



JEREMIAH

INVASION IS IMMINENT 4:5-6:30

JUDAH WARNED TO PREPARE FOR THEIR FALL 4:5-18

- What would come to Judah from the north?
 - Evil - and Great Destruction - Babylonian captivity & destruction of Shiloh and the Temple
- Whose heart would perish "in that day"?
 - The king and the princes
- What did Jeremiah say the LORD had done to the people and Jerusalem?
 - "Deceived them" - They hear their "prophets" declare peace when a sword is at their throats.



MOURNING FOR THE NATION 4:19-31



- What prompted Jeremiah to mourn?
 - The approach of war and desolation
- What happened as a result of the fierce anger of YHWH?
 - Desolation of Judah
- Though the whole land was desolate, what would YHWH not do?
 - YHWH would not completely annihilate the people
- What did Jeremiah hear a voice like?
 - A woman in Labor

A CHALLENGE TO FIND JUSTICE IN JERUSALEM 5:1-3

- What does YHWH call upon the people of Jerusalem to seek for?
 - One person who does justice and seeks truth
 - Similar to Abraham's intercession for Sodom (Genesis 18:22-33)
- How had the people reacted to being stricken by YHWH?
 - They did not weaken, they did not take correction, they hardened their faces against YHWH and they refused to repent.

“HOW SHOULD I PARDON YOU FOR THIS?” 5:4-9

- What type of a nation did YHWH need to avenge Himself of?
- A people who had forsaken YHWH, sworn by gods who are not GOD, committed adultery after being fed by YHWH. Well fed lusty horses each neighing after his neighbor's wife



LYING PROPHETS 5:10-19

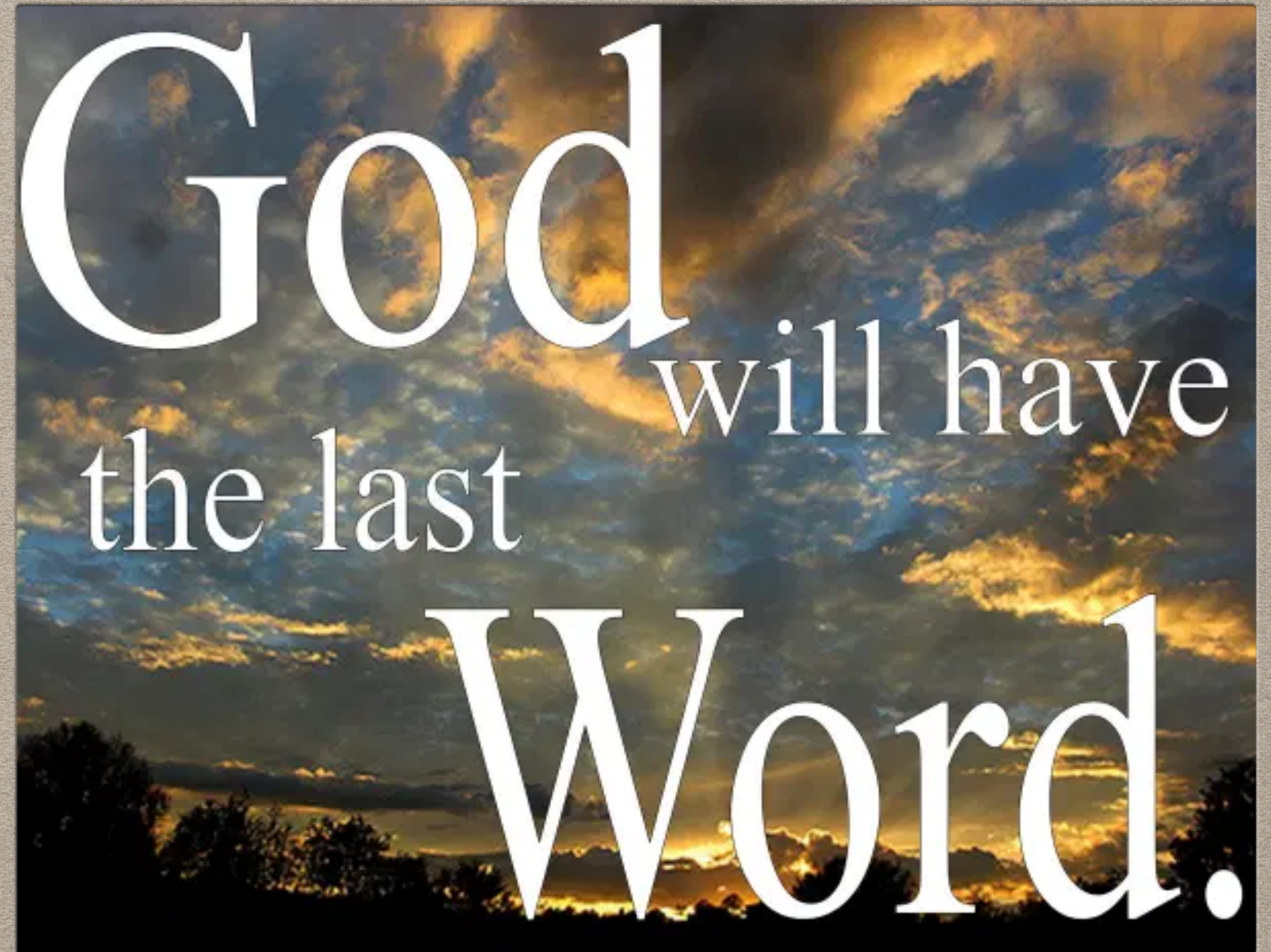
- What is said of the prophets of Judah in vs 12-13?
 - Liars, who don't speak the mind of God but their own, ignoring the warnings YHWH was sending through HIS prophets.
 - Wind - in our vernacular - windbags, without the Word of God in them
- What fate awaited Judah because of the words of these prophets?
 - Fire, death and desolation from an ancient mighty nation.
- When they asked, "Why?" What would the answer be?
 - "You have forsaken Me and served foreign gods in your land

