

## Introduction:

1. God's word is to shape our lives (**Col. 3:16-17; 2 Tim. 3:14-17**).
2. **Jeremiah 36** shows some would rather silence God than hear Him.

## Discussion:

- I. Jeremiah's Commission (**Jer. 36:1-8**)
  - A. Record all the oracles God had given him (**vv. 1-2, 4**)
  - B. Read them to the people to urge them to repent (**vv. 3, 5-8**).
- II. The Reading of the Scroll (**Jer. 36:9-19**)
  - A. A special fast was called, likely seeking God's favor (**vv. 9-10**).
  - B. The alarmed hearers sent it the king's way (**vv. 11-13, 16-19**).
- III. Silencing God (**Jer. 36:20-26**)
  - A. The king sent for the scroll to be read (**vs. 21**).
  - B. Upon hearing it, he cut the scroll up and burnt it (**vv. 22-24**).
  - C. The princes tried to guard the scroll but could not (**vv. 20, 25**).
  - D. God had to hide Jeremiah and Baruch from Jehoiakim (**vs. 26**).
- IV. Modern Day Jehoiakim's Still Seek to Silence God
  - A. Some literally burn Bibles.
  - B. Others use figurative "penknives" to cut out what they dislike.
  - C. Many "theologians" today cut out the supernatural.
  - D. Many religions cut out the singularity of Christ's church.
  - E. Many cut out the pattern for New Testament worship.
  - F. Many cut out moral teachings: sobriety, modesty, purity, God's marriage law, proper language, etc.
  - G. Preachers often cut out the hard parts of the Bible.
  - H. Elders often cut out the hard part of church discipline.
  - I. Husbands often cut out the self-sacrificial love God demands.
  - J. Wives often cut out submission to husbands.
  - K. Parents and children often cut out their familial responsibilities.
- V. The Indestructible Word (**Jer. 36:27-32**)
  - A. Jehoiakim thought he was clever and silenced God.
  - B. The scroll was reproduced and expanded.
  - C. God's word is forever settled in heaven (**Psa. 119:89**).
  - D. By it, we will all be judged one day (**Jn. 12:48; Rev. 20:12**)

## Conclusion:

1. Try as we may, we cannot escape our amenability to God's word.
2. We may ignore it in this life, but we will spend eternity regretting it.
3. Let us drop our penknives and receive the soul-saving word (**Jas. 1:21-22**).