WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

America's Curse

Study Guide

New Testament Studies

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A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

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Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

America's Curse

Part One

April 30, 2006

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-25 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

Major Themes

Divine Sanctions

God enforces His law through sanctions - blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience - applying to individuals, churches, and nations.

Lecture support: Weaver defines sanctions as 'that part of the law that is designed to secure its enforcement either by imposing a penalty for the violation of the law or by offering a reward or blessing for its observance.'

False Preachers as the Root of National Decay

The primary cause of America's moral collapse is a corrupt ministry that preaches lies, ignores sin, and leads people away from God.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'the curse of Israel in Jeremiah's time and the curse of America is exactly the same. We've listened to preachers who've led us astray.'

The Necessity of a Divine Call and Faithful Proclamation

A true minister must have a divine call, a life of integrity, and must preach God's Word; those lacking these are not to be heard.

Lecture support: Weaver lists three requirements: 'he must have a divine call... faithfulness and integrity in his life... and he actually preaches and proclaims the word of God.'

The Devastating Influence of False Teaching

False prophets cause people to err, become profane, and forget God, leading to societal corruption and judgment.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Jeremiah 23:15: 'from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land,' and applies it to America.

God's Judgment on False Prophets

God promises a bitter, destructive end for false preachers, as seen in the fates of Pashur and others, demonstrating His active opposition.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Jeremiah 20:1-6 and 29:21, showing God's judgment on false prophets, and says, 'Sooner or later, the false and foolish preachers will be destroyed by God.'

The Call to Biblical Discernment

Believers must know Scripture personally to test all teaching, following the Berean example, and reject preachers who do not proclaim God's Word.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If we're going to obey God, and not listen to false and foolish preachers, we must know the word of God ourselves.'

Key Arguments

America's problems stem from false preachers, not just societal symptoms.

Weaver argues that addressing symptoms like immorality is futile; the root is a corrupt ministry that fails to teach God's truth.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If you do not like what America has become... you just simply need to lay the axe to the root of the tree that is producing all of that fruit... False and foolish preachers.'

God commands believers to reject certain preachers.

Scripture explicitly forbids listening to prophets who speak from their own hearts, and God declares He is against them, making their followers His enemies.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Jeremiah 23:16, 'Hearken not unto the words of the prophets,' and verses 30-32 where God says 'I am against the prophets.'

False preachers desecrate God's name and office for personal gain.

They profane the ministry by preaching their own dreams instead of God's Word, often motivated by money and power, corrupting worship.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Calvin: 'the prophets vitiated and adulterated God's worship, and what was religion to them but the means of filthy lucre or gain?'

A corrupt ministry is a sure sign of national ruin.

When God allows a lewd and corrupt ministry, it indicates impending judgment, as wickedness in the pulpit spreads to the pew.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Matthew Poole: 'There is no more certain sign of the ruination of a nation than when God allows in it a lewd and a corrupt ministry.'

True ministers must be divinely called, godly, and preach the Word.

Without a divine call, integrity, and faithful proclamation, a preacher is not worthy to be heard and can be scripturally rejected.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'All of those who do not have a divine call... are not worthy to be heard and they may be scripturally rejected.'

False preachers cause people to forget God and follow idols.

Their teaching leads to spiritual amnesia and idolatry, as seen in America's pursuit of pleasure, prosperity, and tolerance.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Because of false and foolish preachers, like Israel of old, we have gone a whoring after the gods of pleasure, prosperity, political correctness, and tolerance.'

God will destroy false preachers with bitter judgment.

God promises to feed them wormwood, make their way slippery, and bring a whirlwind of destruction, as historically demonstrated.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Jeremiah 23:15, 19 and illustrates with Pashur's fate in Jeremiah 20.

National restoration requires God-called preachers teaching obedience.

America will not recover until pulpits are filled with preachers who proclaim God's Word and call for repentance and righteous living.

Lecture support: Weaver concludes, 'We will never regain our nation until we regain God-called preachers in the pulpits, preaching and teaching obedience to the Word of God.'

Scripture References

Jeremiah 23:9-32

The primary passage read and expounded, detailing God's condemnation of false prophets and the resulting judgment.

