

## JEREMIAH: WALK THE GODLY WALK

This is the fifth and last in a series of five pieces on “Resurrecting Today’s Jeremiahs.” The theme of this piece is “Walk the Godly Walk.” In other words tether the *worship* of God with the *walk* of God, and be forever blessed.

Here’s the take that Jeremiah took with worshipers when posted at the gate of the temple. These same truths were shared by Christ when he taught worshipers in the temple. Read along and aloud with me from the text below.

*“Execute justice between a man and his neighbor . . . then I will cause you to dwell in this place in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever”* (Jer. 7:5,7).

We begin this discussion with Moses, not Jeremiah, to understand this vital aspect of true worship. Blending our worship with our daily walk arises out of our understanding of the holiness of the Lord. The Lord spoke to Moses, *“Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘You shall be holy. for I the Lord your God am holy’”* (Lev. 19:1,2).

This nineteenth chapter of Leviticus applies the truth of God’s holiness to the behavior of God’s people. Here are examples. Sounds almost like excerpts from Jesus’ lengthy and practical Sermon on the Mount. Wow!

*“You shall not curse the deaf . . . You shall not be partial to the poor . . . In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor . . . You shall not hate your brother in your heart . . . but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD”* (Lev.19:14,15,17,18).

Worshiping and walking in righteousness are eternally grounded in the holiness of God, and the souls of those created in God’s image. It’s *not* for a moment that first there’s worship, and *then* there’s righteousness. Worship is the very wit and will of righteousness, and righteousness is the arm and leg of true worship—through the Son in the Spirit.

The time is come to challenge our flawed worship at the gate of the Lord’s house, For worship leaders to issue a wake up call to worshipers; to see well beyond their self interests, submitting their lives in total obeisance to the Lord; transforming weekly worship services into dynamic platforms for submitting themselves to their God, and service to the poor, widows and oppressed.

How do we do this? Using Christ-exalting and justice-explicit lyrics. Summoning worshipers at every service to make obeisance to Christ, and commitment to the poor, widows and oppressed. May our Lord bless all who reflect on these five pieces to resurrect Jeremiah among worshipers with grace, mercy and peace.