

Life-Study of Jeremiah Summary – Messages 1 to 5

Introduction

The name **Jeremiah** in Hebrew means “Jehovah exalts” or “Jehovah tears down.” The real contents of the book of Jeremiah are that **God exalts some and tears down others**. By birth Jeremiah had the position of a priest; yet he was called to be a prophet over the nations. Hence, he was a priest-prophet not only over Israel but also over the nations.

The **content** of Jeremiah is God’s carrying out of His economy through the chastisement of Israel, His elect, in love with His tender care, compassion, and sympathy, and His judgment upon the nations in righteousness to match His love, that Israel may manifest Christ, who is their divine righteousness as their centrality and universality, by their being made a new creation with the inner law of the divine life and the capacity of this life to know God.

The **central thought** of the book of Jeremiah is that the God of love, in His everlasting love, earnestly yearns that Israel, His beloved yet distracted elect, would turn to Him from the other gods, all of their idols, that they may gain His incarnated Christ as the righteousness of Jehovah to them as their central being and universal expression.

The Intrinsic Content of Jeremiah

Jer 2:13 – For My people have committed two evils:/They have forsaken Me,/The fountain of living waters,/To hew out for themselves cisterns,/Broken cisterns,/Which hold no water.

God’s economy is to **dispense Himself as the living water to produce His increase, His enlargement, to be His expression**. Israel fell by forsaking God as the fountain of living waters and turning to a source other than God. Israel should have drunk of God as the fountain of living waters, but instead they committed two evils. The first evil was to **forsake God**; the second evil was to **hew out cisterns as another source**. Although Israel forsook God, He did not cast them away. God’s elect may fail Him, but **His compassions never fail**; rather, they are new every morning.

Jer 31:33 – But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares Jehovah: I will put My law in their inward parts and write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

In speaking of the new covenant that He would make with His elect, God said that He would **put His law within them which is the law of life**. God’s life which is God Himself, is a law that regulates us. What is described in verses 33 and 34 is actually the new creation. **The ultimate issue of Jeremiah’s revelation is the new creation, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem.**

Jeremiah’s Call and Commission

God gave, appointed, Jeremiah to be a prophet not only to the nation of Israel but to all the nations. God also said to Jeremiah that before Jeremiah was born he was already sanctified. Jeremiah responded to God’s call with excuses. Despite this, Jehovah affirmed Jeremiah’s call.

In His **commission** Jeremiah was given to see two visions. The first was of **the rod of an almond tree**. This signifies that God was watching over His word (the word of punishment) to perform it. The second vision given to Jeremiah to see was of **the boiling pot facing away from the north**. This signifies that out of the north calamities would be let loose.

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