

Daily Devotional, April 18, 2020

'Gadding About', (Jeremiah 2:36, NKJV)

“Why do you gad about so much to change your way?” (Jeremiah 2:36).

In the context of this verse, God is making His case against the children of Israel, who were being unfaithful to Him. The English words “gad about” are a translation of the Hebrew word “azal”, meaning “to go.” The idea here in the context is that the people were going their own way, wandering away from God through sin and idolatry. The people were unstable, because their faith was not rooted in the Lord day by day, minute by minute. Notice that God still pleads with His children, even under those circumstances, to come back into the fold. But the children of Israel were determined not to, and this sadly ended in captivity forty years later, and the Book of Jeremiah comes to a close with the divine discipline.

So what are you doing? Are you gadding about, wasting your years, instead of redoubling your efforts to live for Jesus Christ who died for you? Are you gadding about surfing the internet, entering into fruitless debates on social media, or binge watching spiritually unprofitable television shows, instead of sharing the hope you have in your Living Lord in this uncertain age? Maybe you were dabbling in a church or religious practice that was entertaining you, or you felt was an obligation to be fulfilled just by showing up, and left feeling good somehow, yet the next day were gadding about your business. Maybe you never got saved. Maybe you never grew in your knowledge of the Christian faith. Perhaps you have been moving with each ‘latest and greatest’ new doctrine or ‘Christian’ teaching or fad, but your heart never took root in the sound doctrines of the Bible which are most profitable for the soul and for the life. *“For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil” (Hebrews 5:13-14).*

“Why do you gad about so much to change your way?” Instead, seek the Lord today. Say with the Psalmist, *“I have gone astray like a lost sheep; Seek your servant. With my whole heart I have sought you; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!” (Psalm 119:176,10).* Then, go and “gad about” no more.