

Reasons Why Christians Reject the Truth

2 Peter 1:12-15

Introduction: Jeremiah once wrote, *“An astonishing and horrible thing has been committed in the land: The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own power; and my people love to have it so”* (Jer. 5:30-31). If this statement were written today, it would say, “An astonishing and horrible thing has been committed in the Lord’s church: The preachers preach falsely, and the elders rule by their own authority; and the members love it that way.”

The point being Christians are treating the Truth just like the Israelites treated the Truth long ago. We live in a time where we find entire congregations straying from God’s word in favor of more palatable man made rules and false teachings.

In this lesson we will explore some of the reasons why Christians are rejecting the truth that has resulted in a time much like that during Jeremiah’s life.

I. Christians are rejecting the Truth because they don’t like to be rebuked.

A. Solomon said this a little differently (Prov. 13:1).

B. Scoffing at the Truth by avoiding it is counterproductive.

1. Paul never held back on the gospel (Acts 20:20, 26-27).

2. If we only taught the passages we could tolerate, then we are teaching for the approval of men (1 Thess. 2:4; Gal. 1:10).

C. We must heed rebukes or we’ll be lead astray (2 Tim. 4:2-4).

II. Christians are rejecting the Truth because they don’t like conflicts.

A. Have you ever heard someone say, “Why can’t we just get along?” It is as though peace at any price is desired over confrontation. It was no different during Jeremiah’s day (Jer. 8:11-12).

B. The demand for peace is a ruse for those who wish to live wickedly. They don’t want you condemning their actions, so they appeal to an atmosphere where peace prevents conflict and allows their disobedience (Jer. 23:17). Where peace coexists with wickedness, there is no correcting sinful conduct. Consider our nations position on moral issues like homosexuality, abortion, gambling, etc.

C. What results are a people that no longer care (Isa. 56:10-12).

D. God’s people cannot be silent on any moral issue (Isa. 62:6).

III. Christians are rejecting the Truth because they don’t like being uncomfortable.

A. It was no different long ago (Isa. 30:9-11). The sad fact is people prefer comforting lies over the discomfort of the Truth.

B. How many congregations do you know are willing to fire their preacher when he encourages social drinking (Micah 2:11)? (A prattler is one who “talks in a foolish or simple-minded way.”) Rather, the voice of descension becomes popular. There are a lot of big-name preachers who condone sinful practices.

C. Without a love for the Truth people will turn to lies (2 Thess. 2:9-12).

Conclusion: Jeremiah was right. The Lord’s people love to believe lies instead of the Truth (Jer. 23:26-29). There are many churches that have hidden God’s name. God’s word is wheat as it nourishes those who partake of it. God’s word is fire as it tries the spirit; destroying the bad and purifying the good. God’s word is a hammer as it breaks those who reject it... including Christians.