

- Jeremiah 6 is a call to Israel to flee the oncoming Babylonian army, and to repent of their sin. A trumpet, signal (V1), and a prophet's declaration warned them of destruction.

### **3 Steps to the Invitation of Jesus:**

1. **The Basis for the Invitation:** V25-26, Jesus stops His teaching and prays to the Father, Lord of heaven and earth. God is sovereign over all: Lam. 3:37-38 (both calamities and good); Isa. 45:7 (forming light and darkness), Amos 3:6, (if a calamity happens in a city, has not Yahweh done it?), Deut. 32:39 (It is I who put to death and give life).
  - a. The Father gives knowledge of the Son, Matt. 16:17. Born of the will of God not of man, Jn. 1:13.
  - b. V25, what are the "hidden" things? John the Baptist proclaimed repentance and the coming Kingdom of Heaven. Messiah King had offered the Kingdom of God. The leaders of the Jews and wise ones of Israel missed the person and work of God in Jesus. It is a sovereign work of God to reveal Christ and offer salvation. The Scriptures speak plainly of Messiah, yet they did not see.
2. **Process of the Invitation:** V27, the gospel is revealed through Christ. You will know Christ by His revelation to you. The knowledge to know God comes through Christ, John 14:6. The Holy Spirit regenerates our spirit (John 3:5-8, Tit. 3:5). All three persons of the Godhead work in our salvation. Christ holds all things together and is before all things (Col. 1:15-20). Christ reconciled us through the blood shed on the cross (Col. 1:20). Jesus' death is a one-time sacrifice for sin, Heb. 10:10-12.
3. **Specifics of the Invitation:** V28-30, What about personal responsibility to respond to the offer of salvation? V25, Scripture says the Father reveals it to infants. V27, only those to whom the Son wills to reveal the Father, knows the Father. 1 Peter 1:3, the Father has caused us to be born again.
  - a. A person must receive and respond to the gospel, but it is for God to know how all things work.
  - b. **Qualities of those accepting the invitation:**
    - i. **They are responsive, not hesitant:** V28, "Come to Me," is a command with a simple response. Just as the disciples responded when Jesus called them (Mat. 4:19).
    - ii. **They are defeated, not arrogant:** V28, "All you who are weary and heavy laden," those laboring and working hard (weary) and burdened by trying to please God, seeking to please God by good works (Rom. 10:3-4, trying to establish their own righteousness). The pharisees tie up heavy burdens and lay them on the shoulders of the people but are unwilling to help move them, even with a finger, Matt. 23:3-4.
    - iii. **They are submissive, not negotiating:** V29, "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me," Christians are bought and are not our own, 1 Cor. 6:20, He owns me. God commands us to take His yoke and do the works He has planned for us, Eph. 2:10.
  - c. **Assurance of the Invitation:**
    - i. **Jesus guarantees spiritual relief,** V28. Jesus gives rest. The Sabbath was given as a day of rest each week, Ex. 16. Israel promised rest in the land, Deut. 12:9-10. Every 7<sup>th</sup> year was a year of rest. Jubilee was a year after a Sabbath year (2 years), Lev. 25. In the NT, we rest from our labor for salvation, Heb. 4:9. There is no longer condemnation in Christ, Rom. 8:1-2. Jesus satisfies every soul, Jer. 31:25.
    - ii. **Jesus guarantees His character:** V29, He is gentle and humble in heart. Phil. 2:6-8, Jesus has condescended to us. He humbled Himself to die in our place. He took no stately form or appearance of greatness, Isa. 53:1-12, but took the form of a man and was beaten for our sins.
    - iii. **Jesus guarantees a good trade:** V30, "My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." Mk. 8:34, we are to deny ourselves and take up our cross. Gal. 2:20, we are crucified with Christ, and live for Him. Luke 17:10, we do what we ought to do as God's slaves. Matt. 19:27-28, we leave all behind for His sake. John 21:18, we are subject to God's plans for our lives. We are called to suffer and endure for Him in this life, Rom. 8:17, Rev. 2:9-10.

### **Further Discussion and Application**

People respond one of two ways to this call from Christ to come unto Him. 1) We carry the burden of unrepentant sin all the way to our death. There is no peace in life, and we die and are judged guilty of sin and violating the holiness of God never to find relief, ever, for our sin, Rev. 20:11-15. Or, 2) We are relieved of our sin and live for His glory, for His purpose, and to be useful to God. All things in life work together for our good and His glory, Rom. 8:28. How does this message bring sobriety each time we consider that we did nothing to deserve this grace that we have received from the Lord? What should be our response to this message (this sermon and Jesus' call to us)?

God sent His prophets to declare judgement coming to Israel. Amazingly, had they turned back to God, judgement might have been spared. Jeremiah was a watchman for Israel. Even a signal and a trumpet would sound the invasion from Babylon and signal the people to flee Jerusalem. Isaiah and Amos were two prophets who signaled the coming of Assyria in 730-720 BC for Northern Israel to turn to Yahweh, but they didn't either. What makes us so arrogant to think that we can choose to ignore God and His offer of salvation? Why do we consider His commands suggestions? How can we now see what we must repent and follow Him with a whole heart? Where does the strength to do this come from?

One attribute of God that many religions get wrong is the person and work of Jesus. There is a warning in Colossians 1:28 that preachers are to proclaim Christ and to get Him correct. There is no other solemn duty other than to preach Christ from the Scriptures. From Col. 1:28, what is the result of preaching Christ faithfully? How does this maturity manifest in our lives and in the church? What is the result in our sanctification? In our marriages? In our children? In our work? In the support and proclamation of the Gospel?

How do we properly receive the offer of salvation from Jesus? What should be our response to His commands and His examples (parables) of the value and worth of His offer to us?