

## Jeremiah 15:1-21 **Judgment is pronounced – Yahweh will not Relent**

### The Lord Will Not Relent

1 Then the Lord said to me, "Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My mind would not be favorable toward this people. Cast them out of My sight, and let them go forth.

2 And it shall be, if they say to you, 'Where should we go?' then you shall tell them, 'Thus says the Lord:

"Such as are for death, to death; And such as are for the sword, to the sword; And such as are for the famine, to the famine; And such as are for the captivity, to the captivity."

3 "And I will appoint over them four forms of destruction," says the Lord: "the sword to slay, the dogs to drag, the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the earth to devour and destroy.

4 I will hand them over to trouble, to all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem.

5 "For who will have pity on you, O Jerusalem? Or who will bemoan you? Or who will turn aside to ask how you are doing?

6 You have forsaken Me," says the Lord, "You have gone backward. Therefore I will stretch out My hand against you and destroy you; I am weary of relenting!

7 And I will winnow them with a winnowing fan in the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children; I will destroy My people, Since they do not return from their ways.

8 Their widows will be increased to Me more than the sand of the seas; I will bring against them, Against the mother of the young men, A plunderer at noonday; I will cause anguish and terror to fall on them suddenly.

9 "She languishes who has borne seven; She has breathed her last; Her sun has gone down While it was yet day; She has been ashamed and confounded. And the remnant of them I will deliver to the sword Before their enemies," says the Lord.

### Jeremiah's Dejection

10 Woe is me, my mother, That you have borne me, A man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent for interest, Nor have men lent to me for interest. Every one of them curses me.

### Yahweh's Response

11 The Lord said:

"Surely it will be well with your remnant; Surely I will cause the enemy to intercede with you In the time of adversity and in the time of affliction.

12 Can anyone break iron, The northern iron and the bronze?

13 Your wealth and your treasures I will give as plunder without price, Because of all your sins, Throughout your territories.

14 And I will make you cross over with your enemies Into a land which you do not know; For a fire is kindled in My anger, Which shall burn upon you."

## Jeremiah's Prayer

15 O Lord, You know; Remember me and visit me, And take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In Your enduring patience, do not take me away. Know that for Your sake I have suffered rebuke. 16 Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.

17 I did not sit in the assembly of the mockers, Nor did I rejoice; I sat alone because of Your hand, For You have filled me with indignation.

18 Why is my pain perpetual And my wound incurable, Which refuses to be healed? Will You surely be to me like an unreliable stream, As waters that fail?

## The Lord Reassures Jeremiah

19 Therefore thus says the Lord:

"If you return, Then I will bring you back; You shall stand before Me; If you take out the precious from the vile, You shall be as My mouth. Let them return to you, But you must not return to them.

20 And I will make you to this people a fortified bronze wall; And they will fight against you, But they shall not prevail against you; For I am with you to save you And deliver you," says the Lord.

21 "I will deliver you from the hand of the wicked, And I will redeem you from the grip of the terrible."

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## Facts Revealed:

### The Lord Will Not Relent

✧ Then Yahweh (the Lord) said to me, "**Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me**, My mind would not be favorable toward this people. Cast them out of My sight, and let them go forth.

And it shall be, if they say to you, 'Where should we go?' then you shall tell them,

'Thus says Yahweh (the Lord):

**"Such as are for death, to death; And such as are for the sword, to the sword; And such as are for the famine, to the famine; And such as are for the captivity, to the captivity."**

[Jeremiah 15:1-2]

✧ The situation of Judah's sin is so deep rooted that Yahweh would not listen to a prayer of intercession for them even from Moses or Samuel.

✧ Yahweh's determination is to cast them out of His sight by removing them from the Promised Land into captivity in foreign lands.

✧ When judgment is pronounced against the people, some are **appointed** to death by sickness or plague, others to death by the sword, some to death by famine and starvation, and others into captivity. [Deuteronomy 28:15-41, 2 Chronicles 29:8-9, Ezekiel 9:7, Jeremiah 15:2, 43:11, Ezekiel 29:23, Revelation 13:10]

✧ "And I will **appoint** over them four forms of destruction," says Yahweh (the Lord): "the **sword** to slay, the **dogs** to drag, the **birds** of the heavens and the **beasts** of the earth to devour and destroy.

I will hand them over to **trouble**, to **all kingdoms of the earth**, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem. [Jeremiah 15:3-4]

✧ Four appointed forms of destruction; Sword to slay, Dogs to drag, Birds and Beasts to devour and destroy.

✧ Captivity to all kingdoms of the earth.

