

(Jeremiah 18:1-18)

(Vs 1) - Clear Example of Divine biblical Inspiration.

(Vs 2-3) - God invented Object Lessons.

You thought it was Jim & Marilyn, Not it was God.

(Vs 4) Explain how every body made clay pottery.

Explain how pottery is shaped.

Remaking it over again.

(Vs 5-6) God could&would do to Judah as the potter disposed the original lump of clay& started over anew

B/C they had been displeasing to their Maker, He would start all over again.

(VS 7-8) Repentance is the Key to Saving a Nation.

(Vs 9-10) Similar, God spoke of prospering a nation. But, if it chose to disregard His voice, then God would turn from the good with which He had promised to them.

God had promised to bless them as a nation.

They had chosen to disregard God's Word & His will.

Therefore, they faced His impending judgment.

God would turn away from the blessing He

had promised if they disobeyed His Word.

Illus: Founding Father's had this in mind 242yrs ago.

(Vs 11-12) Knowing the Bible as we do,

Seeing the society decay as we do,
It's easy to have the Attitude of Judah in vs 12.

And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.

As If to Say, I am one person, My actions don't really have that big of effect. Positive or Negative.

B/c of this attitude, they were out for themselves.

They were intent on pursuing their own devices.

They were unrepentant in seeking after their own wicked plans. It was hopeless, They we're hopeless.

(Vs13) (The Virgin nation, Espoused to God, had Played the Whore with false gods.

The Heathen wouldn't dare rebel against their false gods.

(Vs 14) The analogy is of the waters of the region. The streams of Israel were crystal-clear, cold,& sweet. Fed Mostly from snow melt from Mt. Hermon.

The waters of Egypt, Moab, & other places in the Middle East were turbid, alkaline, & often polluted. The point God is making is, who would trade the cool, clear waters of Lebanon for the waters of Egypt or Moab?

Who would Trade Jehovah God, for Idols?
(Vs 15-17) Jeremiah delivers the Bad News.

(Vs 18) There response?

Lets Kill the Preacher!

Same thing happened to Davis after Ziklag was sacked.

They spoke of Stoning David b/c of it.

Illus: This hasn't happened physically, but the devil does his best to discourage me into thinking people want me Gone.

I imagine we all, You and I can easily take on the Attitude of Vs 12:

"I don't see any thing I that Can I Do about it?"

"So, I will just keep doing my thing."

But, 1 Person can change the direction of their nation.

(Vs 11) Judah - Nation

Jerusalem - City

Every One - Individual Responsibility

Just as God was willing to repent of the evil He had planned for Sodom, if their had been a few Individuals,

There is a direct Relationship of Influence between the Nation & the Individual.

(Psa 33:12) *Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.*

(Deut 28:1-14) Blessings pronounced on the nation that follows the Lord.

(Deut 28:15-68) The Curses & Woe Pronounced upon them for Leaving the Lord.

Alexis de Tocqueville:

I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers - & it was not there. . . . in her fertile fields & boundless forests—& it was not there. . . . in her rich mines and her vast world commerce—& it was not there. . . . in her democratic Congress & her matchless Constitution - & it was not there.

Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great.

(Ps 19:5-6) *Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.*

There is a direct Relationship of Influence between the Individual & the Nation.

A Nation is only as Strong as its people.

A Nation is only as Righteous as its people.

A Nation is only as Good as its people.

(Jer 18:12) *“There is no Hope”*

We Don't Believe Our singular Effort Makes a Difference, But It can if it is done

For the Lord

In the Name of the Lord

For The Glory of the Lord.

***One Person can make a difference,
If you are willing to Take a Stand!***

Elijah (1King 18:36-37) *1 Prayer, 63 words brought Fire!*

(2 Chron 7:14) *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

(Matt 5:13) **We are Salt – Preservative**

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

How can I, as one person Make a Difference?

How Can I bring America Back to God?

Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...

Stand for Righteousness –

(Prov 14:34) *Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.*

(Prov 21:21) **He** (the Individual/Anybody)

that followeth after righteousness & mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.

Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...

