**Jeremiah: It’s the Last Hour**

**When the Music Stops**

**Jeremiah 7:30-8:3**

**July 5, 2015**

“Whatever form our patriotism takes today”, let it be with a deep sense that we are more closely bound to brothers and sisters in Christ in other countries and other cultures than we are to our closest unbelieving compatriot in the fatherland. God is our King and his kingdom is our final allegiance. But under that banner, it is right to be thankful that God gave us our land freely, and thankful that people paid a high price to preserve it” John Piper

When immorality becomes the judgment of God, turn to **JESUS FOR LIFE!**

**When the Music Stops…**

**1. the LORD’s name HOLY. Jeremiah 7:30-31**

**Jeremiah 7:30–8:3 — 30** *“For the sons of Judah have done evil in my sight, declares the Lord. They have set their detestable things in the house that is called by my name, to defile it.*

***31*** *And they have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into my mind.*

…**Leviticus 18:21 — *21*** *You shall not give any of your children to offer them to Molech, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.*

**Psalm 127:3–4 — *3*** *Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.*  ***4*** *Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one’s youth.*

**2. Announce the COMING JUDGMENT. Jeremiah 7:32-34**

***32*** *Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when it will no more be called Topheth, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter; for they will bury in Topheth, because there is no room elsewhere.*

***33*** *And the dead bodies of this people will be food for the birds of the air, and for the beasts of the earth, and none will frighten them away.*

…**Revelation 19:17–21 — 17** *Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, “Come, gather for the great supper of God,*  ***18*** *to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great.”*  ***19*** *And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army.*  ***20*** *And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.*  ***21*** *And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.*

***34*** *And I will silence in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, for the land shall become a waste.*

…**Leviticus 26:31–33 — *31*** *And I will lay your cities waste and will make your sanctuaries desolate, and I will not smell your pleasing aromas.*  ***32*** *And I myself will devastate the land, so that your enemies who settle in it shall be appalled at it.*  ***33*** *And I will scatter you among the nations, and I will unsheathe the sword after you, and your land shall be a desolation, and your cities shall be a waste.*

**Romans 1:18–32 — *18*** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth…****24*** *Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves…****26*** *For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature;*  ***27*** *and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.*  ***28*** *And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.*  ***29*** *They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips,*  ***30*** *slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,*  ***31*** *foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.*  ***32*** *Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.*

**3. Choose LIFE. Jeremiah 8:1-3**

***1*** *“At that time, declares the Lord, the bones of the kings of Judah, the bones of its officials, the bones of the priests, the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be brought out of their tombs.* ***2*** *And they shall be spread before the sun and the moon and all the host of heaven, which they have loved and served, which they have gone after, and which they have sought and worshiped. And they shall not be gathered or buried. They shall be as dung on the surface of the ground.*

***3*** *Death shall be preferred to life by all the remnant that remains of this evil family in all the places where I have driven them, declares the Lord of hosts.*

…**Jeremiah 31:38–40 — *38*** *“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when the city shall be rebuilt for the Lord from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate…*40 The whole valley of the dead bodies and the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, t*o the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be sacred to the Lord. It shall not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever.”*

**Revelation 21:4 —** 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying*, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”* There is a Hell, but there is no Hell in the eternal city of God.

**Luke 15:7** — 7 Just so, *I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.***— 10** *Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*

Let’s talk about when the music stops…

1. What are the detestable things we bring into our practice of our faith that defiles the name of the LORD (7:30)?
2. When Jesus taught the disciples to pray, he encouraged them to start by focusing on the holiness of the LORD (hallowed by your name). How can we make the LORD’s name holy?
3. What was the evil that the sons of Judah were practicing in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom (7:31)?
4. How are we sacrificing our children and creating a culture of death today?
5. What event is the LORD describing in Jeremiah 7:32?
6. What would have to happen in our community for the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness to be stopped (7:34)?
7. The LORD says that their bones will be spread out before the things that they had worshipped. What does God do when people choose to reject Him and turn from Him (cf. Romans 1)?
8. Why would people choose death over life (8:3)?
9. How should we respond to the culture of death that seems to be more common in our day?
10. What kind of prayer life should we develop when we read passages like Jeremiah 7:30-8:3?