

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why did the Israelites reject God's messengers?
2. Are God's messengers gladly received today?
3. Is there a present day parallel to the warnings of God given to the Israelites?
4. What does God desire of mankind today?

SUMMARY:

God sent messengers to His people with His special message. The people failed to hearken to the message even though warnings were given them. Though God delayed the judgment for a long period of time, finally the day had to come. God's mercy and love was again revealed when He strengthened the people in their captivity and blessed them and prepared them for their return.

God's Word is sure today too, that He will not always wink at sin but instead will bring judgment for sin. Despite these warnings men continue to scoff (2 Peter 3:3-4) just as they scoffed at the warnings given by Jeremiah.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #2

April 14, 2013

Second Quarter

JEREMIAH FORETELLS CAPTIVITY

LESSON TEXT: *Jeremiah 25:1-14; 29:1-14*

LESSON SETTING: Jeremiah foretells the seventy years of Jewish captivity under Babylon.

TIME: Approximately 606 B.C.

- I. WITNESS AGAINST DISOBEDIENCE.** Jeremiah 25:1-7
 - A. God's Messengers. (vs. 3-4) Matthew 21:34-36
 - B. God's Message. (vs. 5-6) Ezekiel 18:31; Joel 2:12; Acts 3:19
 - C. Message Rejected. (vs. 7) Psalm 81:11; Isaiah 65:12; Romans 10:21
- II. WARNING OF JUDGMENT.** Jeremiah 25:8-14
 - A. Destruction. (vs. 9) Isaiah 30:13; 47:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:3
 - B. Desolation. (vs. 9) Psalm 34:21; 73:19; Matthew 23:37-38
 - C. Sorrow. (vs. 10) Ezekiel 26:13; Revelation 18:23
 - D. Captivity. (vs. 11) Isaiah 39:7; Luke 21:24
- III. PROMISE OF RESTORATION.** Jeremiah 29:1-14
 - A. God's Word is Sure. (vs. 10) Ezekiel 12:25; Luke 21:33
 - B. God's Thoughts. (vs. 11) Psalm 40:5; Isaiah 55:8-9
 - C. Restoration. (vs. 14) Hosea 14:4; Micah 7:19; Psalm 51:12

GOLDEN TEXT: *HE, THAT BEING OFTEN REPROVED HARDENETH HIS NECK, SHALL SUDDENLY BE DESTROYED, AND THAT WITHOUT REMEDY.*
Proverbs 29:1

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Jeremiah 32:1-15; 36-44

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Romans 4:1-25; Hebrews 11:1-40

QUARTERLY THEME: God's People in Captivity

TOPIC: JEREMIAH DEMONSTRATES FAITH

INTRODUCTION:

In this very hour in the history of Israel, after God had revealed to Jeremiah the great tragedies that were to overtake them, He now instructed Jeremiah to buy a piece of property. To the average person, this would be preposterous: why buy property when we will lose it anyway? Jeremiah was different, though, because if God told him to do it, He must have a reason. So Jeremiah obeyed and presented the evidence of his purchase.

Then as he prayed, God could reveal the reason to him. It was to be a test of faith. It was because God's mercy was to be showered upon the Israelites and they would return to their land and to their own property.

God promises many blessings to those that live in faith and trust Him. There may be many trials and tests of our faith. We may go through our individual "captivities", but if we humble ourselves and submit to God, He will strengthen us and bless us beyond our comprehension. How great is your faith? How great is mine?

CENTRAL TRUTH: Our faith is in an infinitely faithful and omnipotent God.

GOLDEN TEXT: *BEHOLD, I AM THE LORD, THE GOD OF ALL FLESH: IS THERE ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR ME?*

Jeremiah 32:27

We often become burdened down with severe tests of our faith. Our first reaction may be to question the Lord, "Why do these things happen?" Surely it was in His power to prevent it! But the lesson, sometimes so hard to learn, is that we must become humbled before Him and above all we must have implicit faith that He will lead us out of these dark hours. Those who fail to trust are lifted up in due time and are blessed of God.

We have so many promises similar to our Golden Text. He says, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." "The Lord chastises those whom He loves." "I will be with you even unto the end." There are so many more, so why do we tremble and weep and mourn?

O my soul by pain surrounded,
Firmly trust thy God indeed;
He would only make thee worthy
By this fear and dire need.

O let not thy heart be vanquished
By the Satan's evil might
Lo, the blessed Savior's pathway
Also led through darkest night.

Z.H. 334:1,2

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 15 - 21

M. Noah's Faith. Genesis 6:8-22
T. Abraham's Faith. Genesis 22:1-14
W. The Psalmist's Faith. Psalm 121:1-8
T. *Jeremiah's Faith. Jeremiah 32:1-44
F. A Leader's Faith. Matthew 8:5-13
S. A Trial of Faith. Mark 7:24-30
S. A City's Faith. Acts 8:1-8

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