Stand for Righteousness in your Heart!

Win the Argument with yourself.

Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...

Stand for Righteousness in your Home!

Set the Standard of Righteousness & be Consistent.

Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...

Stand for Righteousness in your Church!

No One Likes Church Discipline.

We patiently follow all the steps (Matt 18) to restore, not punish.

Stand with God against Sin.

Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...

Stand for Righteousness in your Work place!

Avoid Gossip: (Prov 10:19) *In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.*

Avoid Foul Language: (Ps 34:13) *Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.*

Avoid Filthy Jokes: (Prov 4:24) *Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.*

Avoid Negativity: (Prov 10:20-21) *The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth. 21 The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.*

***If you can't change it, change your attitude about it.
- Find a way for the Team to win.***

Give Your Best! (Rom 12:11) *Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;*
(Prov 22:29) *Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.*

(Col 3:23-24) *And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*

**Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...
Stand for Righteousness in your School!**

Avoid Gossip & you will Avoid Drama.

Put on your Blinders to Drama.

Avoid Foul Language & Memes

Avoid the Boyfriend/Girlfriend game.

**Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...
Stand for Righteousness in your Social Media!**

Avoid filthy Language

Avoid Filthy Jokes & Meme's: Don't forward slop.

Illus: We appreciate it when Mom's keep their sick kids at home! Don't forward Filth!

Illus: I opened a snap chat account:

I have had 3-4 people surprised I did.

I said why? Because of the filth out there.

Then why are you on it? (silence)

If its bad for for the Preacher? bad for you!

Be An Godly Influence on our Nation by...

Stand for Justice – Stand For those who can't.
(Prov 31:8-9) *Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. 9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.*

Teens: ***Stand up to Bullies
Befriend the Friendless***

(Rom 12:10) *Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;*

Invite the Outcasts

(Rom 14:13) *Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.*

My School is too big.

Make the Difference With 1 person, & another, etc 7 Billion people on the planet.

How can we actually make a difference?

Witness to 100 people/day, 4000years to complete.

Not all of them would respond.

We all have people in our OWN families who wont listen. **But If We Can Make a difference in just one!**

Starfish Story: “Made a difference for that one.”

We all long for Significance.

We want our lives to make a difference.

AS a Christian; We Long for others to know Him also.

God’s word tells us that we’re Comanded/

Commissioned to go tell others the Gospel.

Not just the church, but individual Christian is commissioned to make a difference in our World.

This is a privilege.

Not every Christian is called to Pastor.

Not every Christian is called to Foreign Missions.

Not every Christian is called to be a Teacher.

EVERY Christian is called to go to others & personally deliver the Life changing Gospel of Jesus!

When we take it personally to Obey this command, God uses our witness to make an Eternal difference.

We can look around & see a task larger than our very lives.

We see in our own community the vast number of people, & stagger at the idea that we could make any dent in it.

OR! We can heed Christ’s call.

Rely on the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Personally Share the Gospel.

Focus on making a difference, One Life @ a Time!

Teach that ONE to do the Same!

Illus: Mayor Rudy Giuliani’s quote.

After the 911 attacks, mayor shared thoughts.

“When everybody was fleeing that building; the cops, firefighters, and the EMS people were heading up into it, do you think any of them said...

‘I wonder how many blacks are up there for us to save

‘I wonder what percentage are Whites up there?’

‘How many Jews are up there?’

‘Are these people making 400K a year we're 24K?’

No! When you're saving lives, they're all precious.

“I'm convinced that God wants us to value every human life the way he does.”

He was speaking about Physical life, but is just as true in regard to rescuing people from an eternity apart from God.

“I'm convinced that God wants us to value every human life the way he does.”

To Ignore this Commission is to be a Disobedient, Rebellious Child of God.

You are not right with God if you do not value every human life like God does.

Pray -

Turn - Keep yourself from Iniquity:

Go – (Matt 5:14-16) “We are the Light”

We can Bring our Nation Back to God.

Illus: Soul-winning best social reform!

It's time for America to come back to God.

We must lead them.

The Word of the Lord must be our Rule.