us love one another, for God is love; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”* He goes on to say that *“he who does not love does not know God”* (1 John 4.8). Bible love is always wanting what is best for the one who is loved. You cannot claim to love God and then mistreat your fellow man. You cannot love God and then desire hardships to fall on someone, seek revenge, or find joy in another’s suffering. God *“makes His sun rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”* If we are going to be the children of God, we must love perfectly, *“just as your Father in heaven is perfect”* (Matt. 5.48).

When you read toward the end of the book of 1 John, the Holy Spirit puts those two thoughts together. He writes, *“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments”* (1 John 5.2). The way we love one another is by keeping His commandments. At the same time, the way we keep His commandments is to love one another. (cf. Rom. 13.8-10). You cannot have one without the other. You cannot say that you love God and then mistreat your brother (1 John 4.20). At the same time, you cannot love your brother without keeping the commandments of God (1 John 5.2-4)

It is who you know AND it is what you know. Salvation is knowing God. But knowing God comes through knowledge of the scriptures. CLP