

# Dwell Deep

Jer 49:8

## Introduction:

1. “Dwell deep, oh Dedan”
  - a. Dedan was probably an Arab tribe. The Dedanites lived with the Edomites, the descendants of Esau.
  - b. When the Dedanites were attacked by a powerful enemy, they would quickly pack up their belongings and children and leave the Edomites.
  - c. The Dedanites would quickly move to the city of Petra where they would hide deep in the rocks and caves of the cliffs there.
  - d. When the coast was clear, then the people would come from their hiding places deep in the rocks.
  - e. If guards or watchmen saw the enemy coming, they would give the command to “Dwell deep”
2. Now is the time for Christians to dwell deep
3. Powerful enemies are attacking good and decent things
  - a. The enemy of humanism is attacking
  - b. The enemy of evolution is attacking
  - c. The enemy of situation ethics is attacking
  - d. The enemy of “new-morality” is attacking – abortion / homo
  - e. The enemy of false teachings and cults is attacking
4. Now is the time for parents to “dwell deep”
  - a. I’ve seen kids grow up and become faithful Christians and they continue serving the Lord even after leaving home.
  - b. I’ve seen many other kids grow up but they leave home and drop out of church and there is no evidence that they are saved
5. The world does not mind a little religion.
  - a. “Everyone needs a little faith, it sort of holds you together a bit.”
  - b. “Go to church once in a while on Sunday morning.”
    1. God doesn’t just want Sunday morning.
    2. He wants Monday, Tuesday....
  - c. The world does not want anyone to abide in the things of God.

1Jo 2:24 Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.
  - d. The world does not want anyone to delight in the things of God.
  - e. The world does not want anyone to dwell deeply in the things of God.

## I. Sarcastic Use of Our Text

- I speak mainly to lost people here

### A. “Dwell Deep oh Dedan” – Jer 49:13

13 For I have sworn by myself, saith the LORD, that Bozrah shall become a desolation, a reproach, a waste, and a curse; and all the cities thereof shall be perpetual wastes.

1. Dedan lived with the Edomites and God would soon destroy the Edomites
2. Some scholars think that God is graciously telling the people of Dedan to get away from the Edomites so they won't be destroyed with them.
3. Some think that God is sarcastically saying, “Go ahead and dwell deep Dedan for you think you can escape the wrath of God deep in the caves and rocks
4. No one can hide from God's wrath and punishment

### B. Here is a Warning to the Sinner Who Thinks He is Invincible

Jer 49:16 Thy terriblest hath deceived thee, and the pride of thine heart, O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill: though thou shouldest make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD. 17 Also Edom shall be a desolation: every one that goeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss at all the plagues thereof.

1. It is as though the prophet said to the Dedanites, “You think you can never be destroyed, for your city is built in the rocks. There is access only through a narrow pass which can be easily guarded. You suppose that the mightiest armies will fail to conquer you and therefore you are very proud. Your pride is in vain.”
2. These people were destroyed
3. Though they carved their houses into solid rock, and their city seemed out of reach of their enemies, God laid his hand on it.
4. Here is a warning to every sinner who thinks that he will ultimately escape the wrath of God
5. You may dwell deep, o sinner, but God will find you out – Ps 139  
7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? 8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; 10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. 12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.
6. Oh guilty, Christless soul, there is no escape from God

**C. Here is a Warning to the Self-Righteous – Find a verse here**

1. Many dwell deep in their own works
2. You think you will save yourself by your works
3. Like the building of the tower of Babel, your self-righteous efforts will end in failure
4. Can sinners keep a perfect law?
5. Can finite effort satisfy infinite justice?
6. Can a vile worm deserve heaven
7. Realize poor sinner that “by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”
8. Jesus said, “Ye must be born again”
9. Turn from your good works to Christ, the rock of our salvation

**D. Here is a Warning to the Hypocrite – find a verse here**

1. Some dwell deep in pretension
2. They pretend to be Christians
3. In our midst, the hypocrite acts very pious
  - a) *He carries his Bible*
  - b) *He bows his head in prayer*
  - c) *He sings the songs*
  - d) *He speaks the language*
  - e) *It is all just an act*
4. He is just like the world outside the church building
5. Come out from under your mask now and trust Christ as Savior
6. Quit the acting, stop pretending

