

The Hammer of God

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Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The 10th Sunday after Pentecost (Pr 15C)
18 August, A.D. 2019
Jer 23.16-29; Heb 11.17-31; Lk 12.49-56

Introduction

"Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?" (Jer 23:29)

The Hammer of God, by Bo Giertz...

CCT: Christ's Word hammers our fickle _____ - righteousness and establishes His lordship in us.

I. It's Not That Complicated

The rabbis at Jesus time were famous for making things complicated. And we're really no different. We say, "_____ complicated." That is often _____ true. Sometime when we say "It's complicated" it's an _____.

Luke 12:54-56 (ESV)

⁵⁴ [Jesus] also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming.' And so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Jesus is saying that in many ways interpreting the time should not be all that _____. Why?

II. The Word is Not Always Welcomed

Luke 12:49–53 (ESV)

⁴⁹ “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!

What is this “baptism of fire”?

What did most of the Jews of Jesus’ time want?

How are we the same?

How is Jesus’ kingdom different than they/we expect?

We are _____-righteous by nature. What does this mean about how we view our relationship with God?

What does this mean, sometimes, in our family relationships? (cf. Lk 12.51-53)

How can the faithful people in Hebrews 11 inspire us?

III. A God Who Fills Heaven and Earth

Jeremiah 23:24 (ESV)

²⁴ Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD.

Colossians 2:9–10 (ESV)

⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

Conclusion

By faith (Heb. 11), let us humbly receive the hammer of His Word, as necessary, that we might _____ in Christ alone for forgiveness and life.

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