



**God's Due Series, No 1: Attention, Jeremiah 7:23-24**

Mike Halpin November 15, 2020

**Intro:** There was a Missouri farmer who was selling his mule... "First you have to get his attention."

- Who/what has my attention? 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- What source is filling my mind, thoughts, imagination? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who/what is shaping my opinions, judgments and the course of my life? \_\_\_\_\_

**"God's Due" series:** Attention, Reverence, Thanksgiving, Trust, Worship, and Hope

**I. Attention Grabbing Voices—**

Jeremiah 7:23–24

Social media platforms: Facebook (2.5 billion); Instagram (1 billion) Twitter (330 million); LinkedIn (310 million)... About 4 billion users worldwide regularly using social media platforms (increases almost 10%/year...) 70% of total US population have these accounts, about 232 million of us. Social media sites aren't "neutral" platforms; they're run by people w/ philosophical and political views; they determine what you will or won't see on their respective platforms.

Blogs and podcasts: About 500 million blog sites out of about 1.7 billion web sites in the world. About 2 million blog posts/day. About 1.5 million podcasts.

Recommend: Netflix documentary, *The Social Dilemma*; blog on AppliedHeart.com, *Who's Influencing You?*

News sources:

It's possible to be in the social media world, but not of it, but that requires a consistent level of discernment we may not be practicing.

Distractions inside the professing Church.

Prominent leaders teach that Genesis 1-11 isn't historic narrative: John Walton, of Wheaton; Jack Collins of Covenant Seminary; Tim Keller former senior pastor at Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

Evangelicals living together before marriage.... Who/what are they taking their cues from?

Claims of promises for material prosperity and wealth, negating the message that all who desire to live godly in Christ will suffer (2 Timothy 3:12), and that it is w/ difficulty that we enter God's kingdom (Acts 14:22).

How much time/week am I in God's presence through his word, prayer, worship and fellowship with others? \_\_\_\_\_

How much time/week am I on Social media; listening to the radio or watching TV, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Distractions in Jeremiah's Day—

Jeremiah 23:

Vs. 1-4 God reprov'd Kings and politicians

Vs. 11-40 God reprov'd the prophets and priests

V. 11

V. 14

V. 16

V. 21

V. 26

V. 32

V. 18

V. 22

We live in a day not unlike Jeremiah's...

## III. God & His Word—

V. 28 straw versus wheat

V. 29 God's word as fire and hammer

Psalm 119:9

Am I giving God his due by giving him my attention, by living in, meditating in, and obeying, his word? \_\_\_\_\_

As we pay attention to God and His word we always find more of Christ; God's word will always lead us to God's Son.

Hebrews 1:1-3

When we pay attention to Jesus, we give God his due.

Try a "distraction fast":

God has gone to great lengths to provide and protect his word; it's incumbent on us to pay attention to God by paying attention to God's word.