

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 05 JuneJeremiah 1Accept Your Commission
- 2) 12 JuneJeremiah 2-6Get Back on Track
- 3) 19 JuneJeremiah 7-10Live Above Board
- 4) 26 JuneJeremiah 11-15Rise above the Tide
- 5) 03 JulyJeremiah 16-18Never Say it is Hopeless
- 6) 10 JulyJeremiah 19-21Submit to Divine Discipline
- 7) 17 JulyJeremiah 22-25Keep Your Behavior in Line
- 8) **24 JulyJeremiah 26-29Settle Down**
- 9) 31 JulyJeremiah 30-33Check Your Direction
- 10) 07 AugJeremiah 34-39Stay True
- 11) 14 AugJeremiah 40-45Follow Orders
- 12) 21 AugJeremiah -52Recognize the Lord's Authority
- 13) 28 AugLamentations 1-5Rely on the Lord's Love

INTRODUCTION

- It is OK to pray for things not to get worse, and to pray for those ungodly leaders and neighbors who have an influence on us
 - perhaps God would relent from destruction . Amos 5:15; Joel 2:14
 - and 'perhaps God would grant them repentance' .. 2Timothy 2:25

Passage	Comments
Jeremiah 26:1-24	<p>God Threatened to Destroy His House of Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Jeremiah 22:5 God threatened to destroy the King's house if Israel did not repent • Here (26:1-6) God threatened to destroy His house of prayer – the temple complex, and the entire city of Jerusalem – God's footstool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This would remove the key cornerstones of cultural identity for the Jews ♦ It would be akin to destroying Washington DC and America's constitution for us • vv16-17. Jeremiah was apprehended and was about to be executed when men of reason stood up to defend him <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ In some cases mob rule can work in favor of the believer ('princes and all the people' told the priests and prophets to back off) • Can we spot men and women of reason today who would stand up for the falsely afflicted? • Sometimes it takes trouble to see the good ones stand up and be counted – much like cream rises to the top after churning.....1Corinthians 11:19
27:1-22	<p>God's Sovereignty is Absolute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v5. God made the earth and everything in it, and He alone chooses to whom to give things to • v6. Nebuchadnezzar, a non-Jew & a brutal tyrant, receives prosperity from God to accomplish things that God wants him to perform, namely take Jews into exile for their sins • vv18-22. Let the godly prophets pray for God not to allow things go from bad to worse (in this case for the temple artifacts to be stolen away to Babylon). Alas, God did eventually allow temple artifacts to be removed by the Babylonians - see Ezra 8:33 for return of temple artifacts
28:1-17	<p>False Prophets are Hard to Detect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-6. Hananiah prophecies falsely and Jeremiah initially wishes for Hananiah's prophecy to come true • vv7-9. However, prophets are known by their 100% success rate • vv12-17. God reveals to Jeremiah of Hananiah's false prophecy, and of his soon demise
29:1-32	<p>God is in Total Control of History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v4. God caused Jerusalem's deportation to Babylon, not Nebuchadnezzar • vv5-6. God tells the deportees to make a life for

Passage	Comments
	<p>themselves while in exile – build houses, get married, have children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v7. And pray for the prosperity of your captors – If they fare well, you will fare well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Note: Babylon wasn't going to prosper as well as they could without the prayers of God's saints (same with America – we should pray for America's economic healing) • v8. Be not deceived by your dreams – The false prophets made their money by telling people what they wanted to hear
Notes on Dreams	<p>Dream Gullibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does God use dreams today to foretell events and bring new revelations?Don't Bank On It! • God did give men dreams whereby they could foretell God's directives, even for some heathens (see Gen 20:3,6 Judg 7:13, Mat 27:19), BUT revelatory dreams were never common place • Num 12:6 "I reveal myself to My prophet in visions, I speak to him in dreams" • Job 33:14-17 For God does speak ...in a dream, in a vision of the night...(that) he may speak in men's ears and terrify them with warnings (NIV) • Zech 10:2 "... the diviners see lying visions and tell false dreams; they comfort in vain. Therefore the people wander like sheep" • Ecc 5:7 For in many dreams and in many words there is emptiness. Rather, fear God. • Jer 23:32 "Behold, I am against those who have prophesied false dreams," declares the LORD, "and related them and led My people astray • BUT – What about Joel 2:28/Acts 2:17? "It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ We see this fulfilled in Agabus, Barnabas, Simeon, and the four daughters of Philip the evangelist, see Acts 11:28; 13:1; 21:9,10 • Common Principle on Dreams – Trust in God's objective word and not in subjective dreams (People receive their dreams while not in full control of their faculties and possibly under the influence of spicy wings and pizza from dinner)

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Even in our “enlightened” times false prophecies abound
- We are commanded in Scripture not to be deceived by false signs, not to be deceived by others, and not to be self-deceived – so be vigilant, sober, and watch and pray

NEXT WEEK: Jeremiah 30-33. Jacob's Trouble – A time of severe upheaval compared to men travailing with child; New things begin happening on earth – women encompass men; God makes a new covenant with Israel; and we learn there is nothing too hard for God to accomplish

THE BACK PEW - JEFF LARSON



King Neb.. has a bad dream!
Daniel 2:1

http://thebackpew.com