

DEALING WITH SIN

Lamentations 3:40-47

Jeremiah tells us how to deal with sin and provides a recipe for revival

I. UNDERSTAND DUTY (40a)

A. THE OBJECT: Give serious consideration

1. Examine: Search the hidden depths
2. Probe: Carefully analyze what you find

B. THE SUBJECT: Our ways

1. The way we walk: Our actions
2. The way we think: Our attitudes

II. CHANGE DIRECTIONS (40b)

- Let us return to the Lord

A. A QUESTION: Have you turned to Him?

- Are you saved ... wholly trusting in Christ alone for your salvation?

B. THE CORRECTION: Turning toward the Lord, not away from Him

1. Take a different path
2. Come home!

C. BE CAREFUL - See Hebrews 3: 7-8, 12

1. Be careful about a hardened heart (7-8)
2. Be careful about an unbelieving heart (12)

D. GET CLEANSED - See Psalm 51:1-2, 7, 10

III. RESTORE DEVOTION (41)

A. LIFT OUR HEARTS TO GOD

- Indicating passion and selfless service

B. LIFT OUR HANDS TO GOD

- Indicating action and commitment

IV. CONFESS DEFIANCE (42a)

- A. TRANSGRESSION: Disobedience
 - Fighting against God's requirements
- B. REBELLION: Obstinace
 - A disrespect for God's laws

V. RECOGNIZE DANGER (42b - 47)

- A. AN ANGRY GOD (42b-44)
 - 1. No pardon (42b)
 - 2. No peace (43a)
 - 3. No pity (43b)
 - 4. No prayers (44) - See also Psalm 66:18
- B. AN AVENGING GOD (45-47)
 - 1. Making us foul (45)
 - 2. Making us fearful (46-47)

CONCLUSION:

The degree to which our church successfully deals with sin depends on you
- We will deal with sin only if you will deal with sin

Please come to God ... confess to Him ... and be cleansed by Him
- Do this right now