JUDAH IS CORRUPT BECAUSE OF THESE PROPHETS AND PRIESTS 5:20-29

- What had their sins withheld from them?
 - Good - both physical and spiritual blessings from YHWH
 - The autumn rains
 - The spring rains
 - The appointed weeks of harvest
 - All have been withheld along with all good because of their sins

YHWH WILL HAVE THE LAST WORD 5:30-31

- How did the people feel about the rule of the priests and false prophets?
 - The people LOVE the false prophesy and the priests heresy
- What does this tell us about the priesthood in general, not including Hilkiyah who found the Book of the Law?
 - 2 Kings 22:8-20
 - There were still good priests and prophets-esses, but they were few and would not last.



BENJAMIN, (JERUSALEM) PREPARE FOR WAR 6:1-9

- To what had the daughter of Zion been likened?
 - A comely and dainty one - a beautiful, slender woman.
- What could prevent the soul of YHWH departing from Jerusalem?
 - Jerusalem heeding the warning that YHWH had sent to His people time and time again.

THE LORD IS VERY WEARY OF JUDAH'S SINFUL ATTITUDE 6:10-15

- What was Judah's attitude toward the word of the Lord?
 - Judah had closed its ears and stopped listening to the word of the Lord
 - Judah found no delight in God's word - it was a reproach to them.

THEIR FAILURE TO WALK IN THE OLD PATHS RESULTED IN GOD REJECTING THEIR SACRIFICES 6:16-20

- Where would they find rest for their souls?
 - In the good ways and ancient paths of the Lord.
- Is this a reminder of Gods "Moral Law" established for all men from the beginning of creation? Or a reminder to walk in the ways of the established covenant? Or both?

PEOPLE FROM THE NORTH ARE COMING, THEREFORE FEAR 6:22-26

- How are the people from the north described?
- A great nation, in charge of bow and spear, loud and riding horses, arrayed in battle armor, carrying sword and terrorizing their enemies. DESTROYERS.



JEREMIAH, THE MESSENGER TO A STUBBORN PEOPLE 6:27-30

- Why was Jeremiah set as an assayer among the people?
 - To know and test the way of the people
- Why would they be called rejected silver?
 - Because the Lord had rejected them. YHWH the great refiner, even himself had rejected them as unrefinable.
 - The bellows - the breath of inspiration
 - The smelter - God's prophet

DISCUSSION

- What does 4:28 tell us about YHWH intention for Judah?
- Why did Jeremiah mourn? Should we mourn for the wicked? How and why?
- Why would God reject sacrifices that He had commanded? (6:19-20)
- What does 5:31 tell us about Gods plan for all men?
- What lesson can we learn about our nation's attitude towards God from God's response to Judah in 6:10-16?