

# The Good Old Way

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Date: 20 November 2022

Preacher: Rev Kenneth M Ferguson

[ 0 : 00 ] Before we commence our public worship, I have two intimations to read. I read them in the morning, but I am required to read them also tonight. Firstly, the WFM will be meeting on Tuesday, the 22nd of November, at 7.30pm in the Church Hall.

Muriel MacLeod from Stornoway will be telling us about her work in Cambodia. It would be appreciated if as many ladies as possible could come along to encourage Muriel in her work.

That's the WFM, Tuesday, the 22nd, at 7.30pm. And now, God willing, the Cook Session have appointed a congregational meeting on Monday, the 28th of November, at 7.30pm, for the purpose of nominating a minister to fill the vacancy in the congregation.

Any member belonging to the congregation will be given the opportunity to make proposals at the meeting. It is important that as many members and adherents as possible attend this meeting.

That's Monday, the 28th of November, at 7.30pm for the congregational meeting. Let us now worship God. Let us sing to his praise from Psalm 122.

[ 1 : 26 ] Psalm 122. I joy, it went to the house of God, go up, they said to me, Jerusalem, within thy gates, our feet shall standing be.

Jerusalem, as a city, is compactly built together, and to that place the tribes go up, the tribes of God go thither. To Israel's testimony, there to God's name thanks to pay, for thrones of judgment, even the thrones of David's house there stay.

Pray that Jerusalem may have peace and felicity, let them that love thee and thy peace have still prosperity. Therefore I wish that peace may still within thy walls remain, and ever may thy palaces prosperity retain.

Now for my friends and brethren's sakes, peace be in thee I'll say, and for the house of God, O Lord, I'll seek thy good all way.

We'll sing the whole of this psalm, Psalm 122, I joy, it went to the house of God. I joy, it went to the house of God, grow up this head to me.

[ 2 : 49 ] Jerusalem, within thy gates, our feet shall standing be.

Jerusalem as a city is compactly built together, and to that place the tribes go up, the tribes of God, O Lord, the Lord, to Israel's testimony there, to God's name thanks to pay, for the throne of God.

For the throne of judgment, the throne of David's house, their state.

Pray that Jerusalem may have peace and felicity, let them that love thee and thy peace have still prosperity.

Therefore, I wish that peace may still within, I won't remain.

[ 4 : 52 ] And ever may thy palaces prosperity retain.

Now for my friends and brethren's sake, peace be in thee, I'll say, and for the house of God our Lord, I seek thy good always.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. We will now call on the Lord's name in prayer. Let us pray. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Lord, it becomes us to thank you once again, for your great kindness to us, in giving us health and strength, to be able to gather with your people in the house of God.

And we thank you for the desire of our hearts, that we be here to worship you, and to hear what God the Lord does speak.

[ 6 : 22 ] For you speak peace to your people, and you say, let them not return to foolishness. You know how foolish our hearts are, and how inclined to sin each one of us is.

We all sin day by day in thought and word and action. We have sins of omission, and sins of commission.

We have sins deeply rooted in our very being, of which we are totally unaware, evil leanings in our spirits.

And we pray, Lord, that thou wouldst involve us more and more with your word. And that the word of God may take deep root in our souls, and be used to sanctify us in heart and in life.

And we thank you for the words of the psalmist, when he encouraged himself and others to go up to the house of God.

[ 7 : 41 ] And as he was led to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, that peace may still within thy walls remain, and ever may thy palaces prosperity retain.

We know that Satan will try and bring this peace, and that he will try and impoverish the witness of your people.

He will try and render us totally impoverished in spiritual terms.

And we know that Satan, by his temptations and by his wiles, will seek to bring us down as individuals, and as communities.

Lord, we ask that our great Saviour would stand to fight for us. As the angel of the Lord made himself known to Joshua of old, when Joshua saw him standing with his sword drawn, and he asked him, Are you for us or for our enemies?

