

## I. Called Out - Ezekiel 11:2-4

1. Received a message (**verse 2**)
  - A. Addressed as “Son of Man”
  - B. From the “Lord”
  - C. Recipients are men who are plotting evil
    - giving wrong advice
  - Rea D. There are always false prophets - wolves, hirelings, the Anti-Christ
    - Satan himself is an angel of “light”
2. Haven’t our houses been rebuilt? (**Verse 3**)
  - A. If a question - these evil men are saying... we’ve just begun to rebuild
  - B. If a statement - they are mocking - we’ve not rebuilt...have we?
3. We are meat in a pot
  - the best of times are coming... we are “the meat in the pot” - the best
4. Ezekiel’s task - prophecy against them (**verse 4**)
  - the situation is not getting better
  - Rea -speaking out against false prophets/ preachers/ leaders?
  - Rea -we can always find someone to say what we want to listen to... there are “false churches” that major in “good news” but false news
  - Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
    1. Why is it so prevalent that there are bad leaders? - in God’s church?
    2. We have to speak out? - is that the meaning/ application here?
    3. The “good” man looks “bad” in this circumstance

## II. Gathered - Ezekiel 11:14-17

1. Repeated - the word of the Lord came to me (**verse 14**)
  - Rea -a bold and powerful claim...I’m bringing the word of the Lord
2. The fellow exiles have said - they are far away from the Lord (**verse 15**)
  - this land is our possession
  - Rea -they “claim the promise” - God has given us this land
  - they claim that these nay sayers are far away from the Lord
3. Discuss how you can know if someone is “far away from the Lord”
  - Rea -the message that this land is ours is a message that the hearers would want to get
4. But “this is what the Sovereign Lord” says (**verse 16**)
  - Rea -a contrast to what they are hearing
  - I have sent you away - but I have been with you - I’ve been a sanctuary for them where they have been exiled
5. They cannot worship in the Temple, so God Himself has been their sanctuary
6. Again uses the term “Sovereign Lord” - this is what He says (**verse 17**)
  - I will gather you back... home
  - one day I will bring my people home
7. God will fulfill every promise He’s ever made to us - one day
  - when we turn from images (**verse 18**) - He will then restore us
8. He has sent them away
  - Rea He will restore them

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

- time
1. Obviously He is in charge of their circumstances and He will bring them back - in due time
  2. The promise comes when things are bad, not when things are good
  3. Interestingly the false prophets tell of a return - pretty much without God
  4. In the exile, God was their sanctuary... not a building

**III. Sanctified - Ezekiel 11:18-21**

1. Their change of heart (**verse 18**)
  - A. Remove the idols
  - B. "Detestable" things
- Rea C. Note that they remove these idols - not God  
-use their free-will to put them away
2. I will give them a new heart (**verse 19**)
  - A. Undivided
  - B. New spirit within
  - C. Remove their heart of stone
- Rea 3. The problem:
  - A. A stony heart
  - B. A divided heart - versus genuine
  - C. Bad spirit inside
4. Then: (**verse 20**)
  - A. They will follow the Lord's decrees
  - B. They will keep my laws
  - C. They will belong to me - be MY people
  - D. Then I will be their God
- Rea 5. Judging by verse 20 it seems that it might be easy to tell who belonged to the Lord  
-you KNOW a tree by its fruit  
-these are actions, not good intentions - we are spoiled and rotten with "good intentions"  
-what might we say to someone who said - well I always wanted to do the right thing... but just never got around to it?
6. God will bring down on their heads what the idols worshipers have done (**verse 21**)
  - A. Followed vile images and detestable idols
  - B. Declares the Sovereign Lord
- Rea -same title again... this is the third time in this week's lesson
- Rea C. Very simply God rewards good for those who repent  
God rewards bad for those who are "devoted" to idols  
You can tell who's "devoted" by how they act - fruit

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. God is no dummy - He knows if we are "devoted" to false things or not  
-but, people are often "self-deceived"
2. How can you tell what a person is "devoted to?"
3. The judgement of God in verse 21 is to topple their own building on their own heads
4. Actions speak louder than words

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