

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: I Samuel, Part 1 (The Heart of a Leader)

WEDNESDAY

OPEN

Listen to me and listen to me carefully. The Lord has given me a revelation. This is straight from God and if you don't listen to it you're going to reap the harvest. Have you ever had someone say that to you? Or you've listened to it on television or you've heard it on radio? What does it do to you? Where does it put that person in your mind's eye? Does it put them in the place of God and do you stand there in fear and trembling? O beloved, you better learn how to check them out.

PART ONE

So many times beloved you can turn on television and you can hear a dynamic person, possibly a person that has worked signs or miracles or wonders or healed and you've seen this and it's almost because there's a healing power there or because you see people that are seemingly healed, and I'm not saying they are or they aren't, but you almost think anything that that person says has to be from God and I just need to believe it. No beloved,

you need to check it out. I'm not saying they're true. I'm not saying they're false. I'm saying that you have a responsibility to check out what is being said to you. You have to know if that is a spokesman from God and if the message is from God or if the message is from their own imagination. Now why am I saying all this? Well let me just give you one quick illustration before we move into Jeremiah 23. Remember that was your homework to read this chapter in preparation for this program. But I was just flipping the channels one day and I heard this very prominent person and he was teaching. And his message was this: without a leader there's no anointing. So if you want the anointing of God you've got to have a leader. Well he used several verses, but one of the verses that he used to back himself up was Jeremiah, chapter 7, verse 18. And this is what he said. He quoted the scripture; he didn't have the people turn there. And see I believe that if you go to hear anybody preach or teach or whatever, you need to have your Bible with you because that's your plumb line and you need to look at it, not just what's on the overhead projector. If they're putting the scripture on the overhead projector you look in your Bible instead. And the reason you need to look in your Bible instead is because you're orienting yourself to the Word of God and not to what the overhead projector is saying. And it's the Bible that you need to have in hand that you can constantly look at, meditate on and study. So Jeremiah, chapter 7, verse 18 was his scripture. "The children gather wood and the fathers kindle the fire, and..." then he just stopped and he said now look, the children are gathering the wood, but the fathers kindle the fire. What's a father? A father is a leader and therefore since the father is the leader, it's only the leader that can kindle the fire. So you want the fire of God in your life, you want the anointing in your life; you've got to have a spiritual leader. So this was what he was using to explain this. He never finished the rest of the verse. And let me go back and put it in context. It's in Jeremiah, chapter 7, verse 16. The context: "As for you, do not pray for this people and, do not lift up cry or prayer for them, and do not intercede with Me; for I do not hear you. Do you not see what they are doing in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? The

children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and they pour out [libations] to other gods in order to spite Me.” And then he says, ““Do they spite Me?”” declares the Lord. Is it not themselves they spite, to their own shame? Therefore thus says the Lord...,” Therefore; when you see a therefore it’s a term of conclusion; find out what it’s there for. “...Therefore says the Lord God, ‘Behold, My anger and My wrath will be poured out on this place, on man...on beast...on the trees of the field...the fruit of the ground; and it will burn and not be quenched.’”(Jeremiah 7:16-20) So what is this? This is a judgment passage. This has nothing to do with what that man was saying what he did was he took a scripture out of context to support a pretext. And the pretext was this; that you’re not going to have the anointing if you don’t a leader. All you would have to do is know the scriptures and know 1 John, chapter 2 where it says that if you’re a child of God you have the anointing and you are able to know all things. So it’s totally out of context, but people buy it because they see this dynamic personality in anyone I’m talking about and they hang on their every word, but they don’t measure it like a plumb line against the straightness, the truth of God’s Word. Well in Jeremiah, chapter 23 God is talking about shepherds in the first part of this chapter, shepherds that are destroying and scattering the sheep of His pasture and how upset He is with them. And then he gives a promise and we’re going to see the context of this promise when we study 2 Samuel. But he gives this promise that God’s going to raise up for David a righteous branch and Judah’s going to be saved and this is the Lord, the name by which He’s going to be called, the Lord our righteousness. In other words it’s a prophecy about Jesus Christ. But then he comes down and in verse 9 he says, “As for the prophets: My heart is broken within me, All my bones tremble...;” In other words they’re shaking. “...I have become like a drunken man, Even like a man overcome with wine, Because of the Lord And because of His holy words.”(Jeremiah 23:9) So there I would mark word again like I told you that we marked it in Samuel with a small little Bible outlined in purple and colored in green is the way I do it. He says, “...the land is full of