[ 9 : 05 ] And the angel said that I am come as the captain of the Lord's host. And we praise you that that is still the case. That Jesus Christ our Saviour has undertaken, not only to begin a good work in the hearts of his people, but also to perform that work until the end.

And that you are the good shepherd who shepherds your people and protects and guides them, and gives them grace for every situation of life.

And we pray that this evening we might hear the voice of the good shepherd as we read your word, and as we sing your praise, and as we meditate upon the scriptures together.

We might know that we are in the presence of the Lord, and that our hearts and life would be improved and blessed, as a result of our meeting together here.

We pray for your blessing to be upon the congregation here. And as we think of them anticipating a congregational meeting in the near future, we pray that we give them a spirit of prayer, each one of them, that the mind of the Lord be made known to them, which way to go.

[ 10 : 34 ] Lord, we thank you that you are able to lead and guide your people in every detail. We pray for your blessing to be upon the young children of the community, those who are present here this morning, and any others who may not have been able to be here.

We ask, Lord, that you would bless them richly, and that they may grow up to fear the Lord, and be shining lights and witnesses for you, in their own day and generation in this place, and wherever their lot may be cast.

We thank you for each one present here this evening, that you have gathered us from various homes, and with our various circumstances. And we thank you that you know us each one, and that you are able to answer our questions, and give us encouragement when we are cast down.

You are able to give us leading and guiding as to the way we ought to go. Remember those who are not able to be with us, who are laid aside on beds of sickness, and we thank you that you are able to help them.

But if it is not your purpose that they recover, we ask that you would give them grace, to believe in the Lord Jesus, that they may meet their God in peace at the end of life's journey.

[ 11 : 59 ] Lord our God we pray, for an outpouring of your spirit to be upon us as a community, and as communities. That you would build up your cause among us we pray, and that you would cast down the forces of evil, that seek to assert themselves among us as a people.

We pray that you would remember those who are standing in government, for what is according to the scripture, standing against cries for abortion and end of life, things of that nature that are so far away from what the word of God commends to us.

We pray also for our brothers and sisters in various parts of the world that are suffering, some of them in situations of war. We ask that you would help them, and help those who are cast down, who are oppressed and afflicted, and whose lives are made so hard, because of the enemies of the gospel.

Lord our God have mercy upon them we pray. Go before us now Lord as we continue to wait upon you. Lead us and guide us as we sing your praise, and read your word, and meditate on it.

And forgive our every sin we pray in Jesus name, and for his sake. Amen. Let's further sing this time in Psalm 63.

[ 13 : 36 ] Psalm 63 and verses 1 to 8. Lord thee my God I rarely seek, my soul doth thirst for thee, my flesh longs in a dry parched land where in no waters be, that I thy power may behold, and brightness of thy face, as I have seen thee heretofore, within thy holy place.

Since better is thy love than life, my lips thee praise shall give. I in thy name will lift my hands, and bless thee while I live. Down to the end of verse 8.

Psalm 63 verses 1 to 8. Lord thee my God I rarely seek. My soul doth thirst for thee, my flesh longs in a dry parched land where in no waters be, that I thy power may behold, and brightness of thy face, as I have seen thee here to form, within thy holy name.

Psalm 63 and verses 1 to 9. Psalm 63 and verses 1 to 9. Psalm 63 and verses 1 to 9. ■ John 61. 5. The heck oh dear Jesus, If you are glad you are human we.

