

“The Fear of Man Brings a Snare”

Book of Jeremiah

Pleasing people, before we please GOD, is a _____ that is not easy to spot in our lives.

I. Proverbs 29:25

1. Snares are designed to _____ living things.
2. Snares are _____ traps. (not random) **John 10:10**
3. Snares are _____ located. **Eph. 6:13 “in the Evil Day”**
4. Snares are _____ and are not _____ to see. **John 8:44 “the father of”**
5. Snares once sprung, are binding, _____, and will take life. **1 Peter 5:8**
6. The Devil will _____ to get you to disobey GOD, and thereby destroy yourself.

II. The Fear of Man:

1. Is _____. Exodus 20:3 - Idolatry (what we give our heart to) happens because we want something (_____) our idol can give us.
2. Causes us to show _____, because some people can give us what we want _____ than others can. Gen. 25:28
3. Shows that we want the _____ of important people, because that makes us _____ important. James 2:1-11
4. Leads us to base _____, on how others see us. This is always a trap, because you can _____. It is living in the Fear of Man. The only stable place to get your value is from who _____.
5. Manifestations include:
 - _____ too much
 - not talking _____
 - not _____ when you should
 - being afraid of _____
 - not _____ because of what others may think
 - _____
 - basing your decisions on the _____ of others
 - doing what you should not do, because you cannot _____
6. Causes you to have a _____ heart.
 - Causes you to walk down the _____ paths.
 - Causes you to put _____ before GOD.
 - Causes you to _____ year by year.
 - Causes you to be a _____.
 - Will hurt your _____ forever.
 - Makes you waste your _____, your years, and your _____.

III. The Pressure Jeremiah was under during a national crisis:

1. GOD brought the Babylonian army to Judah to _____ HIS wicked people.

2. They assaulted Jerusalem _____ times.
 - **605 B.C.** – _____ and his companions are taken captive to Babylon.
 - **597 B.C.** – Nebuchadnezzar took Jerusalem again and took King _____ in chains to Babylon. 2 Chron. 36:10
 - **586 B.C.** – Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerusalem for the third time. He dealt harshly with Judah's last king, _____, and burned everything to the ground. 2 Kings 24:13, 2 Chronicles 36
3. In **Jeremiah 27-28** – the Prophet told King Zedekiah, "bring your necks under the _____ of the king of Babylon, and _____ him and his people, and _____." Jeremiah 27:11-12.
Zedekiah and his leaders _____ to listen.
4. The Fear of Man is a slow-acting, subtle, _____.

Prayer of Confession:

"LORD JESUS, I repent of the Fear of Man. I want to always obey and honor You. Please forgive me when I let the pressure of pleasing people prevent me from doing what I know You want me to do. I commit to do the hard things, and have the hard conversations, that I am tempted to avoid. I will make the difficult choice to stand alone; and do the right thing in Your Eyes. I will always act in love, show kindness, and walk in humility, but I will honor GOD first, before I honor people. When I obey GOD, it is always the greatest way to help the people around me, especially those I love the most.

For the sake of righteousness, please give me strength and courage to always act, and not be passive. I will fear YOU, O LORD, and not Man, and will do what is needed to obey You. Then I will leave the results in Your Hands." **In JESUS' Name, AMEN."**

