



# JEREMIAH

JEREMIAH AND GEDALIAH - CHAPTER 40-42

# JEREMIAH RELEASED AND GOES TO GEDALIAH

- What knowledge does Nebuzaradan, captain of the bodyguard, have about the calamity that came upon Judah? What does this tell us about Babylon and God's chosen enforcement for His punishment of Judah?
- Nebuzaradan tells Jeremiah the calamity was foretold.
- God had planned Babylon as his punishment of Judah long before it came to pass
- When the captain of the guard released Jeremiah, what options was he given?
- Go to Babylon and be looked after by Neb or stay in Judah

# SERVANTS OF GEDALIAH

- Upon what condition did Gedaliah say it would be well with the captains who came to him?
- If they served the Chaldeans and stayed in the land
- He said he would stand for them against any Chaldeans who came to them

# A PLOT AGAINST GEDALIAH IS REVEALED

- How did Gedaliah respond to Johanan's warning that's life was in danger?
- He did not believe them. He thought they were lying about Ishmael and his intentions

# GEDALIAH IS ASSASSINATED

- How did Gedaliah die?
  - He was killed by Ishmael and his armed men
- What does this tell us of God's attempt at providence that we've seen ignored time and time again by the Jews and again here by Gedaliah?
  - God provides His providence to us but we **MUST** be willing to accept it.



# ISHMAEL'S DECEITFUL DEALINGS

- How did Ishmael respond to the 80 men who came to him mourning from Samaria, Shechem and Shiloh?
  - He slaughtered all but 10 men who promised him stores of food..
  - He threw their corpses into a cistern
  - He then took the rest of Mizpah hostage

# JOHANAN RESPONDS TO ISHMAEL

- Was Johanan able to avenge the evil Ishmael had done?
  - No. Johanan did rescue the hostages but Ishmael escaped and fled to the sons of Ammon.

# JOHANAN ASKS JEREMIAH TO PRAY FOR HIS PEOPLE

- What did Johanan ask Jeremiah to petition the Lord for?
  - Ask if the people should go to Egypt for protection from the Chaldeans, or return to Judah and depend on the Lord's protection from the Chaldeans



# THE PEOPLE WITH JOHANAN PROMISE TO OBEY THE WORD OF THE LORD THROUGH JEREMIAH

- As Jeremiah promised to answer according to the word of the Lord, how did the people respond?
- They asked the Lord to be a witness against them that they would obey the word Jeremiah delivered from the Lord whether it be pleasant or unpleasant

# THEY ARE TOLD NOT TO FEAR THE KING

- What was promised if the people stayed in the land?
  - The Lord would build them up and not tear them down, He would plant them and not uproot them, and He would relent the calamity that He inflicted on them
  - Don't fear the king. The Lord would deliver them from the king of Babylon
  - The Lord would show them compassion, and so would the king of Babylon

# WARNINGS IF THE REMNANT GO TO EGYPT

- What were the people told would happen to them if they fled to Egypt?
- They would die by the sword, famine and pestilence, all the things they are afraid if they stay in Judah

# THE PEOPLE'S HYPOCRISY IS EXPOSED

- How did they Lord see the heart of the people with Johanan as they inquired of Him through Jeremiah?
- They had not deceived the Lord. He knew their hearts, and even knowing they would not follow the Lord, He promised them He would take care of them if they would ONLY obey Him.
- Jeremiah makes it clear to them that they should understand that they will die by the sword, famine and pestilence.

# LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- 40:2-3 - Jeremiah was released by the Chaldeans with an acknowledgement that the Lord had brought about this disaster. Often, when men recognize the justice of God it makes them more just.
- 40:13-16 - Gedaliah refuses to listen to Johanan's warning of danger. We need to learn to listen to those who "know" what is going on. Often we can avoid many heartaches and troubles if we will learn to consider the warnings of others. But there can be a danger in warnings if we do not FIRST put our trust in God's word.

# LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- 42:7 - The prayer of Jeremiah is answered after 10 days. Sometimes when we pray, our answers are not immediate. God not only knows WHAT is best for us, He also knows WHEN it is best and He answers His children accordingly.
- 42:20-22 - The hypocrisy of the people exposed. Often people will turn to the Lord with preconceived ideas. If for some reason God's word agrees with them all will be fine. But if the word of the Lord opposes their desires, they will NOT accept it. BUT, ultimately, we will stand based upon what God's word says.