

***God's Indestructible Word***  
*Jeremiah 36*

Some people take God's word seriously; some don't. Even in our own lives we can waver at times to respond in appropriate ways to God's word. As we return to our study of Jeremiah this week, we will see in Jeremiah 36 how different people responded in various ways to God's word. This passage also reveals a fundamental truth about God's word – it is indestructible. When we rightly understand the indestructible nature of God's word, there is only one response that is appropriate.

**Opening Question:** When did you first begin to take the Bible seriously?

**Read Jeremiah 36**

1. What are some of the responses to God's word seen in this chapter?
2. What effect did God intend His word to have on the people (vv. 2-3)?
3. What was king Jehoiakim's heart attitude toward God's word (vv. 20-26)?
4. What do verses 27-32 reveal about the nature of God's word?

Steve said:

At the end of the chapter (and figuratively at the end of the day), God's word had NOT been destroyed. The nation would be taken into exile so that she might come to her senses and turn back to God. The simple truth illustrated in this chapter is that ***the word of God can be rejected (or mocked or ignored) but it cannot be destroyed***. Even though Jehoiakim burned the scroll, its message (the word of God) was still true.

5. Though we may not be guilty of trying to burn God's word, what are some ways that we may set it aside at times?

6. Read Isaiah 40:6-8. How should this truth that God's word cannot be destroyed affect how we approach the Scriptures?
7. Read Psalm 112:1 and Proverbs 1:7. What do these suggest our heart response to God and His word should be?

Steve said:

I'm making a pretty basic point here. If God's Word (i.e., Scripture) communicates reality - the way things actually are - we would be foolish NOT to cultivate the fear of the Lord by humbly receiving His word. I realize that if you're not a follower of Christ or if you haven't come to the place where you accept that the Scriptures are the authoritative Word of God, it might seem like we're getting the cart before the horse. I get that. But I would encourage you to be open to the possibility that the Scripture really is the "Word of God" and therefore something to pay attention to. I talked with someone this week who mentioned that before coming to Christ he didn't believe the Bible, but when he started reading it, he became convinced. That was my experience: the Bible is self-authenticating.

8. Would you say you have a settled conviction that "God's Word . . . communicates reality – the way things actually are"? Explain.
9. What can you do to cultivate a heart that rightly responds to God's word?
10. What is your current plan for receiving and responding to God's word?