Jeremiah 23:14

Cited to show the horrible sin of the prophets, including adultery and lies, and that they are like Sodom and Gomorrah to God.

Jeremiah 23:16

God's command not to listen to prophets who speak visions from their own hearts, making people vain.

Jeremiah 23:25-26

God's indictment of prophets who prophesy lies and deceit from their own hearts, causing people to forget His name.

Jeremiah 23:30-32

God's threefold declaration 'I am against the prophets' who steal His words and prophesy false dreams.

Jeremiah 23:9

Jeremiah's broken heart and physical shaking because of the prophets, the Lord, and His holy words.

Jeremiah 23:10

The land full of adulterers and mourning because of swearing, showing the result of false prophets.

Jeremiah 23:11

Both prophet and priest are profane; God finds wickedness in His house.

Jeremiah 23:13-15

The folly of Samaria's prophets and the profaneness spreading from Jerusalem's prophets, with judgment of wormwood and gall.

Jeremiah 23:21-22

God did not send these prophets; if they had stood in His counsel, they would have turned people from evil.

Jeremiah 23:12

Their way will be slippery in darkness; God will bring evil in the year of their visitation.

Jeremiah 23:19

A grievous whirlwind of the Lord's fury will fall on the head of the wicked.

Isaiah 56:10-11

God calls false watchmen blind, ignorant, dumb dogs that cannot bark, greedy for gain, looking to their own way.

Hosea 8:14

Israel forgot her Maker and built temples; applied to America building churches while forgetting God.

Deuteronomy 30:12-15

God's word is near, in mouth and heart, setting life and good, death and evil before them; used to show the law was already given.

Psalm 138:2

God has magnified His word above His name, emphasizing the primacy of Scripture.

Psalm 119:89

God's word is forever settled in heaven, underscoring its eternal authority.

Jeremiah 20:1-6

Pashur the false prophet smites Jeremiah and is told he will be a terror and die in captivity; an illustration of judgment.

Jeremiah 29:20-21

God will deliver false prophets Ahab and Zedekiah to Nebuchadnezzar to be slain; another example of destruction.

Acts 17:11

The Bereans searched the Scriptures daily to verify Paul's teaching; a model for discernment.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. How does the concept of divine sanctions (blessings and curses) shape our understanding of national events and God's dealings with America?

Consider: Weaver introduces sanctions as God's enforcement mechanism, applied to nations.

2. In what ways might we be tempted to address symptoms rather than the root cause of spiritual decline, and how can we apply the 'axe to the root' principle?

Consider: Weaver uses the apple tree analogy to argue for dealing with false preachers as the root.

3. What are the practical implications of God's command to 'hearken not' to certain preachers, and how do we balance this with love and unity?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes Jeremiah 23:16 and God's opposition to false prophets.

4. How can we cultivate the kind of grief over spiritual corruption that Jeremiah displayed, and why is such grief important?

Consider: Weaver describes Jeremiah's broken heart and shock at the prophets' sin.

5. What evidence do we see today of 'profaneness gone forth into all the land' from pulpits, and how should we respond?

Consider: Weaver applies Jeremiah 23:15 to the spread of corruption from preachers to society.

6. How do we discern whether a preacher has a genuine divine call, integrity, and faithful proclamation, and what should we do if we find a lack?

Consider: Weaver lists three minimum requirements for a true minister.

7. In what ways have false teachings caused the church to 'forget God' and pursue idols like pleasure and prosperity, and how can we recover?

Consider: Weaver parallels Israel's idolatry with modern American pursuits.

8. How does the certainty of God's judgment on false preachers motivate us to pray for and support faithful ministers?

Consider: Weaver details the destruction promised to false prophets and applies it to today.

Applications

Recognize and reject false teaching

Believers must identify preachers who do not proclaim God's Word and refuse to listen to them, as God commands.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'God forbids you to listen to some preachers... Hearken not to them.'

Cultivate biblical discernment

To obey God's command, Christians must know Scripture well enough to test all teaching, following the Berean example.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If we're going to obey God, and not listen to false and foolish preachers, we must know the word of God ourselves.'