Thine holy in a dry place, time as I have seen thee here to form, within thy holy place. Since better is thy love than life, is thy love and life my lips thee please shall give I in thy name will lift my hands and bless thee while I live even as with marrow and with fat my soul shall fill it be then shall my mouth with joyful lips sing praises unto thee when

[ 16 : 27 ] I do thee upon my bed remember with delight and when on thee I meditate in watches of the night in shadow of thy wings I'll join for thou my help thou my help hast been my soul thee follows pardon me thy right hand doth sustain now let us turn to the

Old Testament scriptures and the prophecy of Jeremiah and chapter six Jeremiah and chapter six and we read at the beginning oh ye children of Benjamin gather yourselves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem and blow the trumpet in Tekoa and set up a sign of fire in Beth Hakerem for evil appeareth out of the north and great destruction I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman the shepherds with their flocks shall come unto her they shall pitch their tents against her round about they shall feed everyone in his place prepare ye war against her arise and let us go up at noon woe unto us for the day goeth away for the shadows of the evening are stretched out arise and let us go by night and let us destroy her palaces for thus hath the

Lord of hosts said hew ye down trees and cast a mount against Jerusalem this is the city to be visited she is holy oppression in the midst of her as a fountain casteth out her waters so she casteth out her wickedness violence and spoil is heard in her before me continually is grief and wounds be thou instructed O Jerusalem lest my soul depart from thee lest I make thee desolate a land not inhabited thus saith the Lord of hosts they shall thoroughly glean the remnant of Israel as a vine turn back thine hand as a grape gatherer into the baskets to whom shall I speak and give warning that they may hear behold their ear is uncircumcised and they cannot hearken behold the word of the Lord is unto them a reproach they have no delight in it therefore

I am full of the fury of the Lord I am weary with holding in I will pour it out upon the children abroad and upon the assembly of young men together where even the husband with the wife shall be taken the aged with him that is full of days and their houses shall be turned unto others with their fields and wives together for I will stretch out my hand upon the inhabitants saith the Lord for from the least of them even unto the greatest of them everyone is given to covetousness and from the prophet even unto the priest everyone dealeth falsely they have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly saying peace peace when there is no peace were they ashamed when they had committed abomination nay they were not at all ashamed neither could they blush therefore they shall fall among them that fall at the time that

I visit them they shall be cast down saith the Lord thus saith the Lord stand ye in the ways and see and ask for the old paths where is the good way and walk therein and you shall find rest for your souls but they said we will not walk therein also I said watchmen over you saying hearken to the sound of the trumpet but they said we will not hearken therefore hear ye nations and know O congregation what is among them hear O earth behold I will bring evil upon this people even the fruit of their thoughts because they have not hearkened unto my words nor to my law but rejected it to what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba and the sweet cane from a far country your burnt offerings are not acceptable nor your sacrifices sweet unto me therefore thus saith the

[ 22 : 13 ] Lord behold I will lay stumbling blocks before this people and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them the neighbour and his friend shall perish thus saith the Lord behold a people cometh from the north country and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth they shall lay hold on bow and spear they are cruel and have no mercy their voice roareth like the sea and they ride upon horses set in array as men for war against thee o daughter of Zion we have heard the fame thereof our hands walk feeble anguish hath taken hold of us and pain as of a woman in travail go go not forth into the field nor walk by the way for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side o daughter of my people gird thee with sackcloth and wallow thyself in ashes make thee mourning as for an only son most bitter lamentation for the spoiler shall suddenly come upon us

I have set thee for a tower and fortress among my people that thou mayest know and try their way they are all grievous revolters walking with slanders they are brass and iron they are all corrupt the bellows are burned the lead is consumed of the fire the founder melteth in vain for the wicked are not plucked away reprobate silver shall men call them because the Lord hath rejected them amen and may the Lord bless to us that reading from his word and to his name be all the praise it is now sing to his praise from psalm 119 verses 1 to 6 psalm 119 at the beginning blessed are they that undefiled and straight are in the way who in the

Lord's most holy law do walk and do not stray blessed are they who to observe his statutes are inclined and who do seek the living God with their whole heart and mind such in his ways do walk and they do know in equity thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts carefully oh that thy statutes to observe thou wouldst my ways direct then shall I not be shamed when I thy precepts all respect these verses 1 to 6 of psalm 119 blessed are they that undefiled blessed are they that and defiled and straight are in the way who in the Lord's most holy law do walk and do not sleep blessed are they who do observe his statutes are inclined and who do seek the living

