



# JEREMIAH

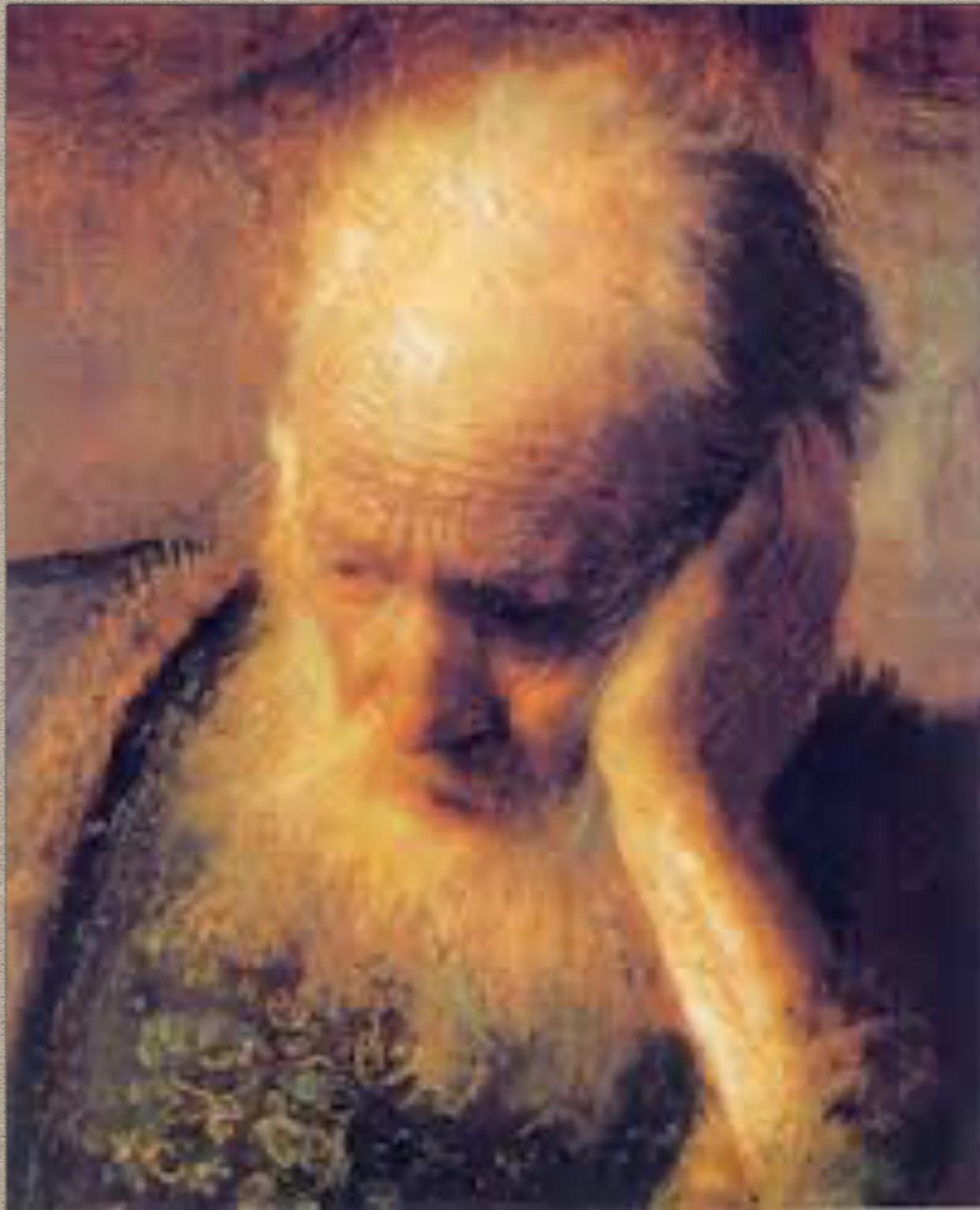
INVASION IS IMMINENT 4:5-6:30

# 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

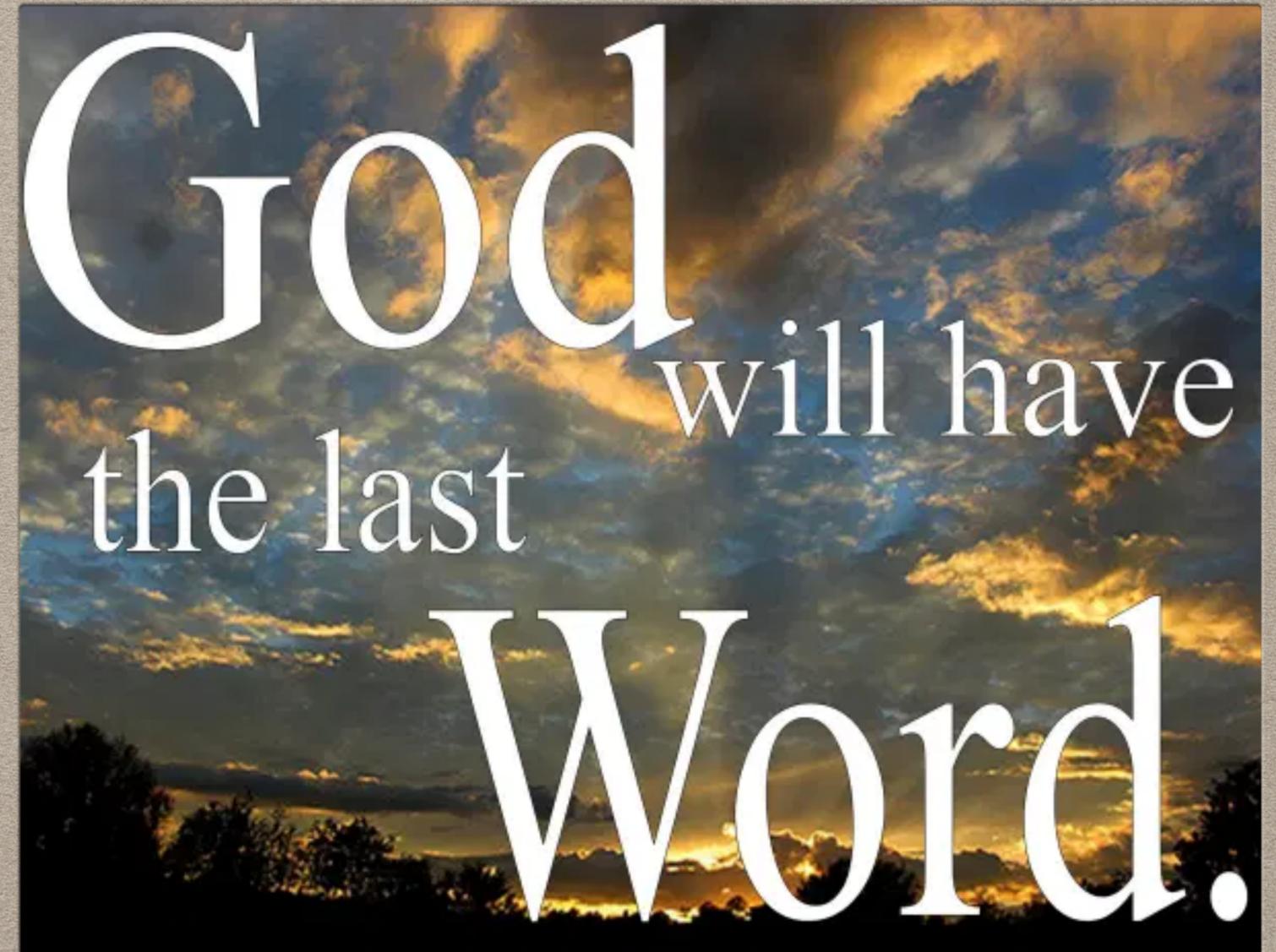
- What is said of the prophets of Judah in vs 12-13?
  - Liars, who don't speak the mind of God but their own, ignoring the warnings YHWH was sending through HIS prophets.
  - Wind - in our vernacular - windbags, without the Word of God in them
- What fate awaited Judah because of the words of these 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?