

Jeremiah 6:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

Analysis

This is one of Scripture's most devastating critiques of superficial ministry. The phrase 'healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly' (Hebrew 'qalal'—lightly, cheaply) indicates offering inadequate solutions to serious problems. Crying 'Peace, peace; when there is no peace' describes false prophets who promised security while judgment approached. This verse exposes the danger of therapeutic ministry that soothes consciences without addressing sin's root. Reformed theology emphasizes that true pastoral care must diagnose sin accurately before offering gospel comfort. Cheap grace that promises peace without repentance is no grace at all.

Historical Context

Jeremiah faced false prophets who contradicted his warnings, promising that Jerusalem would not fall and peace would continue (Jeremiah 28). Their optimistic lies proved catastrophically wrong when Babylon destroyed the city.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does modern therapeutic culture pressure churches to offer 'peace' without addressing sin and judgment?
2. What is the difference between biblical comfort and superficial reassurance?
3. How can pastors faithfully address sin's seriousness while still offering genuine hope in the gospel?

Interlinear Text

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|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| וַיִּרְפָּא ו | אֶת | שֶׁ בָרַ | עַמִּי | עַל | נִקְלָה | לֵאמֹר |
| They have healed | H853 | also the hurt | of my people | H5921 | slightly | saying |
| H7495 | | H7667 | H5971 | | H7043 | H559 |
| שְׁלוֹמִים: | שְׁלוֹמִים: | וְאֵין | שְׁלוֹמִים: | | | |
| Peace | Peace | H369 | Peace | | | |
| H7965 | H7965 | | H7965 | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 13:10 (Peace): Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar:

Jeremiah 23:17 (Peace): They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

Jeremiah 4:10 (Peace): Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! surely thou hast greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, Ye shall have peace; whereas the sword reacheth unto the soul.

Jeremiah 14:13 (Peace): Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.

Lamentations 2:14 (Parallel theme): Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment.

Isaiah 30:26 (Light): Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.

2 Peter 2:1 (Parallel theme): But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

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