God with their whole heart and mind such in his ways to walk and lay to know iniquity thee thou hast come and did us to keep thy holy set care for thee oh that thy statutes too observe thy wouldst my will thy will die then shall

I not be shamed when I thy precept all respect thy please set all respect be now as the Lord enables us let us turn and consider the words we have in this chapter we've read together in the prophecy of Jeremiah and chapter 6 and again reading at verse 16 verse 16 thus saith the Lord stand ye in the ways and see and ask for the old paths where is the good way and walk therein and you shall find rest for your souls but they said we will not walk therein therein the prophet Jeremiah served the Lord for around forty years and they call him the weeping prophet if you were to turn to chapter 9 at the very beginning of chapter 9 we find him exclaiming oh that my head were water and mine eyes a fountain of tears that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people that I had in the wilderness a lodging place of wayfaring men that I might leave my people and go from them for they be all adulterers an assembly of treacherous men this man Jeremiah was called by the Lord to minister to these people to these people and the Lord assures him at the very beginning that before he formed him in the womb that he knew him he had his eye upon him for this particular task of ministry to the people of Judah and Israel and Jerusalem calling them calling them to repentance calling them from their sins and telling them if they did not repent that the Lord was going to send a nation to come from the north as it says in this particular chapter to destroy them and you would see that that would have been enough of a warning for people to turn to the Lord away from their evil ways but it was not the chapter we have read here chapter 6 dated about 612 BC that's when it was written and if you follow the history of Israel and Jerusalem you'll find that Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians in the year 586 BC not an awful long time after Jeremiah here has been preaching to them and calling to them to turn their back upon the sin of their lives and they didn't listen and they didn't listen

[ 31 : 13 ] and because they didn't listen the Lord sent the Babylonians to destroy the city destroy Jerusalem and the temple that they thought so highly of and brought many of them into the captivity of Babylon there to remain for 70 years and we see that the chapter here chapter 6 at verse 16 it's as if Jeremiah is bringing them to focus upon the circumstances that prevail among them as a people and there are four things I'd like to highlight as they present themselves to us from verse 16 first of all he says thus is the Lord and the first thing that the Lord is saying is stand ye in the ways and see so he is saying to them stop stand in the ways and see and secondly he is saying to them ask for the old paths where is the good way thirdly he is saying to them walk therein and finally you shall find rest for your souls but sadly at the end of all of these we see the response that they gave they said we will not walk therein walk therein one or two words on each of these headings first of all he calls them to stand in the ways and see it's as if he is saying to them the time has come for you really to consider where you are and where were they what kind of lifestyle were they living well we've gone through the whole chapter and it says in verse 7 this is the way they were as a fountain casteth out her waters so Jerusalem casteth out her wickedness violence and spoil is herden her before me continually is grief and wounds that's the kind of society that prevailed in Jerusalem at the time at the time and then it goes on in verse 10 to whom shall I speak and give warning that they may hear behold their ear is uncircumcised and they cannot hearken behold the word of the Lord is unto them a reproach they have no delight in it isn't that an amazing thing the Lord had sent this man with a message to these people and their ears were blocked against what he was saying they had no minds to hear what the Lord was saying through his servant here no wonder his heart was broken and he was saying that

I wish my eyes were fountains of tears because I want to weep over Jerusalem and the people to whom the Lord has sent me to minister and then it goes on in verse 13 from the least of them even unto the greatest of them everyone is given to covetousness from the prophet even unto the priest everyone dealeth falsely at every level of society this was happening and verse 14 they have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people people say slightly saying peace peace when there is no peace those who were teaching them and speaking to them they were giving a different message to the message of the man of God it's as if they were saying don't worry about it peace will prevail but how can peace prevail with such sin rampant among the people and then at verse 28 just one more reference here they are all grievous revolters walking with slanders grievous revolters what a list of adjectives describing a people for whom the Lord has done so much down through the centuries people to whom the Lord has sent a succession of preachers

