

Lessons from Jeremiah

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The following are lessons that one should learn or take to heart as found in Jeremiah. It is a common problem in man that happened over and over to the Israelites, and still is happening in today's time. We should never lose sight of these instructions.

Those in the main stream Christian Churches ignore Old Testament scripture and as a result they are very limited in understanding of God's word. They cannot even read the New Testament and understand scripture that tells us that it was Yeshua who was the mediator for God the Father throughout the entire Old Testament. It was Yeshua interacting with man directly and not the Father. It is all there in New Testament scriptures. There is one Bible which contains both the Old and New Testament. This means those in the 6 main stream Christian groups of Churches have a problem in not being able to follow God's way forward as given to man.

In the time of Jeremiah's warning to the Israel and to Judah we find consistent warnings or themes of warnings. These are calls to come back to God and walk in His ways. The various prophets including Jeremiah issue God's call to come back all throughout the Old Testament, then Yeshua does the same in the New Testament.

Jer 5:4 Therefore I said, Surely these *are* poor; they are foolish: for they know not **the way of the LORD, nor the judgment** of their God

It starts with stressing man not knowing the way of God, how to walk, which is in righteousness and obedience. This aspect carries over in understanding God's judgment for first, man dealing with his fellow man, and second the judgment of penalties placed upon man for not obeying God.

Jer 3:10 And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the LORD.

Jer 3:11 And the LORD said unto me, The **backsliding** Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah.

Jer 5:21 Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not:

Jer 5:22 **Fear ye not me?** saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand *for* the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

Jer 5:23 But this people hath a **revolting and a rebellious heart**; they are revolted and gone.

Jer 5:24 Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that **giveth rain**, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the **appointed weeks of the harvest**.

Jer 5:25 Your **iniquities** have turned away these *things*, and your **sins have withholden good things from you**.

The above scriptures stress a loss of fear of God. The same fear of God is lost in today's time as it was also in Noah's time. The inherent nature of man is that of having a rebellious heart, wanting to go his own way, not submitting to God's authority. In walking forward properly, God's people experience good things to sustain their life and grow as God's children. For agrarian cultures, rain at the right season or times results in bountiful crops, which is given by God. If God's people walk forward in lawlessness, which is sin, the blessings are withheld. A Nation can start out walking in God's way but after a few generations backslide in the same manner as Israel did in Jeremiah's time.

Jer 6:16 Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is the good way*, and **walk therein**, and **ye shall find rest for your souls**. But they said, We will not walk *therein*.

Jer 6:17 Also I set watchmen over you, *saying*, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken.

Jer 6:18 Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what *is* among them.

Jer 6:19 Hear, O earth: **behold, I will bring evil upon this people**, *even* the fruit of their thoughts, because they have **not hearkened** unto **my words**, nor to **my law**, but rejected it.

There is a good or right way of walking, which was given to man by God long ago, that way of walking is clear, it has never changed and understand that God does not change. If you walk in that original manner, according to God's way, your soul will be at peace or rest. If you do not obey God and go your own way or the way of the world, then punishment will fall upon you, if not in this life it will definitely in the next life. Man is to hearken (Shema – hear and obey) to God's words and to God's Law (Torah).

Jer 7:21 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Put your burnt offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh.

Jer 7:22 For I spake not unto your fathers, **nor commanded them** in the **day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt**, concerning **burnt offerings or sacrifices**:

Jer 7:23 But **this thing commanded I them**, saying, **Obey my voice**, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and **walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you**, that it may be well unto you.

The command that God first gave His people when He brought them out of Egypt was to obey His Voice, that being walk in All His ways that He commanded them. Those ways are found in the Old Testament. Understand God does not change. The Emphasis was on obedience to God's Torah in both mind and action, and not in burnt offerings and sacrifices.

One important reason man falls away from following God occurs primarily when life becomes easy and good. It is especially important to remember and not lose sight of walking in God's way when life becomes full and easy. God warns us of this. The easier life becomes the fewer the number of generations required to fall away from following God.

