

**Going Against Wind and Tide**  
**Lessons from the Prophet Jeremiah**  
**Dangerous Ministries (#3)**

Jer. 27:1-2, 12-15; 28:1-17

**Introduction**

Review Jeremiah's call

**I. The True Ministries of the Prophets and the Priests**

A. The prophets and the priests were to be the mediators between God and His people

B. The prophets and the priests were to be the shepherds of God's people

**II. The Pervasiveness of the Dangerous Ministries**

Jer. 2:8; 5:13, 30-31; 6:13-15 (8:10-12); 10:21; 12:10; 14:13-14;

23:1-2, 9-40

**III. The Characteristics of these Dangerous Ministries**

“The false prophets belonged to the socially and religiously acceptable institution of ‘professional’ prophets who responded to the needs of their time. They operated from within the limited perspectives of their contemporaries: *Realpolitik* and *vox populi*” (Van Gemeren, 59).

A. The false shepherd (prophet/priest) is not in right relationship with God

B. The false prophets are self-appointed, not called by God

C. The false shepherds are not under the authority of the Word  
They are autonomous - they rule by their own authority

D. The false shepherds have worldly priorities

- E. The false shepherds are pluralistic
- F. The false shepherds are void of the true Word
- G. They are dangerous to the people

**IV. A Contrast between the True and False**  
(Willem Van Gemeren, *Interpreting the Prophetic Word*, 63)

**V. Dangerous Ministries Today?**