Isaiah and Jeremiah himself to name just two and they are still revolting against God no wonder he is calling them to stand stand the Lord says in verse 16 stand ye in the ways and see where are you?

what road are you walking? well many of them were walking just carried along with the ethos of the day doing what everybody else was doing going along pleasing themselves doing what seemed right in their own eyes maybe filled with a love for materialism a love for the things of this world and having switched off as it were any references at all to the things of eternity having switched off the voice of God if that was possible for them they were living a self gratifying life a life that was not at all in accordance with what the word of God required of them and the prophet says now stand stand still and see exactly where you are see where the walking where the walking where the path you are on will lead you where the path you are walking will end up will it end up in glory will it end up in blessedness or will it invariably end up in a dark and hopeless eternity maybe you are here this evening and you have come to this kind of crossroads in your life where do you go from here where do you go from here looking back you see you have come along a particular path where you have been pleasing yourself and not paying any real attention to what the Lord has been asking of you you have given yourself over to all the materialism of this world and you have gratified yourself and you have gratified yourself doing your own thing well that would lead you any nearer heaven and this is what he is saying to the people of Jerusalem ask for the old paths that's the second point we have having stood and surveyed where they were where they have come from and where will this path which they have been walking on will lead them ultimately the Lord says

I want you to ask for the old paths where is the good way the old paths what does he mean by that the ancient paths well sometimes old things are no better than new things depending on what you are considering but the old paths he is talking about here these are paths that the Lord has honoured down through the centuries the paths that the Lord has honoured down through the centuries the paths that the Lord has directed his people on and the paths that the people of God have walked down through the years think back to Abraham himself the way he walked with God think back to Moses think to David all of these men of God down through the centuries they were walking they were walking not to gratify themselves but they walked in obedience to the word of God and that is what he is asking of us this evening ask for the old paths of course the old paths go back as it were to eternity to God himself he is the author of the new and living way even from shall I say from the Garden of Eden where this path as it were this path as it were first appeared when the Lord showed forth that there was a way to please him and the way to please him of course was that people would believe in his son whom he was to send into the world that the seed of the woman would come to bruise the serpent's head and when Jesus Christ came into the world he said

[ 41 : 38 ] I am the way the truth and the life no man comes unto the Father but by me and Jeremiah here is saying ask for the old paths where is the good way the good way is Jesus Christ the way by which we are to be reconciled unto God the way the way that will lead us at last into the glory at God's right hand and this is what he is asking them here ask for these paths and for this good way how do we ask and whom do we ask well there is all sorts of advice given as to how to live our lives but the apostle James puts it this way in chapter 1 verse 5 if any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not that is he doesn't find fault or scold you he upbraideth not and it shall be given to him but let him ask in faith nothing wavering

Jeremiah says ask for the old paths and we come to God in our prayers and ask him Lord show me the way show me the way ahead show me yourself and give me grace to be obedient to you give me grace to come and place my trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour give me grace to believe and walk in obedience to him that is the path that leads to glory and eternal blessedness ask for the old path where is the good way the good way that phrase particularly focuses on the ultimate destination to which this way will lead you it is certainly good in itself it's the way of obedience it's the way of faith it's the way of love but it is the way that leads to glory at last the good way when you read in the prophecy of Isaiah chapter 35 you find very interestingly there it talks about a highway shall be there and a way shall be called the way of holiness the unclean shall not pass over it but it shall be for those the wayfaring men the fools shall not err therein a highway shall be there the highway speaks of an elevated way among or above the level of the wilderness terrain it was a way that was prepared and raised up it was above the level of the ordinary surrounding ground and that's what the Lord has done he has established a new way a new way in Jesus Christ and he has given us direction to him and he himself has given us invitations to come to him come to me and those who come to me