Deu 8:10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

Deu 8:11 Beware that thou **forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes**, which I command thee this day:

Deu 8:12 Lest *when* thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt *therein*;

Deu 8:13 And *when* thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

Deu 8:14 Then **thine heart be lifted up**, and **thou forget the LORD thy God**, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

Deu 8:15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, *wherein were* fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where *there was* no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;

Deu 8:16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

Deu 8:17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of *mine* hand hath gotten me this wealth.

Deu 8:18 **But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for *it is* he that giveth thee power to get wealth**, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

Those scriptures above are very clear. It can be summarized in Deu 8:11, that God's people are never to forget all blessings come from God to those that walk and keep His Commandments, Judgments and Statutes. The judgments are the right rulings or righteousness, the statutes are God's Holy Days and the Commandments are directives on how to walk. These are all contained in the Torah.

For any person that calls themselves a Christian and says that they follow Yeshua, consider what Yeshua tells us;

Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, **Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

In that verse directly from Yeshua, it is clear, it is future tense, it tells man that until heaven and earth pass away (which they do at the last day) that not one little bit of the Law (Torah) will be removed. The Torah will remain in effect until the last day, when at that time all will be fulfilled by Yeshua according to prophecy from God's word. To understand the translation of the word "Law" one must go to the Strong's number in the Old Testament, it is Torah, alternately go to "The Hebrew Gospel of Matthew" by George Howard and examine the word in Hebrew, it is Torah.

Carefully examine the following scriptures that reinforce not losing your Fear of God and walking in His ways. The scriptures are a mix of Old and New Testament, there is only one complete Bible.

Deu 5:29 O that there were such an heart in them, that they would **fear me**, and **keep all my commandments always**, that it might be well with them, and with their children **for ever!**

Deu 11:1 Therefore thou **shalt love the LORD thy God**, and **keep his charge**, and **his statutes**, and **his judgments**, and **his commandments**, **always**.

Psa 112:1 Praise ye the LORD. Blessed *is* the man *that* **feareth the LORD**, *that* **delighteth greatly in his commandments**.

Rev 14:12 Here is **the patience of the saints**: here *are* they **that keep the commandments of God**, and **the faith of Jesus**.

Rev 22:14 Blessed *are* they that **do his commandments**, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Ecc 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God**, and **keep his commandments**: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.

It is so easy to forget the Lord when times are good and a person can easily get caught up in the way of the world. When times become uncertain and disaster looms, then the fear in man rises up, panic sets in especially when he sees his life is in danger or his world is coming apart. Then man will suddenly remember his maker. The Bible tells us over and over that God is always ready to take us back as long as we repent and walk forward in obedience to His will. God gives us free will choice in how we decide to walk.

There is a re-occurring theme given to Jeremiah to inform the North and South Nations of Israel and Judah as to God's displeasure with them. God becomes upset when the Nations have gone so far away from Him, they mix their worship doing sacrifices and burnt offerings but doing that in worship of other gods. They broke the covenant they made with God. In addition they follow the evil thoughts from their minds. The Nations past and present, as a whole, always grow to some level or amount of being evil. What we learn is that when a Nation that follows God, falls away, there comes a point when enough of the population and especially the leaders are walking contrary to God's way, that God reacts in anger. First God always calls for the Nation to repent and come back to obeying and walking in His way.

When the Nation does not respond, then God's wrath is as a last resort poured out upon that Nation. God turns his back and does not hear the cries from the people when this punishment action has started.

