# Jeremiah 7:1-34 False Prophets deceiving Israel to its destruction

### Call to repentance

- 1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,
- <sup>2</sup> "Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, 'Hear the word of the Lord, all you of Judah who enter in at these gates to worship the Lord!""
- <sup>3</sup> Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.
- <sup>4</sup> Do not trust in these lying words, saying, 'The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord are these.'
- <sup>5</sup> "For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your doings, if you thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbor,
- 6 if you do not oppress the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, or walk after other gods to your hurt,
- 7 then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.

#### Trusting in Lying Words (cf. Jeremiah 26:4-6)

- 8 "Behold, you trust in lying words that cannot profit.
- 9 Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know,
- 10 and then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, 'We are delivered to do all these abominations'?
- 11 Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of thieves in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it," says the Lord.

#### View the destruction of Shiloh as an example of Yahweh's Judgment

- 12 "But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I set My name at the first, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel.
- 13 And now, because you have done all these works," says the Lord, "and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you, but you did not answer,
- 14 therefore I will do to the house which is called by My name, in which you trust, and to this place which I gave to you and your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.
- 15 And I will cast you out of My sight, as I have cast out all your brethren the whole posterity of Ephraim.

## Do not pray for this people

- <sup>16</sup> "Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them, nor make intercession to Me; for I will not hear you.
- 17 Do you not see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?
- 18 The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and they pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger.
- 19 Do they provoke Me to anger?" says the Lord. "Do they not provoke themselves, to the shame of their own faces?"

Judgment and Fury is coming to this place, the Temple of Jerusalem

<sup>20</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord God: "Behold, My anger and My fury will be poured out on this place — on man and on beast, on the trees of the field and on the fruit of the ground. And it will burn and not be quenched."

Offerings and Sacrifices are not acceptable from rebellious people

- 21 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat.
- 22 For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices.
- 23 But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.'
- 24 Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.
- 25 Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.
- 26 Yet they did not obey Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers.
- 27 "Therefore you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not obey you. You shall also call to them, but they will not answer you.

Judgment on Obscene Religion and their connection with Tophet & the Valley of Hinnom <sup>28</sup> "So you shall say to them, 'This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the Lord their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth.

- <sup>29</sup> Cut off your hair and cast it away, and take up a lamentation on the desolate heights; for the Lord has rejected and forsaken the generation of His wrath.'
- 30 For the children of Judah have done evil in My sight," says the Lord. "They have set their abominations in the house which is called by My name, to pollute it.
- And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into My heart.

Tophet, the Valley of Hinnom name changed to the Valley of Slaughter

- 32 "Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "when it will no more be called Tophet, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter; for they will bury in Tophet until there is no room.
- 33 The corpses of this people will be food for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth. And no one will frighten them away.
- 34 Then I will cause to cease from the cities of Judah and from the streets of Jerusalem the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride. For the land shall be desolate.

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#### Facts Revealed:

### Call to repentance

**☼** The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh (the Lord), saying,

"Stand in the gate of Yahweh (the Lord)'s house, and proclaim there this word, and say, 'Hear the word of Yahweh (the Lord), all you of Judah who enter in at these gates to worship la-Yahweh (the Lord)!""

Thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt Elohey Yisrael (the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel): "Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.

Do not trust in these lying words, saying, 'The temple of Yahweh (the Lord), the temple of Yahweh (the Lord), the temple of Yahweh (the Lord) are these.'

"For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your doings, if you thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbor,

if you do not oppress the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, or walk after other elohiym (gods) to your hurt,

then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever. [Jeremiah 7:1-7]

- ♦ Jeremiah was a priest, son of Hilkiah of the priests of the descendants of Aaron. He was
  from Anathoth, a city of the Priests, in the tribal land of Benjamin about 3 miles North of
  Jerusalem. [Joshua 21:18, Jeremiah 1:1]
- ♦ As a Priest, Jeremiah could legally stand in the gate of the Temple and proclaim the Words of Yahweh.
- ♦ The message was the common message to call the people to repentance with the promise that if they would comply God would cause them to remain in the land and in Jerusalem.
- ♦ The message included a warning to avoid the lying words of false prophets no matter how pious they may sound.
- ❖ Repentance includes returning to true justice and righteousness, care for the stranger, fatherless, and widows.
- ♦ The warning included "do not shed innocent blood in this place or follow other gods which would bring the murderers and idolaters to their own hurt in the end.
- ♦ The reward for true repentance would be that Yahweh would cause them to remain in the Promised Land forever just as He had promised through Abram and Moses. [Genesis 13:14-15, Exodus 32:13, Deuteronomy 28:1-13]

Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know,

and then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, 'We are delivered to do all these abominations'?

Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of thieves in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it," says Yahweh (the Lord). [Jeremiah 7:8-11]

- ♦ The lying words of false prophets cannot benefit the people at all.
- ♦ Yahweh does not accept the hypocrisy of people who come into His Temple and claim innocence before Him while their lives are filled with theft, murder, adultery, lying, and idolatry.
- ♦ Yahweh sees all and knows the truth of their wicked hearts.
- ♦ Their life style has defiled His House and made it a den of thieves in the eyes of Yahweh. [Jeremiah 7:11, Matthew 21:13, Mark 11:17, Luke 19:46]

- ❖ It demonstrates total lack of reverence for that which is Holy on the part of the people.
- ♦ Yahweh demands that we reverence His Sanctuary. [Leviticus 19:30, 26:2]

View the destruction of Shiloh as an example of Yahweh's Judgment

➡ "But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I set My name at the first, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel.

And now, because you have done all these works," says Yahweh (the Lord), "and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you, but you did not answer.

therefore I will do to the house which is called by My name, in which you trust, and to this place which I gave to you and your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

And I will cast you out of My sight, as I have cast out all your brethren — the whole posterity of Ephraim. [Jeremiah 7:12-15]

- ♦ The Tabernacle remained in the camp at Gilgal from the time Israel crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land until Joshua moved it to Shiloh after the land was divided among the tribes of Israel. [Joshua 4:19, 18:1]
- ♦ It remained in Shiloh until David made a Tabernacle in Jerusalem.
- → The Ark of the Covenant was removed from the Tabernacle at Shiloh by the sons of Eli and lost to the Philistines. [1 Samuel 4:1-11]
- ♦ Judgment against Shiloh was described by David. [Psalm 78:56-64]
- ♦ When the Ark was returned by the Philistines, it was taken to Kirjath Jearim to the house of Abinadab where it remained twenty years until David wanted to take it to Jerusalem, but when Uzzah died for touching the Ark it was taken to the house of Obed –Edom a Gittite for three months. [1 Samuel 6:1-21, 7:1-2, 2 Samuel 6:1-11]
- ♦ David then brought the Ark of the Covenant from the house of Obed-Edom to the Tabernacle David built for it in Jerusalem. [2 Samuel 6:12-17]
- ♦ Yahweh is now warning Jerusalem of the same fate as Shiloh for their own unfaithfulness though He had sent so many prophets to call them to repentance.
- → The Temple in Jerusalem will also be cast out of the sight of Yahweh. [Jeremiah 7:14, 1 Kings 9:6-9, 2 Chronicles 7:19-22]
- ♦ The Southern kingdom of Judah and Jerusalem will suffer the same fate as did the Northern kingdom of Israel called Ephraim. [Jeremiah 7:15]

## Do not pray for this people

➡ "Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them, nor make intercession to Me; for I will not hear you.

Do you not see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and they pour out drink offerings to other elohiym (gods), that they may provoke Me to anger.

Do they provoke Me to anger?" says Yahweh (the Lord). "Do they not provoke themselves, to the shame of their own faces?" [Jeremiah 7:16-19]

- ♦ When Yahweh calls upon His prophets to not pray for the people or to make intercession for them, He has already pronounced judgment on them and will not listen to intercessory prayer on their behalf.
- ♦ Both men and women include their children in their idolatry and together they make cakes for the queen of heaven and worship her and other idolatrous so called gods which provokes Yahweh to anger and brings on His wrath.
- ♦ The end result will bring shame to the faces of the idolaters when they stand before the Judge of all the earth.

