

Jeremiah 11:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the LORD said unto me, Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and do them.

Analysis

This verse commissions proclamation: 'Then the LORD said unto me, Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem.' The Hebrew *qara* (קָרָא, proclaim, cry out) indicates public announcement. 'All these words' (*eth-kol-haddevarim*) ensures complete message delivery—no editing or softening. 'Cities of Judah' and 'streets of Jerusalem' describe comprehensive geographic coverage. 'Saying, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and do them.' The repeated 'hear' (*shim'u*) with 'do' (*asah*) connects hearing to action—genuine hearing produces obedience. Faith without works is dead; hearing without doing is disobedience.

Historical Context

This commission suggests Jeremiah traveled throughout Judah proclaiming covenant demands, possibly as part of Josiah's reform movement. The 'streets of Jerusalem' (*chutsoth Yerushalayim*) were public gathering spaces where proclamations reached maximum audience. Ancient cities had designated areas for public announcements; Jeremiah was to use these forums for covenant proclamation.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does comprehensive proclamation 'in all cities' and 'in streets' suggest about reaching everyone with God's word?
2. How does the repeated command to 'hear and do' define authentic response to divine revelation?

Interlinear Text

לֵאמֹר	יְהוָה	אֵלַי	קִרְא	אֶת	כָּל	דִּבְרֵי
said	Then the LORD		unto me Proclaim			all these words
H559	H3068	H413	H7121	H853	H3605	H1697
לֵאמֹר	בְּעָרֵי	יְהוּדָה	וּבִחְצוֹת	יְרוּשָׁלַם		
	in the cities	of Judah	and in the streets	of Jerusalem		said
H428	H5892	H3063	H2351	H3389		H559
שְׁמַעוּ	אֶת	דִּבְרֵי	הַבְּרִית	הַזֹּאת	וַעֲשִׂיתֶם	אֹתָם:
Hear		all these words	of this covenant		and do	
H8085	H853	H1697	H1285	H2063	H6213	H853

Additional Cross-References

Romans 2:13 (Word): (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

James 1:22 (Word): But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Jeremiah 3:12 (Word): Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the LORD; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the LORD, and I will not keep anger for ever.

Jeremiah 7:2 (Word): Stand in the gate of the LORD'S house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the LORD.

Jeremiah 19:2 (Word): And go forth unto the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the east gate, and proclaim there the words that I shall tell thee,

John 13:17 (Parallel theme): If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.