In North America both USA and Canada, are Nations that were initially founded upon God's way forward. Both Nations have digressed from following and obeying God, consider the following things in today's time. Lawlessness everywhere, including that of the leaders themselves within

the Nations, evil is good and good is evil according to society. Hatred abounds and the love of many waxes cold. Lies abound from social media, news sources, Governments and key organizations with many of these being world wide. A breakdown of the right of law, unrighteousness now prevails. Society has embraced abortion, gay marriage, transgender changes, removal of rights to worship, and laws being written in support of these actions. Rampant pursuit of power and money by governments, big business and individuals driven by greed, money is their god. Man has continually raped the planet by mining, foresting, fishing and manufacturing for money and not repaired the damage that it has left behind. Pollution of land, water and air is carried out without proper control all in the name of profit. Today it must have reached the point where God's patience and tolerance has been exhausted. The way forward based upon truth, logic, science and common sense have been thrown aside throughout the world. All of this is a good indicator that the wrath of God has started. Yes today is like in the time of Noah.

Throughout Jeremiah short segments of scripture are dispersed that are for the end times, such as Jer 23:1-8, where the remnant of Israel is gathered, when Yeshua will be their shepherd during the Millennium ruling over the earth with judgment and justice. The Israelites then are gathered from all countries throughout the world being brought back to dwell in their own land.

Jer 23:1 Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.

Jer 23:2 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD.

Jer 23:3 And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

Jer 23:4 And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.

Jer 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Jer 23:6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Jer 23:7 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

Jer 23:8 But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

Another short section tells about the Israelites coming back to the land from Babylon after 70 years. This is Jeremiah's prophecy that is understood by Daniel.

Jer 25:11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, *and* an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Jer 25:12 And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, *that* I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations.

Jer 29:10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

Again another short section describes the reign of Yeshua during the Millennium, with the Israelites being brought back to their land.

Jer 30:3 For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.

Jer 30:4 And these *are* the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah.

Jer 30:5 For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace.

Jer 30:6 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness?

Jer 30:7 Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

Jer 30:8 For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, *that* I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him:

Jer 30:9 But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them.

Jer 30:10 Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make *him* afraid.

Jer 30:11 For I *am* with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.

Jer 30:12 For thus saith the LORD, Thy bruise *is* incurable, *and* thy wound *is* grievous.

Jer 30:13 *There is* none to plead thy cause, that thou mayest be bound up: thou hast no healing medicines.

Jer 30:14 All thy lovers have forgotten thee; they seek thee not; for I have wounded thee with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the multitude of thine iniquity; *because* thy sins were increased.

Jer 30:15 Why criest thou for thine affliction? thy sorrow *is* incurable for the multitude of thine iniquity: *because* thy sins were increased, I have done these things unto thee.

Jer 30:16 Therefore all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be a spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey.

Jer 30:17 For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD; because they called thee an Outcast, *saying*, This *is* Zion, whom no man seeketh after.

Jer 30:18 Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwellingplaces; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof.

Jer 30:19 And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of them that make merry: and I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small.

Jer 30:20 Their children also shall be as aforetime, and their congregation shall be established before me, and I will punish all that oppress them.

Jer 30:21 And their nobles shall be of themselves, and their governor shall proceed from the midst of them; and I will cause him to draw near, and he shall approach unto me: for who *is* this that engaged his heart to approach unto me? saith the LORD.

Jer 30:22 And ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Note Jer 30:11 where in the end time Yeshua will make a full end of all the Nations where the Israelites were scattered. This speaks to the destruction of the armies of the worlds Nations coming against Jerusalem at the end of the Tribulation.

Another short prophecy occurs in **Jer 31:15** that speaks mainly to the destruction of the Hebrew children by Herod around the time of Yeshua's birth and also most likely to the children killed in Egypt at the time of Moses.

The following scriptures identify Rachel as the one that laments and not Leah.

Jer 31:15 Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, *and* bitter weeping; **Rahel** weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they *were* not.

Jer 31:16 Thus saith the LORD; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.

Jer 31:17 And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border.

This prophecy by Jeremiah was fulfilled in the following verses and it is given to us at the time of Herod killing the children in Bethlehem and all the coasts.

Mat 2:17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,

Mat 2:18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping *for* her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

Again the following is speaking to the end time, where Yeshua brings back all the tribes of Israel with Ephraim being taken as representative of the 10 Northern tribes. This is likely because Ephraim received a double blessing over that of Manasseh and any of the other tribes.

