

Well Balanced Love

Jeremiah 1:9-10

INTRODUCTION: The preacher's job:

comfort the afflicted & afflict the comfortable

I. UNBALANCED LOVE:

EXALTATION WITHOUT EXPECTATION

- A. Love that spoils (example: parent & child)
- B. God exalts & expects (Bible: *"Love the Lord with your whole heart & your neighbour as yourself."*)

II. UNBALANCED LOVE:

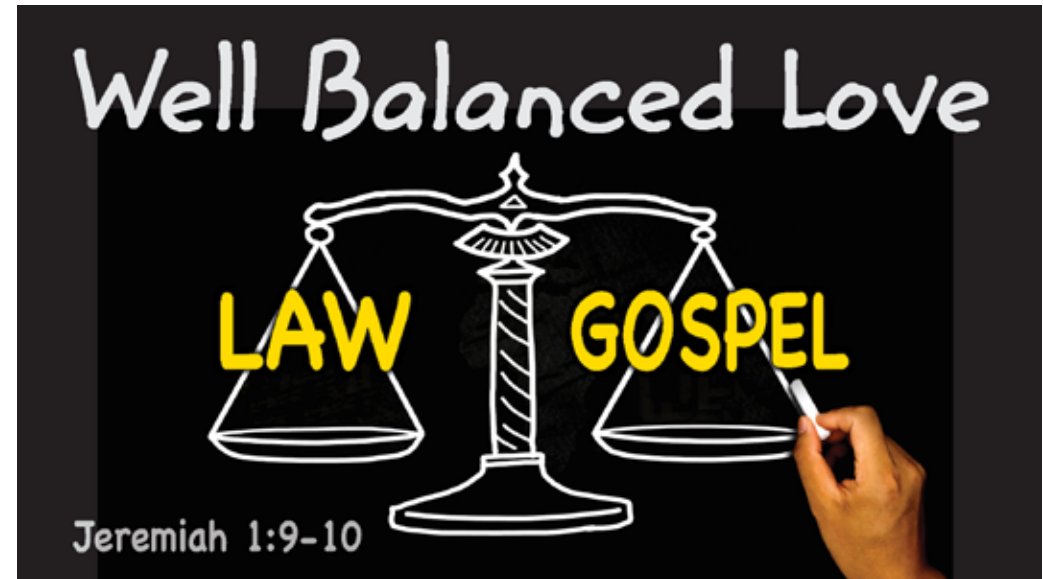
INTENSITY WITHOUT CONSISTENCY

- A. "Honeymoon love" will not last (example: newly married couple)
- B. Inconsistency breeds lack of trust
- C. God's love is consistent
(Bible: *"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today & forever."*)

III. UNBALANCED LOVE:

PRAISE WITHOUT CORRECTION

- A. Love is not enough; limits are needed (example: parent & child)
- B. Discipline is an expression of love
(Bible: *"The Lord disciplines those whom He loves."*)
+ My boyhood friend: *"My parents never loved [disciplined] me."*



IV. GOD'S WELL-BALANCED LOVE (Jeremiah 1:9-10)

- A. The Law:
correction, discipline, judgement – because of our sin & rebellion
- B. The Gospel:
mercy guidance, forgiveness – because of His love for us

CONCLUSION: A fishing story --

God's two kinds of love... well-balanced love