



Lessons From The Road What Breaks The Heart of God

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

True salvation comes when our heart breaks for what breaks the heart of God.

Our world is a paradox of sorts...

*It is filled with such beauty and wonder—imbued with the miraculous.
It can make your heart sing to experience it.*

But there are also things we can't ignore...

Our Scripture today is one of those where you have to swallow hard before you say, "This is the word of the Lord."

We're going to be asking two challenging questions:

What breaks the heart of God? (This requires some unpacking)

Why don't our hearts break over the same things?

TRUE SALVATION COMES WHEN OUR HEART BREAKS FOR WHAT BREAKS THE HEART OF GOD

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; 9:6

A bit of history is in order to understand Jeremiah's grief and response

- 587—The fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians, utter destruction*
- As a prophet—his connection to God is intimate... his heart breaks*
- And now he sees the results of the folly of Judah's leaders, and her people*
- His world is out of joint—and so at last he wishes to detach, to flee...*
- But then God speaks—an oracle of the Lord—"refine" and "test" key words*
- God acts with "fidelity, justice and integrity on earth." (9:22)*

God doesn't withdraw when God's heart breaks—and neither should we.

How do we respond to the brokenness around us? God offers a guide...

- Fidelity—faithfulness to our calling to be instruments of peace*
- Justice—"rightness" doing what we can to make the world as God wills it*
- Integrity—living congruently, internalizing grace, hope and love—then living it*

My lesson from the monks of New Camaldoli Hermitage

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LESSONS FROM THE ROAD

SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

The Human Condition: Contemplation and Transformation

Thomas Keating

When Everything Falls Apart

Pema Chodron

Falling Upward

Richard Rohr

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