Introduction:
1. Discuss the discourse between Jeremiah and Hananiah
2. Like Jeremiah, we must shine against the darkness of minimization.
3. We must shine against the minimization of...

I. THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF SIN
   A. GOD WILL PUNISH SIN
      1. Some say that He is too much of a loving God to punish sin - 1Jn 4:8, Jn 3:16
      2. God is also a just God –He 2:2, Pr 7:11
      3. Remember Jesus took our punishment for sin that we should not live in it – Ro 6:11, 2Co 7:1
   
   B. SOME EXAMPLES
      1. Old Testament
         b. Nadab and Abihu burnt from fire above – Ex 30:9, Le 10:1-3
      2. New Testament
         a. Ananias and Sapphira – Ac 5:1-11
         b. Herod – Ac 12:20-24

II. PUNISHMENT OF HELL
   A. THE LOST WILL BE CONDEMNED
      1. Those unprepared – Mt 22:12-14
      2. Those who do not obey the gospel - 2Th 1:8
      3. Those who do not believe – Mk 16:16, Jn 3:18, 8:24
   
   B. HELL IS ETERNAL
      1. Some believe souls will be burned up immediately in hell
      2. Jesus taught it is eternal punishment – Mt 25:46

III. THE IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE STUDY
   A. SOME UNDERMINE BIBLE STUDY
      1. Hananiah tried to quench the word of God
      2. Man tried to silence the teaching of Jesus – Ac 3-5
      3. The word is unstoppable - 2Ti 2:8-9, Ph 1:12-14
   
   B. THE IMPORTANCE CANNOT BE DENIED
      1. People perish for lack of knowledge – Ho 4:6
      2. The word illuminates our path – Ps 119:105
      3. The word keeps us from sin – Ps 119:11, Mt 4:11

Conclusion:
1. We hold fast to the word of God knowing that its light is never quenched!
2. We continue to let our light shine before the world knowing victory is already our through Jesus
   – Ro 8:37, 1Jn 5:4-5