

Sunday, April 22, 2018
Union Baptist Church, Wilmington
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Series:

Sermon: Divine Encounters that Encourage

Sometimes, you got to take it to God

Jeremiah 20:7-9 - (KJV) 7 O Lord, thou hast deceived me, and I was deceived; thou art stronger than I, and hast prevailed: I am in derision daily, every one mocketh me. 8 For since I spake, I cried out, I cried violence and spoil; because the word of the Lord was made a reproach unto me, and a derision, daily. 9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

You get talked about more once you make a change that you did when you were straight up crooked. Jeremiah is transparent. His name means either the Lord exalts, the Lord establishes, or the Lord throws down. Josiah didn't know whose report to believe. There is occupying the prophet role, Jeremiah, but there is a priest, Pashhur, that has a different message than Jeremiah. Pashhur is preaching a prosperity message but Jeremiah is preaching for them to shape up. They should be on the same team. Pashhur reaches up and smack Jeremiah. Jeremiah is upset. God sends a message to Pashhur. It didn't come from Jeremiah warnings but from God. It seems like Jeremiah is fed up. He is so fed up he is not only mad toward Pashhur but mad towards God. Too many of us are trying to handle our discouraging moments by facing our Antagonists. If you do this, you are facing the wrong place; if you need to be encouraged, you must go to God. Take stuff from trifling people to a triumphant God. Facing God will cause you to look at how you are looking at them. He gives to us why we might sometimes want to quit.

1. Perception problems - deception is to have a vision that is not the vision. It is not there. Deception is not a godly characteristic. He said you brought me in but didn't tell me that they were going to act like this. God doesn't always show us the whole picture. We want the end but don't want to go through. It is not deception but development. He needs to work on us. v. 7
2. Personal Problem. - People were taking his ministry as a joke and he was made fun at daily. He takes the problem personally. Our problem is that we take things personally that are only our positional. Only hating you because of Him in you. The accountability of our responsibility is to God. v 7 & 8
3. Purpose Problem - Purpose is to put light on the Problem. The purpose of all of our ministries is to address problems. If they could fix on their own, they wouldn't need you. We let problems stagnant our production. Even though you might get agitated, there is a purpose for your presence.

It is only facing God that we can confront some things. Meet God on a His terms. God lets us know why we can be encouraged in a trouble situation:

1. You have a Principal/Principle Problem - a deposit made for the purpose of getting some return on His investment. God has deposited something in you. He is going to get something out of you because of the something He put in you. v. 9
2. A Passion Problem - it is what in you that pushes you. What pushes you is inside of you. It is the going that makes you glow. It is the doing that gives you the light. You are not just conquerors but you are more than conquerors. It is burning like a fire in your bone. V. 9
3. A Praise Problem - Can't hold in when you think about how good God's been to you.