Jer 31:18 I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself *thus*; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed *to the yoke*: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou *art* the LORD my God.

Jer 31:19 Surely after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon *my* thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

Jer 31:20 *Is Ephraim my dear son? is he a pleasant child?* for since I spake against him, I do earnestly remember him still: therefore my bowels are troubled for him; I will surely have mercy upon him, saith the LORD.

The end time and the return of the scattered Israelites is when God will place a new covenant in their minds when He brings them back to their land.

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

Jer 31:32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

Jer 31:33 But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jer 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Following on from this, the Israelites will always remain as a Nation before the Lord.

Jer 31:35 Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, *and* the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts *is* his name:

Jer 31:36 If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, *then* the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

Jer 31:37 Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

Again we are told that at the end time, the Branch or righteousness will rule and that Judah will be saved and that all in Jerusalem will dwell in safety. The Branch is Yeshua HaMashiach.

Jer 33:15 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

Jer 33:16 In those days shall **Judah** be saved, **and Jerusalem** shall dwell safely: and this *is the name* wherewith **she** shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.

In Jer 33:16 Judah and Jerusalem are identified as the Nation of Christ.

The Branch of righteousness of Jeremiah is tied to the following of Isaiah and Zechariah all occurring at the beginning of the Millennium.

Isa 4:2 In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth *shall be* excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel

Isa 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Zec 3:8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they *are* men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

Zec 6:12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name *is* The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:

We see that there are fragments of prophecy given to Jeremiah that have to do with the end time even though his main assignment is directed to God's people at the time that Jeremiah was living. Jeremiah continually called the leaders of God's people to come back and to obey the way they should go forward as well as informing them of the wrath of God that would come down upon them as a Nation if they did not change and obey. The BRANCH is Yeshua.

Jeremiah was specific on the various Gentile Nations that would attack and overcome the Israelites and Judeans. Historically we know this is what happened. God uses Nations, people as well as nature to carry out His will. In this time of Jeremiah, the wrath of God brought down was by the sword, by famine and by pestilence. Note that the times of sorrow that approach the start of the Tribulation, the same is predicted to occur from the first three plagues of God that come upon the entire world, wars, famine and pestilence.

In the Rose Publishing Time Lines the dates given to the various prophets can be either birth and death dates or dates of prophesying. Of note is that Jeremiah was active from 650 BC to 582 BC or for 68 years, in going forward in Israel's punishment of both the North and the South people. This overlapped with Nahum 658-615 BC, of 43 years, and Zephaniah 640-626 BC, of 14 years, and Habakkuk 608-598 BC, of 10 years, and Ezekiel 620-570 BC, of 50 years, and Daniel 620-540 BC, of 80 years, and Obadiah 590 BC for 1 year. By studying this group of prophets together we will obtain a more complete understanding of God's word.

Jeremiah's time ended at 582 BC, Judah was destroyed in 586 BC or 4 years before the end of Jeremiah's time. This prophecy directed at Judah's total destruction of Jerusalem and the temple was completed quickly near the end of Jeremiah's time.

The main lesson we should take away from the book of Jeremiah is that of repent, come back to obeying and walking in God's way as we go forward and keeping a reverend fear of God. This is for each of us individually as a person, but also for the leaders of our Nations. In the Bible there are many warnings of the wrath of God coming upon the entire world at the end time. We are called many times to come back before it is too late. The other lesson is to understand how Jeremiah obeyed God with hardships throughout his life. He was continually faithful to God no matter how much punishment man placed upon him and how difficult his life became. Jeremiah's enemies tried to take his life but God intervened and protected Jeremiah. Jeremiah experienced a very difficult life while carrying out God's commands, he underwent extreme persecution.

The call back by God is one to us today, to repent and prepare for the coming kingdom of God on earth. That occurs at Yeshua's return. We must know both God's word and especially prophecy in order to prepare. We are to walk forward according to God's way.

Mat 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

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