Grieve over spiritual corruption

Like Jeremiah, believers should be deeply grieved when God's name is dishonored and His truth is profaned by false teachers.

Lecture support: Weaver asks, 'Does it not grieve you today that men ignore the truth of the word of God?'

Support and pray for faithful ministers

Recognizing the devastation of false preachers, believers should uphold and encourage those who truly preach God's Word.

Lecture support: Weaver laments the lack of preachers who call for repentance and holy living, implying the need to support the few.

Understand God's sanctions in national life

Believers should interpret natural disasters and societal decay as potential signs of God's judgment, prompting repentance.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Have you noticed the floods, the tornadoes, the hurricanes... God is judging you. Can't you see?'

Examine personal allegiance to God's Word

Individuals must ensure they are not following preachers who make them vain or forget God, but are grounded in truth.

Lecture support: Weaver warns that false prophets 'make the people forget the one true and the living God and follow Baal.'

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

America's Curse

Part Two

May 07, 2006

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 27-43 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

Major Themes

The Curse of False Preachers

False and foolish preachers are America's curse, leading people astray by stealing, adding to, or substituting for God's Word.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'America's curse basically, based upon Jeremiah 23, was false and foolish preachers.' He then details how they steal God's words (v. 30), add to them (v. 31), and substitute dreams (v. 32).

The Superiority of God's Word

God's Word is like life-giving wheat, while false doctrine is worthless chaff; true hope is found only in the faithful preaching of Scripture.

Lecture support: Weaver expounds Jeremiah 23:28, 'What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the Lord,' and contrasts the life-giving power of God's Word with the emptiness of false teaching.

The Power of God's Word as Fire and Hammer

God's Word acts as a fire to purify or consume and as a hammer to break hard hearts, demonstrating God's sovereign power to accomplish His purposes.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Jeremiah 23:29, 'Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?' and emphasizes that God wields the hammer to convert or judge.

The Necessity of Persevering Preaching

True preachers must persevere in preaching the whole Word of God in season and out of season, trusting God to honor His Word and bring fruit.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'The one thing that must be done by every true preacher is he must persevere in preaching the word of God,' and cites Galatians 6:9 about reaping if we faint not.

America's Hope in God Alone

America's only hope is in God and His Word, not in political systems or human efforts; salvation of any kind is of the Lord.

Lecture support: Weaver declares, 'America's hope lies only in God and His word,' and earlier states, 'Salvation is of the Lord' (Jonah 2:9), applying it to all areas of life.

Key Arguments

False preachers lead people astray by mishandling God's Word

False prophets steal God's words by not preaching them, add to them by claiming extra-biblical revelation, or substitute their own dreams for divine truth.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Jeremiah 23:30-32, showing three ways false prophets operate: stealing words (v. 30), using their tongues to add (v. 31), and prophesying false dreams (v. 32).

God's Word is inherently superior to all falsehood

Just as wheat sustains life and chaff is worthless, God's Word gives spiritual life while false doctrine cannot; believers become addicted to truth.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts chaff and wheat from Jeremiah 23:28, citing John 6:63, Romans 10:17, and 1 Peter 1:23 to show the life-giving nature of Scripture.

God's Word is a powerful instrument in His hands

God uses His Word as a fire to purify or consume and as a hammer to break hard hearts; He sovereignly wields it to accomplish His will.

Lecture support: Weaver expounds Jeremiah 23:29, referencing Isaiah 55:11 and Isaiah 46:10 to show God's Word accomplishes His purpose, and uses the imagery of a hammer needing a hand.

True preachers must persevere despite opposition

Preachers must continue preaching the Word faithfully in all seasons, trusting God to defend them and bring fruit in due time.

Lecture support: Weaver shares personal experience of criticism and quotes David, 'My defense is of the Lord,' and Paul's charge to be instant in season and out of season.

National hope requires God's intervention through His Word

America cannot be saved by political means; only God's Word, applied by the Holy Spirit, can break hard hearts and bring repentance and reconstruction.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'America's hope lies only in God and His word,' and prays for God to 'lay Thine hand upon the hammer and break our hard, cold hearts.'

