

The Forest Fire

- I. The Parable
 - A. Ezekiel 20:45-49
 - B. The Lord tells Ezekiel to tell the people about a forest fire.
 - C. The fire is going to devour every tree both green and dry.
 - D. The Lord will be known but the people do not understand.

- II. Judgement Is Coming
 - A. The fire represents judgement of Judah.
 - B. The message from the Lord is that his judgement is a reality and cannot be escaped.
 - C. 2 Corinthians 5:10 – We face the same reality. No one can escape.
 - D. 1 Peter 4:17-19 – What should our message be to those outside the gospel?

- III. Green & Dry
 - A. Every tree would be destroyed both green and dry representing judgement on all.
 - B. The consequences of sin and judgement were felt by everyone both the good and bad. Jeremiah and Ezekiel suffered the fate of God's punishment on the people.
 - C. Being a good person is not enough. Having a good heart is not enough. Living a moral life is not enough.
 - D. The Message of Jesus
 - 1. Matthew 7:21 – “the one who does the will of My Father”
 - 2. Matthew 7:24 – Hears and does
 - 3. Matthew 13:23 – Hears, understands, bears fruit

- IV. Ignorance is not Bliss
 - A. The people fussed because of the parables.
 - B. Their ignorance to God's message did not stop judgement.
 - C. The importance of sharing the message cannot be overstated.
 - D. We cannot plead ignorance.