- ✧ The influence to sin from Manasseh is the cause of the wickedness that finally brought Yahweh to pass this judgment against the kingdom of Judah and Jerusalem its capital.
- ✧ "For who will have pity on you, O Jerusalem? Or who will bemoan you? Or who will turn aside to ask how you are doing? [Jeremiah 15:5]
- ✧ At this point the people are so set in sin that no one will be able to call them to repent.
- ✧ No one is left to have pity on Jerusalem or bemoan her destruction.
- ✧ You have forsaken Me," says Yahweh (the Lord), "You have gone backward. **Therefore I will stretch out My hand against you and destroy you; I am weary of relenting!**

And I will winnow them with a winnowing fan in the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children; I will destroy My people, **Since they do not return from their ways.** [Jeremiah 15:6-7]

- ✧ Because the people have refused to repent and have continued to backslide to the point that Yahweh is weary of extending to them His longsuffering, it is now time for His Wrath.
- ✧ Yahweh will destroy His people from His land which He compares to harvest time and winnowing grain.
- ✧ Their **widows** will be increased to Me more than the sand of the seas; I will bring against them, Against the mother of the young men, A **plunderer** at noonday; I will cause **anguish** and **terror** to fall on them suddenly.

"She languishes who has borne seven; She has breathed her last; Her sun has gone down While it was yet day; She has been ashamed and confounded. And the remnant of them I will deliver to the sword Before their enemies," says Yahweh (the Lord). [Jeremiah 15:8-9]

- ✧ As the multitude of men are slain by the sword, their wives become widows. So many will be killed at this time it will be compared to the sand of the seas.
- ✧ The invading forces will plunder the land and Yahweh will cause the people to suddenly suffer anguish and terror.
- ✧ At this point Yahweh said He will even deliver the remnant to the sword.

### Jeremiah's Dejection

- ✧ Woe is me, my mother, That you have borne me, A man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent for interest, Nor have men lent to me for interest. Every one of them curses me. [Jeremiah 15:10]
- ✧ Jeremiah laments his own birth because of rejection from the people to his message.

### Yahweh's Response

- ✧ Yahweh (the Lord) said:  
"Surely it will be well with your remnant; Surely I will cause the enemy to intercede with you In the time of adversity and in the time of affliction.

Can anyone break iron, The northern iron and the bronze?

Your wealth and your treasures I will give as plunder without price, **Because of all your sins, Throughout your territories.**

And I will make you cross over with your enemies Into a land which you do not know; For a fire is kindled in My anger, Which shall burn upon you." [Jeremiah 15:11-14]

- ✧ Yahweh promised to save a remnant to return to Judea in the appointed time of their adversity in captivity.
- ✧ At that time even the enemy will Join in to intercede for the Jews.
- ✧ Until then, because of all the sins of Judah, Yahweh assured Judah that their wealth and treasures will be given into the hands of their enemies from the north as plunder.

- ✧ Jerusalem and Judah will be carried captive to a foreign land they do not know because of the fire of Yahweh's anger at their sins.

### Jeremiah's Prayer

- ✧ O Yahweh (Lord), You know; Remember me and visit me, And take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In Your enduring patience, do not take me away. Know that for Your sake I have suffered rebuke.

Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, Yahweh Elohey Tsebavta (O Lord God of hosts). I did not sit in the assembly of the mockers, Nor did I rejoice; I sat alone because of Your hand, For You have filled me with indignation.

Why is my pain perpetual And my wound incurable, Which refuses to be healed? Will You surely be to me like an unreliable stream, As waters that fail? [\[Jeremiah 15:15-18\]](#)

- ✧ Jeremiah is suffering persecution by his own people because he has faithfully delivered Yahweh's messages to them.
- ✧ Now he is asking for God's promised deliverance.
- ✧ Yahweh's message was a joy and rejoicing of heart as Jeremiah found himself called by God and isolated from those who mock his word.
- ✧ Yahweh has filled Jeremiah with indignation at the sins and rejection of the people.
- ✧ Jeremiah feels the pain of his situation and asked for Yahweh's confirmation.

### The Lord Reassures Jeremiah

- ✧ Therefore thus says Yahweh (the Lord):  
"If you **return**, Then **I will bring you back**; **You shall stand before Me**;  
If you take out the **precious** from the **vile**, You shall be as My mouth.  
Let them return to you, But you must not return to them.

And I will make you to this people a fortified bronze wall; And they will fight against you, But they shall not prevail against you; For I am with you to save you And deliver you," says Yahweh (the Lord). "I will deliver you from the hand of the wicked, And I will redeem you from the grip of the terrible." [\[Jeremiah 15:19-21\]](#)

- ✧ If Jeremiah chooses to return to Yahweh, than Yahweh will bring him back.
- ✧ Yahweh calls Jeremiah to completely surrender himself to the hands of God and call the people to repentance to separate the precious from the vile.
- ✧ Then Jeremiah will be as the very mouth of Yahweh to the people. This is just like Moses stood in the place of God to the Egyptians. [\[Exodus 4:14-16, 7:1\]](#)
- ✧ Yahweh said the people may return to Jeremiah to hear the Words of God, but Jeremiah must not try to return to the people to be acceptable to them. Like Peter and the Apostles who answered the High Priest, "We ought to obey God rather than men." [\[Acts 5:29\]](#)
- ✧ Yahweh promised to strengthen Jeremiah against the people and deliver him from their hands so they would not be able to kill him.