



JEREMIAH

JERUSALEM BACKSLIDES, JEREMIAH MOURNS 8:4-9:26

JERUSALEM IS COMMITTED TO BACKSLIDING

- What made Judah worse than horses, turtledoves, and swallows?
- They did not do that which YHWH had put into their hearts.
- The animals instinctively know what to do, as God had made them that way.
- God made man in HIS own image and shared His mind with man, but Judah had rejected God, His ordinances and the covenant to which they swore, to follow their own hearts desires.

"HOW CAN YOU SAY, 'WE ARE WISE AND THE LAW OF THE LORD IS WITH US'?"

- Who is leading the people away from the ordinances of God?
- The "wise" men.
 - The Scribes, the prophets, the priests all practice deceit, leading the people into oblivion



JUDAH WILL BE FULLY CONSUMED

- What would be Judah's fate? (8:13)
- Their land destroyed, given to others or just neglected beyond usefulness, and the people led away into harsh captivity



THEY LOOKED FOR PEACE, BUT THEY WERE BITTEN



JEREMIAH'S GRIEF CONCERNING JERUSALEM

- Why was Jeremiah mourning?
 - He could see the sickness of the land consuming the Israelites.
 - There was no healing of the people
 - Jerusalem and Judah were broken
 - Jeremiah could 'hear' the cry of the northern 10 tribes in their captivity and could see the tribe of Judah and the Levites descending into deprivation with no way out except annihilation.

JEREMIAH DESIRES A PLACE IN THE WILDERNESS

- Why did Jeremiah want to take up residence in the wilderness?
- Because of the sin and treachery of the Israelites
 - He called them all adulterers



JUDAH IS PUNISHED BECAUSE THEY ARE UNTRUSTWORTHY AND DECEITFUL

- Why were they commanded to not trust their brother?
 - Because everyone deceives his neighbor and does not speak the truth.
 - Their tongues have been taught to speak lies
 - They weary themselves committing iniquity

JEREMIAH WEEPS AT THEIR UTTER DESTRUCTION

- What would be the result of Judah's rejection of YHWH?
- Utter destruction and desolation of the land, pastures, vineyards, orchards, and livestock
- Not even the lowing of cattle or the fluttering of birds, or the presence of beasts will be left



YHWH EXPLAINS WHY THEY ARE DESTROYED

- How does YHWH answer the question as to why the land is burned up?
 - Because the Israelites had:
 - Forsaken the law given them by God
 - Had ignored the voice of God
 - Had walked after the stubbornness of their own hearts and after the Baals as their fathers had taught them.

CALL FOR MOURNING WOMEN

- Why were they to teach wailing to their daughters and lamentations to everyone?
- Because death would overcome them. Children would die and young men would be cut down
- Corpses of men would be like dung in the open field, left to rot and for the beasts and birds.



"BOAST IN THIS..."

- In what were the people to boast (glory) in?
 - That they know YHWH, and understand HIM
 - That YHWH exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth and HE delights in them
 - Those who survive will remember these qualities of their loving heavenly father as they endure 70 years of captivity.

THE DAYS ARE COMING WHEN ALL WILL BE JUDGED

- In what way was Israel considered uncircumcised?
- The Jews were physically circumcised but not spiritually circumcised
 - Their hearts were uncircumcised
- Reminds me of Galatians 3:7



LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- Note that vs 10-12 are a repetition of 6:12-15. Why would something be repeated?
- In 9:3-6, Jeremiah describes the deceit and lies of the people of Judah. How important is honesty in our lives?
- What things ought we boast in? What should we NOT boast in? (23-24)
- When we stand before God in final judgement, what can we be guaranteed of? (25-26)
 - IMPARTIALITY!