I will in no wise cast out and this is what Jeremiah now is focusing on where is the good way the good way well from this pulpit you have heard down through the years the good way being illustrated and commended to you Sabbath after Sabbath meeting after meeting pointed to Christ and that's the only way by which we can have peace with God the only way the only way through which our sins can be forgiven the only way is oppression even the Lord Jesus Christ the eternal Son of God in human nature as our mediator and as our saviour he is the way and the Bible is absolutely clear on that point where is the good way?

where is the good way? where is Jesus Christ? where is Jesus Christ? well it says in the catechism that he is freely offered in the Gospel and Jeremiah was making that point repeatedly to the inhabitants of the land of Israel and they were not of a mind to hear it they wanted to do their own thing to walk in their own ways they wanted to amass they wanted to amass worldly fortunes they wanted to satisfy themselves with worldliness of various kinds living just the way they wanted and he repeatedly commended Jesus Christ to them and the way of salvation in him and they refused they refused and then he asks them to walk in this way walk in this way how can we walk in this way?

well I think it the kind of walk is a walk of faith faith we take a step of faith in coming to Jesus and each day we rise we seek to please him and follow him in what he asks of us his word is full of direction full of instruction and we seek to please him in every aspect of our living walk in this way it's a way of faith also a way of obedience that we obey him and take delight in obeying him it is also a way of love those who have been blessed by the Lord they have been touched by him in a saving way their heart has been moved to respond in faith obedience and love to him the apostle says we love him because he first loved us and this is what the what the apostle is saying that we need to show forth our love by an obedient lifestyle by our walk of obedience and faith and service walk therein walk therein the word of God is wonderful in that it expands its meaning more and more to explain what it's saying

[ 49 : 37 ] I mean when it's talking here about the good way and us walking in it it's talking really about a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ each day I rise the psalmist said I will bless you each day I seek to please you each day I seek to worship you each day I seek to serve you walking by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ walking by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ the person of Christ is wonderful is it not he is the God-man mediator set up from all eternity to be the mediator of God's elect people God's elect people and when Jesus came into the world he came as the sin bearer who bore the sins of his people all the way to the cross and upon the cross and as he was nailed to the cross he said Father forgive them for they know not what they do he made reconciliation by the blood of his cross he made peace with God on behalf of those who believe in him and now when we are directed to walk in this way and in obedience to Jesus surely it is the utmost folly to disregard what the scripture is saying surely those who hear this word to walk in this way to believe in Jesus if they don't embrace that invitation and obey that direction it is the utmost folly on their part and that is the way it turned out for the people of Jerusalem having had the word of God so clearly set before them here it says here you shall find rest for your souls and they didn't believe it it is still the same is it not?

people hear the gospel being preached the invitations the promises of God and the promises of God to those who believe and the masses do not take it to heart people do not accept the truth of the word of God these people here did not accept it and they turned away and they said we will not walk therein we will not walk therein surely they were totally captivated by their own self-interests they didn't really want to hear God's word at all what a sad response for the minister of the gospel who was preaching to them have you ever thought of that yourselves?

a number of times the minister of the gospel has to go home with a heavy heart because people aren't believing not what he is saying but believing what the Bible is saying when we look at our own nation today the number of people who disregard the Lord's Day and who disregard the word of God and the house of God people do their own thing well we will not walk in it they said with the result that a number of years later the Lord raised up the army of the Chaldeans Babylonians and he enabled them to walk all the way to surround Jerusalem and they took the city they destroyed everything that these Jews held dear they destroyed the temple itself and took the people captive to a foreign land