adulterers...the land mourns because of the curse. The pastures of the wilderness have dried up. Their course also is evil and their might is not right. For both prophet and priest are polluted...;(23:10-11a) Now that's what we saw in Eli, the priesthood was polluted. Now he's saying, "...both prophet and priest are polluted; Even in my house I have found their wickedness...."(23:11b) Now jump over to verse 16. "Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are prophesying to you. They are leading you into futility...;' into nothing. "...They speak...," now watch this, "...a vision of their own imagination, [and] Not from the mouth of the Lord.'"(23:16) In other words they are standing up there as God's spokesmen, but what they're saying didn't come from the mouth of God through their mouth, rather it's come from their own imagination. It's a vision of their own imagination. So you and I are warned even here in Jeremiah, beware, you've got to discern the false from the true. And then he says in verse 17, "They kept saying to those who despise Me, The Lord...said, 'You will have peace'; And as for everyone who walks in the stubbornness of his own heart, They say, 'Calamity will not come upon you.'"(23:17) In other words these prophets are not prophesying what is right. They're easing a persons pain and they're saying don't worry; calamity's not coming, when God was about to judge them. And God was about to judge them because of their sin. It says but who has stood in the counsel of the Lord that he should see and hear His word, God's word. Who has given heed to His word, God's word and what, listened? And that's what Precepts for Life is all about, and this is why we want you to go and download the study guide, preceptsforlife.com. so that you can learn how to study God's Word for yourself, so that you can observe the text and see for yourself what it says, what it means and how you're to believe and live in the light of it. Now in this He's saying they have not stood in the counsel of My words. We're going through the Bible book-by-book so that you can get the whole counsel of God. You see many times we speak and we pull verses from the text and that's all right if you're doing a topical study. But the problem is if you don't pull it accurately then you're taking it out of context

and that, instead of becoming a precept for life becomes a pretext instead of a precept. A precept is a standard by which you live. A pretext means that it is false. And so He's saying we should stand in the counsel of the Lord. We should give heed to God's Word, and listen. Now when I do that then I'm able to discern whether what I'm hearing is right or wrong. In verse 21 He says, "I did not send these prophets, but they ran. I did not speak to them, but they prophesied." (23:21) In other words they're standing up saying they're spokesmen from God and they're speaking for God, but they weren't sent by God. But they're prophesying. They're still announcing themselves as prophets. Verse 22, He says, "But if they had stood in My counsel, Then they would have announced My words to My people, And [they] would have turned them back from their evil way And from the evil of their deeds." (23:22) If you hear prophecies that are always simply saying you're going to be wealthy, you're going to be healthy, you're going to prosper in this and prosper in that, and if you never hear anything about dealing with sin and you never hear anything about holiness, I really wonder if that person is speaking from God. Because He's saying here, you know, if they had been My prophets they would have announced My words to My people and they would have turned them back from their evil way. When God speaks through prophet most of the time in the Word of God it is to bring a word of admonition, a word of warning, a strong word of exhortation saying you better walk the right way, you better be holy, you better be pure, you better be trusting the Lord, you better be clinging to Him. Well there's more on this, but we're going to take a break and then we'll look at it.

PART TWO

I had a dream. I had a vision. I have a revelation from God and you better pay attention to it; this is from God. How do I know? Remember we opened the program with that question. Well now, let's go to Jeremiah 23 and I want to pick up with verse 25. He says, "I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy falsely in My name, saying, 'I had a dream, I had a

dream.”(Jeremiah 23:25) Now, I didn’t tell you to do this, but if you’re marking the Bible I would mark the word dream, but I wouldn’t mark it in a pretty color because it’s more of a nightmare to those that are going to hear it, than it is a pleasant dream. And He says in verse 26: “How long? Is there anything in the hearts of the prophets who prophesy falsehood, even these prophets of the deception of their own heart, who intend to make My people forget My name by their dreams...,”(23:26-27a) Now what does He mean forget My name by their dreams? Are they going to stand up there and say now listen I had a vision and God is not God? In all probability no, because then automatically, and we’re going to see this in Deuteronomy, you know hey, this is not from God? All right, but they forget His name because His name tells us who He really is. The different names for God, Jehovah-Tsidkenu, the Lord our Righteousness, a Jehovah-Nissi, the Lord our Banner, Jehovah-Shalom, the Lord our Peace, all of these different names of God are found in the scriptures, Jehovah-Sabaoth, this is the one that see that is introduced in the book of 1 Samuel, the Lord of hosts. All of these put together give you the concept of God. And yet He’s saying these false prophets are moving you away from who I really am, so that they, “...forget My name by their dreams which they relate to one another, just as their fathers forgot My name because of Baal?”(23:27) Baal was a false god and so they went and they began to worship Baal and offer their children as sacrifices to Baal and so they forgot who God was. They forgot that God’s a God of life, not death. And so they were perverted; they were twisted. It says, “The prophet who has a dream may relate his dream, but...,” and I would really underline that; “...let him who has My word speak My word in truth...” Now listen to this contrast: “...‘What does straw have in common with grain?’ declares the Lord.”(23:28) All right now, what’s the straw? This man’s dream. What is grain? It’s the Word of God. And so He’s saying okay, you’re looking at dreams when you’ve got My Word. Why are you not listening to My Word? Why are you carried away by all these dreams and revelations and these prophecies and you’re not opening My Book and you’re not looking at the Bible and you’re not checking it out and letting