**II. The Instructive Use of this Passage**

- I speak to saved people now

**A. Dwell Deep in Separation – Jer 49:16-17**

1. The Dedanites lived with the Edomites (descendants of Esau) and would be destroyed with them if they did not separate
  - a) *God warns them to separate*
  - b) *Otherwise they will be destroyed*
2. Like Dedan we live in enemy territory
  - a) *We are stuck here in this world*
    - (1) We live here
    - (2) We work here
    - (3) We play here
  - b) *We are to separate from the world – 2Cor 6:17*  
*17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,*
  - c) *My desire is that every member of Hillcrest Baptist Church will dwell deep in separation*

## **B. Let Us Dwell Deep in Christ**

**Eph 3:17** That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

**Col 1:23** If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;*

1. There are too many superficial, shallow Christians
  - a) *Few Christians have a deep hatred of sin*
  - b) *Shallow thoughts of sin lead to shallow thoughts of grace*
  - c) *We need to see sin as a deadly, dangerous evil, a bitter thing*
  - d) *Then we will prize the salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love which thought it, the blood which bought it and the grace which wrought it.*
2. When you get on the rock of Christ you are safe, but when you get deep into that Rock, then you are happy
  - a) *The one standing on a rock will be subject to the wind and the rain, the heat of the sun*
  - b) *The weather outside matters not to the one who is deep in the rock, he is sheltered*

## **C. Dwell Deep in the Bible – Col 2:7**

**7** Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

1. Believers Who Dwell Deep in the Bible are Needed
  - a) *The average Christian in America has little Bible knowledge*
    - (1) He can name only a 3 or 4 of the Ten Commandments
    - (2) He can name only 2 or 3 of the plagues on Egypt
    - (3) He has difficulty finding references in his Bible
    - (4) Doesn't know many of the books of the Bible
  - b) *Average Christian does not know how to lead someone to Christ*
  - c) *The average Christian could not explain, salvation, repentance, sanctification, justification*
  - d) *The average member of our church probably does not know what makes us different from the other Baptist churches around*
  - e) *Thank God that what you know does not get you into heaven*
2. Believers Who Dwell Deep in the Bible are Scarce
  - a) *Baby Christians need to grow up*
  - b) *2Pe 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*
  - c) *1Pe 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:*
  - d) *If a little baby did not grow up, something would be wrong*
  - e) *A deep Christian is more useful to God*

3. Christians who dwell deeply bring more glory to God
  - a) *The nearer you live to Christ the more like Him you will be*
  - b) *Beware of superficiality*
4. A deep Christian will bring forth more fruit to the Lord
5. A deep Christian is less likely to be fooled by false doctrine
  - a) *Many errors are competing for attention*
  - b) *There are many cults and teachers of heresy*
  - c) *They will try to shake you*
6. A deep Christian will better survive the trials of life
  - a) *Trials will surely come*
  - b) *Others will watch to see how you cope*
  - c) *The devil will continue to attack*
  - d) *The world will fight against the believer*
  - e) *Just because you are saved, does not mean that your struggles are over*
7. Those who dwell deeply in Christ are happiest
8. Those who dwell deeply in Christ are strongest

#### **D. Dwell Deep in Church**

1. Jesus Started His Church – Matt 16:18
2. Be Deeply Attached to the Lord's Church
  - a) *Be active in our worship and study times*
  - b) *Be active in our ministries*
  - c) *Make sure your children are in Sunday School*
  - d) *That means you will have to be here on Wed night.*
  - e) *Be active in Sunday School*

#### **E. Dwell Deep in Salvation – 1Cor 2:10**

**10 But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.**

1. Don't Settle for Anything But the Real Thing
  - a) *Someone might say, "Just join the church"*
  - b) *"Just take communion"*
  - c) *"Just get baptized"*
  - d) *"Take the holy Eucharist and be confirmed"*
  - e) *"Do the best you can"*
  - f) *"Turn over a new leaf"*
2. Don't Allow Yourself to be Shortchanged
  - a) *Don't settle for anything but a genuine, sure, positive born-again experience*
  - b) *Don't settle for a counterfeit*

## Perfect Peace

Several years ago a submarine was being tested and had to remain submerged for many days. When it returned to port, someone asked the captain, "How did the terrible storm last night affect you?" The officer looked at him in surprise and exclaimed, "Storm? We didn't even know there was a storm!" The sub had been so far beneath the surface that it had reached the area known to sailors as "the cushion of the sea." Although violent storms might whip the ocean above into huge waves, the waters deep below are never stirred.