

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 309 – The Word Concerning All Through His Fierce Anger (Jeremiah 25:1-38)

### 1. Did the people of Judah hearken to Jeremiah?

No: *“(1) The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; (2) The which Jeremiah the prophet spake unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, (3) From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even unto this day, that is the three and twentieth year, the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened. (4) And the LORD hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear. (5) They said, Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD hath given unto you and to your fathers for ever and ever: (6) And go not after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and provoke me not to anger with the works of your hands; and I will do you no hurt. (7) Yet ye have not hearkened unto me, saith the LORD; that ye might provoke me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt” (Jeremiah 25:1-7).*

- We keep seeing language like “the word that came to Jeremiah” (**Jeremiah 1:11, Jeremiah 7:1, Jeremiah 11:1, Jeremiah 14:1, Jeremiah 18:1, Jeremiah 21:1**) and will continue to see it (**Jeremiah 27:1, Jeremiah 28:12, Jeremiah 29:30, Jeremiah 30:1, Jeremiah 32:1, Jeremiah 32:6, Jeremiah 33:1, Jeremiah 33:19, Jeremiah 33:23, Jeremiah 34:1, Jeremiah 34:8, Jeremiah 34:12, Jeremiah 35:1, Jeremiah 35:12, Jeremiah 36:1, Jeremiah 37:6, Jeremiah 39:15, Jeremiah 40:1, Jeremiah 42:7, Jeremiah 43:8, Jeremiah 46:1, Jeremiah 47:1, and Jeremiah 49:34**).
- The word coming to Jeremiah is literally God’s word coming to Him (**Jeremiah 1:7-9**).
- The days of Jehoiakim (**II Kings 24:1**).
- Jeremiah delivered God’s word to Judah (**Jeremiah 18:11**).
- Rising early to speak to them, but they did not hear (**Jeremiah 7:13-16, Jeremiah 26:1-7, Jeremiah 29:19, and Jeremiah 35:15**).
- He sent all His prophets with the same response, rejection (**II Chronicles 36:14-16**).
- The message, before God’s judgment was carried out, was repent (**II Kings 17:13, II Chronicles 7:14, and Isaiah 55:6-7**).
- That message of repentance was continually delivered too (**Ezekiel 14:6 and Ezekiel 18:30-32**).
- If they repented the land would have continued to be theirs (**Psalms 37:27-29**).
- Don’t provoke God with idolatry (**Exodus 20:3-5 and Joshua 24:20**).
- Yet, they ignored the warnings and did provoke Him to anger (**II Kings 21:15**).
- They caused their own hurt (**Job 4:8**).

2. How long of a punishment did Judah have coming to them?

Seventy-years: *“(8) Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Because ye have not heard my words, (9) Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations. (10) Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle. (11) And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years” (Jeremiah 25:8-11).*

- If you don't listen to God... (**Leviticus 26:14-46, Deuteronomy 28:15, and Isaiah 1:20**).
- The bringing of Babylon (**II Chronicles 36:5-6 and Jeremiah 4:6**).
- Joy is gone, voice of bride and groom, etc. (**Isaiah 3:16-26 and Jeremiah 7:34**).
- Seventy years (**Daniel 9:2**).

3. What was God planning for the end of the time of the punishment of Judah?

To turn His judgment on the king of Babylon for their sins: *“(12) And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations. (13) And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations. (14) For many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them also: and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands” (Jeremiah 25:12-14).*

- **II Chronicles 36:20-23 and Jeremiah 29:10-11; cf. Isaiah 13:1-14:23**

4. What was going to happen to the nations that drank the wine cup of the fury of the Lord?

They would fall and not rise: *“(15) For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me; Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it. (16) And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them. (17) Then took I the cup at the LORD'S hand, and made all the nations to drink, unto whom the LORD had sent me: (18) To wit, Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof, and the princes thereof, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, an hissing, and a curse; as it is this day; (19) Pharaoh king of Egypt, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people; (20) And all the mingled people, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod, (21) Edom,*

*and Moab, and the children of Ammon, (22) And all the kings of Tyrus, and all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the isles which are beyond the sea, (23) Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners, (24) And all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mingled people that dwell in the desert, (25) And all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes, (26) And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world, which are upon the face of the earth: and the king of Sheshach shall drink after them. (27) Therefore thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Drink ye, and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you” (Jeremiah 25:15-27).*

- The cup of fury (**Isaiah 51:17** and **Isaiah 51:22**).
- The indignation of the Lord was upon all nations at this time (**Isaiah 34:1-2** and **Zephaniah 3:8**).
- In other words, we have seen this from the pen of Isaiah (**Isaiah 44:28-45:4**).

5. What if those nations refused to drink from the cup of fury from the Lord?

*They would be forced to take His judgment, like it or not: “(28) And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at thine hand to drink, then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Ye shall certainly drink. (29) For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts. (30) Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth. (31) A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the LORD. (32) Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. (33) And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground” (Jeremiah 25:28-33).*

- As if one could escape something that God demands (**Psalms 115:3**, **Psalms 135:6**, and **Isaiah 46:10**).
- The wicked do not go unpunished (**Proverbs 11:21**).
- Think about the Lord roaring from on high (**Psalms 18:13-15**, **Psalms 29:1-9**, and **Isaiah 42:13**)!
- The wicked given to the sword (**Psalms 7:9-13**).
- The anger and whirlwind of the Lord – not a joke (**Jeremiah 30:23-24**).
- Death all over the earth was the coming result of the anger of the Lord against the wicked (**Isaiah 24:1-6**).
- Dead bodies fall like dung on earth (cf. **Jeremiah 9:22**).

6. What did God tell the shepherds to do?

Howl, cry, wallow themselves, for the spoiling of their pasture: *“(34) Howl, ye shepherds, and cry; and wallow yourselves in the ashes, ye principal of the flock: for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions are accomplished; and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel. (35) And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the principal of the flock to escape. (36) A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and an howling of the principal of the flock, shall be heard: for the LORD hath spoiled their pasture” (Jeremiah 25:34-36).*

- Howling was all about response to God’s anger (**Jeremiah 4:8**).
- The shepherds of Israel were miserable failures (**Isaiah 56:10-12**).
- God was going to judge these failures (**Ezekiel 34:1-10**).
- There was no escape from God’s judgment on them (**Jeremiah 38:18**).
- While it is certainly the pasture the shepherds oversaw, but the pasture is ultimately in reference to God’s people (**Psalms 79:13** and **Psalms 95:7**).

7. What happened because of the fierce anger of the Lord?

The peaceable habitations are cut down and the land desolate: *“(37) And the peaceable habitations are cut down because of the fierce anger of the LORD. (38) He hath forsaken his covert, as the lion: for their land is desolate because of the fierceness of the oppressor, and because of his fierce anger” (Jeremiah 25:37-38).*

- The peaceable habitations are cut down (**Lamentations 2:1-5**).
- God has come out like a lion coming out of his den in anger (**Hosea 5:14** and **Hosea 13:7-8**).
- He was causing desolation for a reason (**Ezekiel 15:8**).
- At this time, He isn’t open to listening to His people (**Lamentations 3:43-47**).
- This was through the fierceness of His fierce anger. That is a statement in itself (**Nahum 1:6**).