scripture interpret scripture. And then He goes on to say, “Is not My word like fire...and like a hammer which shatters a rock?”(Jeremiah 23:29) In other words listen; My Word’s going to do the job. My Word’s like fire. I mean it’s purifying. And My Word is like a hammer and it shatters a rock. It just crumbles and it is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart, etc. It’s like a two-edged sword, as we see in Hebrews, chapter 4, verse 12. He says, “‘Therefore behold, I am against the prophets,’ declares the Lord, ‘who steal My words from each other.’”(Jeremiah 23:30) The other thing that people will do, if you will listen consistently to what’s being taught on Christian television, you’ll pick up certain words that are popular. You’ll pick up certain phrases that are popular. And it’s kind of like they’re stealing words from one another and we think that this is the message. And this is why we’ve got to know the Word of God. And you say those people are wrong to do that. God will take care of them, but you’re wrong if you believe it. And you say, well how can I keep from believing it? Well you keep from believing it by spending time in the Word. The problem is we don’t want to spend time in the Word. The problem is we have time for everything else. We’d rather go to these meetings and see these miracles and wonders and all these sorts of things instead of open the book and do some nitty gritty study of the Word of God. It’s just easier to pick up the newspaper than pick up the Bible. But where is truth? It’s in the Word of God. So He says, “...I am against [these] prophets...who use their tongues and declare, ‘The Lord declares.’”(23:31) He says, “‘Behold, [I’m] against those who...prophesied false dreams...and related them and led my people astray by their falsehoods and reckless boasting; yet I did not send them or command them, nor do they furnish this people the slightest benefit...,’”(23:32) So here we see how important it is that we don’t stand up and say the Lord declares. Listen, if you and I give out truth, then God’s going to substantiate His truth and people are going to be able to discern it if they know the Word of God. Verse 36, He says, “...you will no longer remember the oracle of the Lord, because every man’s own word will become the oracle, and you have perverted the words of the living God, the

Lord of hosts, our God.”(23:36) In other words, you’re in trouble. You’re in trouble if you keep listening to these people and you don’t listen to the Word of God, then you’re going to say hey, that word that that person spoke, surely is the oracle. It’s surely the message from God. And He says no, don’t you do that. You’ve got to know the Word of God. Now the next thing and the last thing that we’re going to look at today is Deuteronomy, chapter 18. And you want to write down verses 18 – 22. Now what I did is in my Bible, in the margin, next to 1 Samuel, chapter 3 in verse 20 where it’s talking about Samuel being a prophet of the Lord, I put it’s nabi, prophet, number one, they’re a spokesman, Exodus 7:1-2. Number two: the message is to come from God, Jeremiah 23. And number three: if they’re a true prophet then these things will be true. So Deuteronomy, chapter 18. Now in Deuteronomy, chapter 18, verse 18: “I will raise up a prophet from among their own countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. [And] It shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words, which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him.”(Deuteronomy 18:17-19) Now who is this prophet that God is going to raise up from among their own countrymen? And He’s going to put His words in this prophet’s mouth and this prophet’s going to speak all He commands. Well you can find that out in John, chapter 1, verse 21. It was Jesus. But then He goes on to say okay, I’m going to give you a true prophet and it’s going to be the Messiah. “But the prophet...,” verse 20, “...who [will] speak...a word presumptuously in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he shall speak in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.”(Deuteronomy 18:20) And You say, [“How shall we know the word which the Lord has not spoken?”](18:21) And then He says this: “When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not come about or come true that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.”(18:22) So a true prophet will have his words not fall to the ground, but they will come to pass even as we see in Samuel.