<u>God's Plan Rules</u>

v1 Hear what the LORD says to you, O house of Israel. v2 This is what the LORD says: "Do not learn the ways of the nations or be terrified by signs in the sky, though the nations are terrified by them. v3 For the customs of the peoples are worthless; they cut a tree out of the forest, and a craftsman shapes it with his chisel. v4 They adorn it with silver and gold; they fasten it with hammer and nails so it will not totter. v5 Like a scarecrow in a melon patch, their idols cannot speak: they must be carried because they cannot walk. Do not fear them: they can do no harm nor can they do any good." v6 No one is like you, O LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power. v7 Who should not revere you, O King of the nations? This is your due. Among all the wise men of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like you. v8 They are all senseless and foolish; they are taught by worthless wooden idols. v9 Hammered silver is brought from Tarshish and gold from Uphaz. What the craftsman and goldsmith have made is then dressed in blue and purple--all made by skilled workers. v10 But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God, the eternal King. When he is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure his wrath. v11 "Tell them this: 'These gods, who did not make the heavens and the earth, will perish from the earth and from under the heavens.' " v12 But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding. v13 When he thunders, the waters in the heavens roar; he makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth. He sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses. v14 Everyone is senseless and without knowledge; every goldsmith is shamed by his idols. His images are a fraud; they have no breath in them. v15 They are worthless, the objects of mockery; when their judgment comes, they will perish. v16 He who is the Portion of Jacob is not like these, for he is the Maker of all things, including Israel, the tribe of his inheritance--the LORD Almighty is his name.

Jeremiah 10:1-15

All through the history of the humanity, people have tried in every way to turn their back against God.

Beginning with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, through their offspring till the time of the flood, till we get to the Tower of Babel, every attempt has been made to reject God and his ways.

The history of the nation of Israel is also a history of the cycle of rejection, repentance, submission then rejection again.

We are living at a time when the world has once again replaced the revelation about God found in the Bible with many other things.

Since the beginning of the "Age of Enlightenment" in the late 17th century following the publication of a book by Rene Descartes titled, "Discourse on the Method", in which he suggested that we should not trust anything, unless there is a well-founded reason for accepting the matter. The Scientific Revolution at the same time suggested that unless you could prove something through experiment, you should reject that thinking.

WE ARE LIVING IN A SOCIETY THAT REPLACES THE LIVING GOD WITH IDOLS!

THEME TEXT – Jeremiah 10:25a Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not acknowledge you, on the peoples who do not call on your name.

THERE IS NO GOD LIKE OUR GOD

I. FIRSTLY, CONSIDER THE FOOLISHNESS OF IDOL WORSHIP

<u>1. THE ERROR OF ASTROLOGY</u> - v2 This is what the LORD says: "Do not learn the ways of the nations or be terrified by signs in the sky, though the nations are terrified by them. v3a For the customs of the peoples are worthless;

Any system that replaces the revealed will of God, with human speculation is wrong. Trying to determine the ways of God from the creation rather that the CREATOR is to lessen the value of God. It's like saying the Model-T Ford is more important that Henry Ford.

2. THE ILLOGICAL BASIS OF IDOLATRY - v3b they cut a tree out of the forest, and a craftsman shapes it with his chisel. v4 They adorn it with silver and gold; they fasten it with hammer and nails so it will not totter. ...v9 Hammered silver is brought from Tarshish and gold from Uphaz. What the craftsman and goldsmith have made is then dressed in blue and purple--all made by skilled workers

How ridiculous to be the creator of something, then to declare the thing you created to be God.

3. IDOLS CAN'T COMMUNICATE - v5 Like a scarecrow in a melon patch, their idols cannot speak;

Who wants a God who can't tell you what you need?

<u>4. IDOLS CAN'T SUSTAIN THEMSELVES</u> - v4b they fasten it with hammer and nails so it will not totter. ... v5b they must be carried because they cannot walk. ...

How foolish to worship something you need to carry, rather than someone who carries you!!!

<u>5. IDOLS ARE DUMB</u> - v8 They are all senseless and foolish; they are taught by worthless wooden idols.</u>

Literally – THEY CANNOT TALK. Figuratively – THEY HAVE NO BRAIN

CLINT EASTWOOD sang a song in famous movie "Paint your wagon"

I talk to the trees, But they don't listen to me I talk to the stars, But they never hear me The breeze hasn't time, To stop, and hear what I say I talk to them all, In vain

But suddenly, my words, Reach someone else's ear At someone else's heart Strings too I tell you my dreams, And while you're listening to me I suddenly see them, Come true

6. IDOLS CAN BE DESTROYED - v11 "Tell them this: 'These gods, who did not make the heavens and the earth, will perish from the earth and from under the heavens.'"

The earthquake in Myanmar, (while we sympathize with the victims), has shown the failure of idols because many of the famous Budda statues and temples have been reduced to rubble.

NOT EVEN DEATH COULD HOLD OUR GOD!!!

II. <u>SECONDLY, CONSIDER THE WISDOM OF "LIVING GOD"</u> WORSHIP

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

1. THE "LIVING GOD" IS OMNIPRESENT - v6 No one is like you, O LORD; you are great,

The Hebrew word translated "great" means "great in SIZE".

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

<u>2. THE "LIVING GOD" IS OMNIPOTENT</u> - v6 No one is like you, O LORD; you are great, **and your name is mighty in power**.

The Hebrew word translated "might" also means "great" and refers to God's immense POWER.

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

3. THE "LIVING GOD" IS OMNISCIENT - v7 Who should not revere you, O King of the nations? This is your due. Among all the wise men of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like you.

Among all the wise men of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like you!!!

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

<u>4. THE "LIVING GOD" IS TRUTH</u> - v10 But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God, the eternal King.

Jesus said, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE."

Not "I TEACH YOU THE TRUTH" or "I'll point you to the truth"

Jesus said, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE."

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

<u>5. THE "LIVING GOD" IS ETERNAL</u> - v10 But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God, **the eternal** *King*.

Idols only exist "UNTIL THEY ARE NEEDED FOR FIREWOOD"

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

<u>6. THE "LIVING GOD" IS JUDGE</u> - v10 When he is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure his wrath. v11 "Tell them this: 'These gods, who did not make the heavens and the earth, will perish from the earth and from under the heavens.' "

God alone has the power and authority to JUDGE

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

7. THE "LIVING GOD" IS CREATOR - v12 But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding. v13 When he thunders, the waters in the heavens roar; he makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth. He sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses. v14 Everyone is senseless and without knowledge; every goldsmith is shamed by his idols. His images are a fraud; they have no breath in them. v15 They are worthless, the objects of mockery; when their judgment comes, they will perish. v16 He who is the Portion of Jacob is not like these, for he is the Maker of all things, including Israel, the tribe of his inheritance--the LORD Almighty is his name"

NO BODY MADE GOD - HE HAS ALWAYS EXISTED

WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD? --

- **1. THE "LIVING GOD" IS OMNIPRESENT**
- 2. THE "LIVING GOD" IS OMNIPOTENT
- 3. THE "LIVING GOD" IS OMNISCIENT
- 4. THE "LIVING GOD" IS TRUTH
- 5. THE "LIVING GOD" IS ETERNAL
- 6. THE "LIVING GOD" IS JUDGE
- 7. THE "LIVING GOD" IS CREATOR

CONCLUSION

THERE IS NO GOD LIKE OUR GOD

Matthew 16:13-16 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" v14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." v15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" v16 Simon Peter

answered,

"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Philippians 2:9-11 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, v10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, v11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.