

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 299 – Cast Them Out Of My Sight Through Redemption (Jeremiah 15:1-21)

1. Could Moses and Samuel sway the Lord from punishing Judah?

No: *“Then said the Lord unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth”* (Jeremiah 15:1).

- Moses worked to save the people (**Exodus 32:11-14**, **Exodus 32:31-35**, and **Numbers 14:10-20**).
- Samuel worked to save the people (**I Samuel 7:9** and **Psalms 99:6-8**).
- Yet, the people did not work to save themselves (**II Chronicles 36:14-16**, **Jeremiah 19:15**, and **Zechariah 7:8-13**).
- Therefore, God wanted them out of His sight (**Jeremiah 7:12-15**).
- Jeremiah could not, as Moses and Samuel did, intercede for them (**Jeremiah 7:16**, **Jeremiah 11:14**, and **Jeremiah 14:11-12**).

2. What was Jeremiah told as an answer to the question, “Whither shall we go forth?”

“And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the Lord; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity” (Jeremiah 15:2).

- Death (**II Chronicles 25:4**), sword (**Jeremiah 9:13-16**), famine (**Ezekiel 14:21-22**), and captivity (**Isaiah 5:13**).

3. What “four kinds” did the Lord say He was going to appoint over them?

Sword, dogs, fowls, and beasts: *“And I will appoint over them four kinds, saith the Lord: the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to devour and destroy”* (Jeremiah 15:3).

- The sword to slay (**Leviticus 26:25**).
- The dogs to tear (**I Kings 21:22-24** and **II Kings 9:30-37**).
- The fowls to eat the slain flesh (**Deuteronomy 28:26**).
- The beasts to devour and destroy (**Deuteronomy 32:21-24**).

4. Did a past king have anything to do with Judah’s present judgment?

Yes, Manasseh: *“And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem”* (Jeremiah 15:4).

- Manasseh made Judah to err worse than the heathen (**II Chronicles 33:1-20**).
- While God allowed Manasseh to repent, as shown in the reference above, we see now that God did not just “get over” what Judah did under the guidance of Manasseh (**Jeremiah 14:10**).

5. What three questions did God ask the people of Judah (Jeremiah 15:5)?

“For who shall have pity upon thee, O Jerusalem? or who shall bemoan thee? or who shall go aside to ask how thou doest” (Jeremiah 15:5)?

- No one to pity them (**Lamentations 1:12** and **Lamentations 2:15-16**).
- God wanted no one to bemoan them (**Jeremiah 16:5**).
- No one showed concern for them, even among those nations they went whoring themselves after (**Jeremiah 4:30** and **Jeremiah 30:14**).

6. How severe of a punishment was Judah going to receive for forsaking God?

He would destroy them, bereave them of children, increase widowhood, shame, being confounded, cursed of others: *“Thou hast forsaken me, saith the Lord, thou art gone backward: therefore will I stretch out my hand against thee, and destroy thee; I am weary with repenting. And I will fan them with a fan in the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children, I will destroy my people, since they return not from their ways. Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas: I have brought upon them against the mother of the young men a spoiler at noonday: I have caused him to fall upon it suddenly, and terrors upon the city. She that hath borne seven languisheth: she hath given up the ghost; her sun is gone down while it was yet day: she hath been ashamed and confounded: and the residue of them will I deliver to the sword before their enemies, saith the Lord” (Jeremiah 15:6-9).*

- They forsook God (**Isaiah 1:4**, **Jeremiah 2:13-19**, and **Jeremiah 22:8-9**).
- They went backward (**Jeremiah 7:24**; cf. **Hebrews 10:38**).
- God stretched forth His hand against them (**Isaiah 31:1-3** and **Jeremiah 6:12-13**).
- He was tired of repenting [pitying, sorrowing, comforting] for them, for He had done so many times (**Psalms 78:38**).
- He would destroy them (**Ezekiel 9:9-10**) because they did not return to Him (**Jeremiah 8:5**).
- Increase widowhood (**Isaiah 3:25-4:1**).
- Shame and confounded (**Ezekiel 36:32**).

7. What did Jeremiah say every one of them did to him?

Cursed him: *“Woe is me, my mother, that thou hast borne me a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent on usury, nor men have lent to me on usury; yet every one of them doth curse me” (Jeremiah 15:10).*

- Jeremiah speaks like this again (**Jeremiah 20:14-18**).
- Jeremiah felt it was him fighting against the world. He was right in that he was in a fight, but he forgot he was not alone in that fight (**Jeremiah 1:17-19**).
- He did nothing to deserve the way he was being treated by mean, but such is the way of persecution (**Matthew 5:10-12**, **Luke 6:22-23**, **Acts 7:52**, and **I Thessalonians 2:14-16**).

8. Was there any comforting news for the remnant?

Yes: *"The Lord said, Verily it shall be well with thy remnant; verily I will cause the enemy to entreat thee well in the time of evil and in the time of affliction"* (**Jeremiah 15:11**).

- **Proverbs 16:7, Ecclesiastes 8:12, Isaiah 1:9, Isaiah 37:31, Jeremiah 23:3, and Romans 11:1-5.**

9. Did the children of Judah have hope in their defenses to escape captivity?

No: *"Shall iron break the northern iron and the steel? Thy substance and thy treasures will I give to the spoil without price, and that for all thy sins, even in all thy borders. And I will make thee to pass with thine enemies into a land which thou knowest not: for a fire is kindled in mine anger, which shall burn upon you"* (**Jeremiah 15:12-14**).

- Can you break iron and steel is showing that the Chaldeans are not going to be broken and stopped from the task God armed them with (**Habakkuk 1:5-9**).

10. Was Jeremiah concerned about his wellbeing?

Yes: *"O Lord, thou knowest: remember me, and visit me, and revenge me of my persecutors; take me not away in thy longsuffering: know that for thy sake I have suffered rebuke. Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts. I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation. Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, and as waters that fail"* (**Jeremiah 15:15-18**)?

- Jeremiah wanted God to take notice of his suffering for the cause of the Lord (**Romans 8:35-36**).
- These things caused Jeremiah great struggles (**Jeremiah 20:8-10**).
- Jeremiah recalls his finding and consuming the word of God (**Ezekiel 3:1-4**; cf. **Psalms 19:7-10**).
- He did not sit with the sinners (**Psalms 1:1-2, Psalms 26:4-5, and Ephesians 5:6-11**).
- This complaint is similar to Job's and similarly unfounded (**Job 34:5-6**).

11. Did God have any words of comfort for Jeremiah?

Yes: *"Therefore thus saith the Lord, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them. And I will make thee unto this people a fenced brasen wall: and they shall fight against thee, but they shall not prevail against thee: for I am with thee to save thee and to deliver thee, saith the Lord. And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible"* (**Jeremiah 15:19-21**).

- Jeremiah needed to return [same term used **Jeremiah 3:22**, etc.] to God and the task at hand (**Psalms 51:12-13**).
- The he would again be as God's mouth (**II Samuel 23:2** and **Jeremiah 1:7**).
- Don't turn back toward the people though (**II Corinthians 6:14-18**), rather let them turn towards you (**Galatians 6:1**).
- Again (**Jeremiah 1:17-19**), God would defend Jeremiah as He did (**Jeremiah 20:11-12**).
- God literally would deliver Jeremiah out of the hand of the wicked (i.e. **Acts 16:4-10** and **Acts 18:9-11**).