

Life-Study of Jeremiah Summary – Messages 31 to 35

Israel's Stubbornness and Jeremiah's Firmness

In chapters 42-43, the **dishonesty of the remnant and the leaders** in asking Jeremiah to pray for them after the fall of Jerusalem is revealed. In 42:1-3 all the people from the least even unto the greatest begged Jeremiah the prophet to pray for them concerning the way in which they should go and the things which they should do. **Jeremiah did not speak in a rush but rather waited for ten days**. After ten days the word of Jehovah came to them through Jeremiah, saying that if they would still **remain in the land**, He would build them up and not tear them down, and He would plant them and not pluck them up.

The Principle of Being One with God as Revealed in the Book of Jeremiah

In 2:13 Jehovah speaks concerning the two basic sins committed by the children of Israel. These two sins govern the entire book of Jeremiah. The principle in the Bible is that **God does not want His chosen people to take anything other than Himself as their source**. **Sin** is a matter of **leaving God and doing something by ourselves and for ourselves**. This is exactly what the children of Israel did.

To take, receive, and keep the word of God, we must be **absolutely one with God**. We must trust in him, rely on Him, and not have any opinion that come out of ourselves. We should simply **enjoy what God has done and what He will do for us**. This is the way to fulfill God's economy, and this is the new covenant. The principle of the Bible, especially of the New Testament, is that **God opens Himself to us that we may enter into Him, receive Him, and become one with Him**. Then He will be in us, and we will be in Him, taking Him as everything.

The book of Jeremiah was not written according to the historical sequence, but this book surely has a **spiritual sequence**. First, Jeremiah shows us the **basic sins of God's people**—forsaking God and hewing out their own cisterns. Then **the human heart is gradually exposed as being deceitful and incurable**. In order to be one with God, we need Christ as the Shoot of David to be our **redemption and justification**. This ushers the Triune God into us to be our life, our inner life law, our capacity, and our everything. In Jeremiah we see that we are redeemed, that we are justified, and that we have become one with God.

Jehovah's Punishment and Judgment Upon the Nations

In chapter 46 we see **Jehovah's punishment and judgment upon Egypt**. Egypt typifies the world of making a living and enjoyment, with which Satan occupies and usurps the people chosen by God for His economy. The people of Israel, as the elect of God, went down to Egypt and were usurped and enslaved by Pharaoh the king of Egypt. Even after being delivered by Jehovah out of Egyptian slavery, the people of Israel were often tempted to go back to Egypt against Jehovah's will when they were weak or in trouble. The King, whose name is Jehovah of hosts, struck the land of Egypt and cast down her army by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.

The **Philistines** typify the world that is close to the interest of God on earth and attacks and damages the testimony of God on earth. Jehovah would destroy the Philistines by the army of Nebuchadnezzar. **Moab** as a nation typifies the world of fleshly lust that corrupts and frustrates God's chosen people. Moab would be destroyed and cut off from being a nation. Jehovah will turn again the captivity of Moab in the latter days to produce Ruth to bring forth Christ into mankind and to have a remnant to be among the restored nations. The nation of **Ammon** typifies the world of fleshly lust that fights against God's chosen people and misleads them into idolatry. Regarding the Ammonites, we are told that Israel will dispossess those who dispossess him. **Edom** typifies the world of the old and fleshly man who struggles against the God-chosen and spiritual people. Jehovah has made Edom small among the nations, despised among men, because of the pride of her heart. (Life-Study of Jeremiah – Messages 31 to 35)