Scripture References

Jeremiah 23:25-32

The primary text of the sermon, read at the beginning, condemning false prophets who speak lies and dreams.

Matthew 12:30

Used to illustrate that there is no neutrality; one is either with Christ or against Him.

Jonah 2:9

Cited to support that salvation of any kind is of the Lord, not man.

John 8:36

Quoted to show that true liberty comes from Christ.

2 Timothy 3:16

Referenced to argue that all Scripture is inspired and profitable, so not preaching it is stealing God's words.

Deuteronomy 4:2

Quoted to show God's command not to add to or diminish from His Word.

Revelation 22:19

Cited as a New Testament parallel warning against taking away from God's words.

Ecclesiastes 5:3

Mentioned to argue that dreams come from natural causes, not divine inspiration.

John 6:63

Quoted to show that Christ's words are spirit and life, contrasting with chaff.

Romans 10:17

Cited to prove that faith comes by hearing the Word of God, not chaff.

1 Peter 1:23

Referenced to show believers are born again by the incorruptible Word of God.

Psalm 19:7

Quoted to demonstrate the converting power of God's law.

Isaiah 55:8-11

Read to show that God's Word will accomplish His purpose and not return void.

Isaiah 46:10

Quoted to affirm that God's counsel shall stand and He will do all His pleasure.

Deuteronomy 33:2

Referenced by Calvin in a quote about the law being a fiery law.

Jeremiah 4:3

Mentioned by Trapp in a quote about the Word as a plow to break fallow ground.

Hebrews 4:12

Referenced by Trapp as the Word being a sword to pierce.

Romans 7:9

Mentioned by Trapp in connection with the Word laying sinners dead.

Zechariah 7:12

Quoted to illustrate hearts made hard as adamant stone to resist God's words.

Ezekiel 36:26

Cited to show God's promise to remove the stony heart and give a heart of flesh.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways do modern preachers 'steal' God's words by not preaching the whole counsel of Scripture?

Consider: Weaver explains that false prophets steal God's words by ignoring or not teaching parts of the Bible.

2. How can we discern between the 'wheat' of true biblical teaching and the 'chaff' of false doctrine in today's churches?

Consider: The sermon contrasts the life-giving nature of God's Word with the emptiness of false teaching.

3. What does it mean for God's Word to be like a fire and a hammer, and how have you experienced this in your own life?

Consider: Weaver expounds Jeremiah 23:29, describing the Word's power to purify, consume, or break.

4. Why is perseverance in preaching and teaching the Word essential, even when facing criticism or opposition?

Consider: Weaver shares personal experiences of criticism and emphasizes the need to keep preaching in season and out of season.

5. How does the sermon challenge the common tendency to place hope in political solutions rather than in God and His Word?

Consider: Weaver argues that America's hope is only in God, not in the Constitution or political parties.

6. In what ways can we support and encourage true preachers who faithfully proclaim God's Word?

Consider: The application calls for prayer, support, and encouragement of true preachers.

Applications

Seek God to use His Word as a hammer and fire in our nation

Believers must pray for God to take up the hammer of His Word to break hard hearts and bring national repentance and righteousness.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We must seek God to pick up the hammer... We must seek Him to set our nation on fire with righteousness and holiness.'

Persevere in preaching and teaching the whole Word of God

True preachers must continue to faithfully expound Scripture regardless of criticism, trusting God to defend them and bring fruit.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'We must persevere in preaching and teaching the Word of God... I'm not going to waste my time defending myself. I'll certainly defend the Word of God.'

Support and encourage true preachers

Congregations should pray for, support, and encourage faithful preachers who demand repentance and holiness rather than offering false assurance.

Lecture support: Weaver concludes, 'We must pray for and we must support and we must encourage every true preacher of the gospel to keep on keeping on.'

Distinguish between true and false preaching

Believers must recognize that true preaching provides exposition of Scripture and calls for holiness, while false preaching offers empty husks and easy assurance.

Lecture support: Weaver contrasts true preachers who 'demand repentance from sin' with false preachers who say 'I'm okay, you're okay.'

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: America's Curse - Part One

Lecture JW00932

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00932&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 2: America's Curse - Part Two

Lecture JW00931

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00931&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

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Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.