Judgment and Fury is coming to this place, the Temple of Jerusalem

- ☼ Therefore thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "Behold, My anger and My fury will be poured out on this place on man and on beast, on the trees of the field and on the fruit of the ground. And it will burn and not be quenched." [Jeremiah 7:20]
- ♦ The plagues of Egypt struck everything, the land, the people and the animals, in the same way, destruction coming in the Wrath of God will likewise strike everything on the earth. Offerings and Sacrifices are not acceptable from rebellious people
  - Thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt Elohey Yisrael (the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel): "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat.

For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices.

But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.'

Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.

Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.

Yet they did not obey Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers.

"Therefore you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not obey you. You shall also call to them, but they will not answer you. [Jeremiah 7:21-27]

- ♦ The Moral Law of right and wrong was given at Mount Sinai with the command "'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you."
- ♦ This is the law that Israel has not obeyed nor followed but they exchanged the commandments of God for the commandments of men in rituals Jesus condemned as making the commandments God ineffective. [Matthew 15:1-9, Mark 7:1-13, Titus 1:10-16, Isaiah 29:13]
- ♦ Therefore Yahweh said "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat."
- ♦ Offerings and sacrifices from the hands of wicked men are not acceptable to Yahweh. [Isaiah 1:10-15, Malachi 1:6-11, Jeremiah 6:20, Amos 5:21-23]
- ♦ Though Yahweh sent prophets to call the people to repentance, they refused the call and did what their own wicked hearts preferred.
- ♦ They rebelled and stiffened their necks doing worse than their fathers.
- ♦ Yahweh said that even though Jeremiah speaks His word faithfully, still the people will not listen or obey.
- ♦ They will not respond though Jeremiah calls to them for repentance.

Judgment on Obscene Religion and their connection with Tophet & the Valley of Hinnom

□ "So you shall say to them, 'This is a **nation** that does not obey the voice of Yahweh Elohayv (the Lord their God) nor receive correction. **Truth** has perished and has been cut off from their mouth.

Cut off your hair and cast it away, and take up a lamentation on the desolate heights; for Yahweh (the Lord) has rejected and forsaken the generation of His wrath.'

For the children of Judah have done evil in My sight," says Yahweh (the Lord). "They have set their abominations in the house which is called by My name, to pollute it.

And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into My heart. [Jeremiah 7:28-31]

- ♦ The heart breaking report from Yahweh is that the **nation** does not obey their God nor receive His correction when He sends chastisement upon them.
- ♦ The first casualty in a failing society is truth.
- ♦ Jeremiah is commanded to cut off his hair, cast it away, and make lamentation.
- ❖ This is the generation that does not know their God and therefore Yahweh has rejected and forsaken them, now they are faced with His Wrath.
- ♦ This is a warning to any nation who refuses to acknowledge the God of Creation revealed in the Holy Bible to do what they think is better than the righteous laws God has given.
- ♦ The reason for the Wrath of Yahweh is their open abominations, evil actions, defilement of the House that bears the name of Yahweh, their idolatry, and slaughter of their children being sacrificed.
- ❖ Today the USA has done the same in turning from the holy commandments of God to humanistic tolerance and legalization of all that is an abomination to Yahweh. This includes all the sexual perversions, abortions, same sex marriages, and all the scandalous behavior in business, government, educational system, and introduction of all pagan world religious practices, violence of every sort both domestic and in society and the work place, murders, thefts, oppressions, coercion, intimidation, etc.

Tophet, the Valley of Hinnom name changed to the Valley of Slaughter

- - The corpses of this people will be food for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth. And no one will frighten them away.
  - Then I will cause to cease from the cities of Judah and from the streets of Jerusalem the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride. For the land shall be desolate. [Jeremiah 7:32-34]
  - ❖ The price for turning from the righteous ways of Yahweh to what seems right in the eyes of the humanistic leaders of a nation, doing what is right in their own eyes but evil in the eyes of God is total destruction of that nation and desolation of the land.
  - ❖ Today all the nations of the world are following the same path toward destruction and are thereby becoming an abomination in the eyes of God.
  - ♦ This time, instead of chastisement of single nations, the world is set up for the Great Tribulation, the Antichrist, and total destruction from the Almighty.