



NO LIMITS

WITH PASTOR DELMAN

ONE MORE CHANCE TO GET IT RIGHT



S E R M O N G U I D E

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Jeremiah 22:1-5

INTRODUCTION

In the days before Hurricane Katrina, engineers, journalists, and even FEMA issued clear reports warning that the levees protecting New Orleans were unstable. The warnings were received, reviewed, and filed away. When the storm finally came, the devastation was not simply an act of nature; it was a scheduled catastrophe that leaders ignored. The drowning was an act of negligence. Judgment rarely arrives unannounced. It often arrives overlooked.

This is the very situation the prophet Jeremiah confronts. The nation of Judah had seen its northern neighbor wiped out, yet it learned nothing. Drowning in the grift and corruption of its leaders, the nation exploited immigrants, ignored the poor, and spilled innocent blood while the religious establishment sat by silently. God sends Jeremiah not to the temple, but to the palace, the very seat of power. The word he carries is a prophetic indictment, a final warning that shows us what a nation must do when God gives it one more chance to get it right.

KEY POINTS

1. We Must Have The Courage To Confront Power

God does not send Jeremiah to critique a foreign empire. He sends him to his own capital, to his own king. It takes no courage to critique a country across the ocean, but it takes holy boldness to stand inside the nation you love and declare God's charges out loud. Jeremiah walks into the palace and speaks directly: "Be fair-minded. Do what is right! Help those in need of justice! Quit your evil deeds! Protect the rights of aliens and immigrants, orphans and widows; stop murdering the innocent!" This is what love of country looks like. Real love is correction. It will interrupt you before it will bury you. It shows up uninvited and speaks truth to power because you cannot claim to love something and watch it run into the ground.

Confrontation is not rejection; it is affection with a backbone. God's standard of justice calls us to protect the least, the last, and the left out. A nation that protects its palaces while abandoning its people has told heaven everything it needs to know. In your own life, where are you called to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves? True faith requires us to move beyond personal comfort and into the public square, armed with a love that is honest and a courage that is rooted in God's passion for justice.

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2. We Must Expose The Corruption Of Complicit Religion

The reason God had to send a prophet to the palace was that the king already had his own preachers on the payroll. These “palace prophets” were willing to bless any policy, anoint any agenda, and trade their godly mantle for a seat at the king’s table. They wrapped the cross in a flag so tightly that you could not tell where one ended and the other began. But you cannot pledge ultimate allegiance to a flag and to a cross at the same time, because sooner or later one will ask you for something the other forbids. Jesus did not build His church for us to hide or to run from a fight. He did not rise from the grave for us to be silent about oppression. We are called to stand against hypocrisy and call out those who use religion to mask racism, criminalize compassion, or oppress the poor.

The gospel is not a tool for gaining political access; it is a declaration of liberation. We must be a people of discernment, able to see the difference between leaders who serve God and those who use God to serve themselves. This requires us to examine our own hearts and ask who we are truly serving. Our mission as believers is to ensure our faith is a force for healing and justice, not a cover for hatred and division. We must support leaders who stand for the poor, the immigrant, and the marginalized, for that is where Christ stands.

3. We Must Seize God’s Offer Of Another Chance

Nestled within God’s warning to Judah is a powerful opportunity. He presents two possible futures. Verse four offers redemption: “If you put an end to all these terrible deeds... then I will deliver this nation.” Verse five warns of destruction: “But if you refuse to pay attention to this warning, I swear by my own name... this palace shall become a shambles.” The gavel is in the air, but it has not yet come down. God did not have to give a warning. A God who did not care would let the nation sleepwalk into disaster. But He interrupts us because He cares. This chance to get it right is an act of mercy. God is giving America one more chance to live up to its promises, to do what is right, and to build a nation founded on justice for all.

We are living in a moment of urgent decision. What we do to the poor, the orphan, and the immigrant will come back to us. God is at the gates of the palace, asking if we will finally stand against racism, sexism, bigotry, and poverty. This is not a time for complacency. We have one more sunrise, one more election, one more prayer, and one more protest to get this right. We are called to act with hope and determination, knowing that our God is a God of justice who is always on the side of the oppressed.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. In what specific areas of your life or community is God calling you to show “affection with a backbone” and speak truth to power for the sake of justice?
2. How can you better discern and support authentic faith leadership that prioritizes the “least of these” over political alignment and personal gain?
3. This sermon highlights the urgency of our “one more chance.” What is one practical step you will take this week to help our nation choose redemption over destruction?
