



JEREMIAH

THE LORD WILL NOT RELENT - 14-15

JUDAH MOURNS BECAUSE OF DROUGHT

- How severe is the drought in Judah?
 - The cries had ascended to God
 - No water in the cisterns
 - The ground had cracked
 - Wild animals abandon their young for lack of grazing land
 - No vegetation - it all has died



THE LORD DOES NOT ACCEPT THEM

- What do the people love to do?
 - WANDER!
 - They have wandered from the Lord starting with the Exodus, throughout the period of the judges, and into the line of the kings, but especially once the kingdom split.
 - They have consistently chosen idolatry over YHWH

PLEADING WITH THE LORD NOT TO LEAVE

- What do the people plead with the Lord not to do?
 - Not to abandon His people
 - Not acts like a stranger or traveler in the land
 - Not act like a mighty man who cannot save
 - To not forsake His people

JEREMIAH TOLD NOT TO PRAY FOR JUDAH

- Why is Jeremiah again told not to pray for Judah?
 - Because He will not listen to their prayers, fasting, or sacrifices.
 - He is giving them up to the sword, famine, and pestilence
 - See verse 10 for WHY YHWH is upset with them

FALSE PROPHETS WILL BE CONSUMED

- What would be the fate of false prophets who promised delivery?
- By sword and famine those prophets will meet their end
- They were deceiving the people and they would die for lying in the name of YHWH.
- The people would pay the price as well



BOTH (FALSE) PROPHET AND PRIEST GO ABOUT IN A LAND THEY DO NOT KNOW

- What do you think the above statement refers to?
- False prophets and priests in a land of captivity?
- False prophets and priests proclaiming things that do not reflect the current state of affairs in Jerusalem and Judah?



THE PEOPLE OF JUDAH PLEAD FOR MERCY

- Why would they wait on the Lord?
 - Because ONLY YHWH compared to the idols can deliver rain
 - Because the heavens themselves cannot grant showers, but only the Lord YHWH
 - Only YHWH has done all these things

EVEN MOSES AND SAMUEL COULD NOT CHANGE GOD'S MIND

- What is said of Moses and Samuel concerning the doom of Jerusalem?
- Even if one of these two men who YHWH communed with were to stand on Judah's behalf, God would not listen
- That is **ASTOUNDING** considering how Moses stood between YHWH and the people in the wilderness, and how Samuel was guided to find the "Man after God's own heart - David"



FOUR FORMS OF DESTRUCTION

- Because of whom would they be handed over to other nations for trouble?
- Manasseh, the son of Hezekiah, the king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem

NONE WILL PITY JERUSALEM IN HER DESTRUCTION

- What was the Lord weary of doing toward Jerusalem?
- Relenting. YHWH had been patient for hundreds of years toward the sinful ways of Israel and He could tolerate their betrayal and sin no longer!



JEREMIAH PLEADS WITH GOD BECAUSE OF HIS DEJECTION AND DOUBTS HIM

- How does Jeremiah describe his own standing among men?
 - Everyone curses him
 - Filled with indignation because of the cause of YHWH
 - In perpetual pain, with incurable wounds
- What had he done with the word of the Lord?
 - He ate them, and they became a joy for his heart

YHWH REPROVES AND ANSWERS JEREMIAH

- If Jeremiah returned to YHWH, what did He promise to do for him?
 - YHWH would restore Jeremiah
 - Jeremiah would be YHWH spokesman
 - YHWH would make Jeremiah a wall that his adversaries would not prevail against
 - YHWH would save and deliver Jeremiah from the hand of the wicked and the grasp of the violent.

LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- Considering the drought upon the land, let us learn that God can punish in many different ways. This is an example of His providence withholding that which only He can provide
- Judah would plead to God for mercy and find none. Why? Can we get by without the mercy of God? What is our part in obtaining His mercy?
- False Prophets often prophesy what people want to hear rather than what they **NEED** to hear.

LESSONS AND APPLICATION

- 15:1 - Here we are told that God would not even listen to Moses and Samuel if they stood before Him and pled for Judah. What is intercession? How does it apply to our sins? How does it affect our brotherly relationship? (James 5:15-16) what are the limits to our interceding for others?
- 15:10 - There are times the even when you do everything right, some will curse and hate you
- 15:15-18 We find Jeremiah's discouragement and even doubt. Discuss how to deal with doubt in our lives as we strive to serve God