

# Empty Living

## Jeremiah 2:5

--5/22/2011, Sun Valley, tp

### Introduction

#### A. Jeremiah's first sermon: 2:1-8 "went after worthlessness"

1. Lord's description of vanity: They did not say, Where is the Lord?
  - a. Had a plentiful land
  - b. But they defiled my land, my heritage was made an abomination.
2. Priest (together with the Shepherds or Kings, Prophets, etc.) did not say, Where is the Lord?
  - a. Therefore they did not know the Lord.
  - b. Went after things that do not profit.

B. Let's consider what is not worth it and what is worth it.

### I. Romans 1:21 They became vain in their imaginations or thoughts

#### A. Rom 1:22 Professing themselves wise, became fools

1. God gave them over to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their own bodies
2. Was it worth it? They got what they wanted. God gave up on them and they made enormous fools of themselves. They finally despised themselves. They became as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed. (2 Peter 2:12) Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease to sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children...v.14.

**B. Ephesians 5:6 "Let no one deceive you with vain words:** for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience." .. speaking of v.3-5 Some one is advocating that fornication and uncleanness would not be bad!

-- "Belly is for meat and meat is for the belly!" 1 Cor 6:13

-- We could solve the world's problems if we could just teach all children enough about sexuality and their bodies from Kindergarten onward! Make love, not war! Monogamy is not natural! Fidelity is unreasonable to expect from red-blooded, healthy men and women!

-- 1 Peter 1:18 Peter says that we were redeemed from our pointless, aimless conduct! That is living for pleasure, one's own pleasure regardless of the consequences.

#### C. Colossians 2:8 "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit ..."

Spoil means, "take advantage of someone" Some ideas make a fool out of us by taking advantage of our fleshly weaknesses.

1. They say, "The Bible is a human fraud."
2. They say, "Marriage is obsolete. It is better to have many lovers, ... early and often."
3. They say, "Children: they are too many, they burden us, they keep us from achieving our career goals. It is better to limit their birth by contraception or abortion. It is better to let the professionals raise them. Let the Almighty Government manage that. Let the all-wise, all knowing, all caring bureaucrats raise my children.
4. They say, "The greatest danger to humanity are the Christians."
5. What do they say is profitable? Successful career, house, car, entertainment or recreation equipment. Good health care, good retirement investments, die in comfort!

## II. Lord has a better idea -- "Where is the Lord?"

A. **John 6:63 Spirit gives life, the flesh profits nothing:** we must consume Jesus, his teaching, counsel, lordship,...

B. **1 Timothy 4:8 Godliness is profitable,** for this life and for the life to come.

1. Godly commitment to marriage is profitable, good for you and good for everyone around you.
2. Godly devotion to children is profitable, good for you... to fee them, clothe them, teach them and lead them in the discipline and admonition of the Lord, Ephsians 6:1-4.
3. Godly devotion to the church and to the lost of the world is profitable, it is good for them and good for you. It advances you in God's kingdom. It makes you rich in good works that glorify your Creator.

C. **Titus 3:1-8 Ready for every good work** in service to the Lord: profitable, good for you.

1. **1 Peter 1:18** otherwise your life is pointless, vain, aimless, good for nothing, worthless.
2. Earth-bound thinking reduces you to a chunk of meat to eat or be eaten.
3. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** all Scripture is profitable .... furnished to every good work.