



# JEREMIAH

THE WICKED PROSPER AND A RUINED SASH - CHAPTER 12&13

# JEREMIAH ASK "WAS DOES THE WAY OF THE WICKED PROSPER?"

- What two questions does Jeremiah ask of the Lord?
  - Why has the way of the wicked prospered?
  - Why are all those who deal in treachery ease?

# **“HOW LONG WILL THE LAND MOURN?”**

- The Lord had done so much for the people. What was their response?
  - To pollute the land and convince themselves that the Lord would not see.

# THE LORD'S ANSWER, IT WILL GET WORSE

- Who did the Lord say had dealt treacherously with Jeremiah?
  - His own immediate family, the household of his father.
  - The Lord tells Jeremiah that his family is deceitful towards him.

# HE HAS FORSAKEN HIS HOUSE

- Why had the Lord forsaken His house?
  - Because they had forsaken Him
    - He had come to hate His inheritance because of their arrogance and disobedience

# THE LAND HAS BEEN DESTROYED

- Who had made the land desolate?
  - Rulers and plunderers have destroyed the land
    - The people don't care about the land, they treat it poorly
    - The plunderers, destroy the land on purpose, to put the people into subjection

# A WARNING AGAINST ALL JUDAH'S NEIGHBORS

- What would happen to the evil neighbors of Judah who had touched the inheritance of the land?
  - The Lord will uproot and destroy those nations
- Upon what conditions would these neighbors be established again?
  - Obedience to the Lord is the only way to avoid destruction

# A LINEN SASH IS RUINED

- What was Jeremiah told to do with the sash the Lord told him to put around his waist?
  - Hide it in a crevice in the rock near the Euphrates river
  - Leave it there for many days
  - Dig it back up
    - It was ruined



# THE PRIDE OF JUDAH

- What did the sash represent?
- The people clinging to the waist of the Lord
- But because of their sin and stubbornness, they were ruined just like the sash



# A LAND OF DRUNKENNESS

- With what would all the inhabitants of the land be filled?
  - With wine. Every jug was to be filled with wine.

# JEREMIAH PLEADS FOR THE PEOPLE TO HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND GIVE GOD GLORY

- What would Jeremiah do if the people refused to hear his message?
  - Jeremiah would mourn and cry for the people who would be carried away into captivity

# THE KING AND QUEEN MOTHER ARE CALLED UPON TO HUMBLE THEMSELVES

- Is Jeremiah talking to the current king - Josiah? Or is this prophecy directed at the kings to follow who would not humble themselves before the Lord?
- I think this is directed at the kings who would follow. We know Josiah had humbled himself before the Lord, so much so that the Lord promised that Judah would not end under his reign.

# LOOK AT THOSE COMING FROM THE NORTH

- What does Jeremiah point Judah to?
  - The armies of the north coming down to wiping out the land

# WHAT WILL YOU SAY WHEN HE PUNISHES YOU?

- What answer would be given to Judah when they asked, "Why have those things come upon me?"
- The magnitude of their iniquity has led to these things
- As the Ethiopian can not change his skin color, and a leopard can not change his spots, so you who are accustomed to evil can not change your ways.

# THIS IS YOUR LOT

- What did the future of Judah look like?
  - Humility, suffering, and death for their lewdness, adultery and abomination

# LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- Why does God allow the wicked to prosper and their land to mourn in the midst of their wickedness?
- YHWH is the God of all nations. God will judge all nations. What does Matthew tell us is required to be judged righteous?
- What lessons can we learn from the illustration of the ruined linen sash?



# LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- How important is humility in making our lives right before God?  
Where does humility begin?
- Is it possible for one accustomed to doing evil to change and do good?
  - What conditions make it more difficult to repent of sin?