I pray that that will never happen in our country a country that has been privileged to have had gospel ministry for many years, many centuries please pray that it will not happen in this country that it will not happen that the word of God will be cast aside to that extent that the Lord will destroy our Christian witness they said we will not walk therein where are you standing this evening are you at a crossroads in your life these people were brought as it were to the crossroads to survey the ways that they had been walking where they had come from and where these roads were leading and they were given direction to ask for the old paths the ways that God commended the paths of holiness and truth and obedience to God and ask that the Lord enable you to embrace these paths just like the saints of old embraced the word of God by faith embracing the word of God just like Abraham did when the Lord called him to leave out of the Chaldees and he told him to go out not knowing where he was going he obeyed because he believed God and then of course he is going on here it says that this way he is commending is a good way and at the end of that way you will find rest for your souls isn't it a wonderful thing that the people of God are so tied and afflicted with many situations in life that at last

God promises that he will give them eternal rest oh they rest by faith in Jesus now they know what it is to have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ but at last at the end of life's journey their souls are to be made perfect in holiness and immediately pass into the presence of God and their bodies being still united to Christ rest in their graves until the resurrection and at the resurrection believer shall be raised in glory shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted at the day of judgment shall be made perfectly blessed and the full enjoying of God to all eternity eternal peace eternal blessedness is at the end of the good way at the end of the way of faith at the end of the way of faith at the end of the way that is the good way because God has appointed it have you begun to walk in this way in this way is your heart moved to seek the Lord is your heart desirous to please the Lord are you willing to submit to what the Lord asks of you rather than be rebellious like these people were rebelling against God's word rebelling against the word of the prophet of the prophet but those whom the Lord is blessing he makes them a willing people in a day of his power if you are willing to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ do so and continue doing so every step of the way and at last he will receive you into his eternal rest

[ 59 : 05 ] Jeremiah Jeremiah the weeping prophet Jeremiah the man of God so sad because so many people were not willing to believe the message that God laid upon his heart to deliver to them may the Lord grant us hearing ears and ready hearts to hear and obey what the Lord calls us to do the Lord and that's the Lord and that's the Lord to hear the Lord for I am God and there is none else let us pray help us Lord this evening to hear what God the Lord does speak and we pray that our ears would not be blocked by the world or the sins of our life but rather that our ears would be opened and be ready to hear and that our hearts would be ready to obey and our feet ready to walk in obedient walk on this new way we ask that you would help us to hear and to be obedient all the days of our life bless us now as we sing your praise in conclusion and forgive every sin we pray in Jesus name and for his sake

Amen I will be bring your worship to our close singing from Psalm 25 Psalm 25 and verses 4 to 10 this is the short meter version the first version of the psalm show me thy ways O Lord thy paths O teach thou me do thou lead me in thy truth therein my teacher be for thou art God that dost to me salvation send and I upon thee all the day expecting to attend thy tender mercies Lord I pray thee to remember and loving kindnesses for they have been of old forever my sins and fault of youth do thou O Lord forget after thy mercy think of me and for thy goodness great

God good and upright is the way he'll sinners show the meek in judgment he will guide and make his path to know the whole paths of the Lord are truth and mercy sure to those that do his covenant keep and testimonies pure pure these stanzas psalm 25 the short meter version verses 4 to 10 show me thy ways O Lord show me thy ways O Lord show me thy ways O Lord thy paths O teach thou me and do thou lead me in thy truth therein mighty shall be for thou art God that dost to me salvation send and I upon thee all the day expecting to attend thy tender mercies to me to me salvation send and I upon thee all the day expecting to attend thy tender mercies to me to me to be salvation and I upon thee all the day expecting to attend thy tender mercies Lord thy tender mercies Lord

I pray thee to remember and love thee kindnesses and love thee kindnesses for they have been old forever my sins and faults of youth and faults of youth do thou O Lord forget O Lord forget after thy mercy after thy mercy think on me and for thy goodness be God good and upright is the way he'll sinners show the making judgment he will guide and make his path to the Lord the hope the home paths of the Lord are truth and mercy true to those that do his heaven and keep and test him all is pure

Now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God the Father fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest upon and abide with you all now and forever more Amen