

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

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

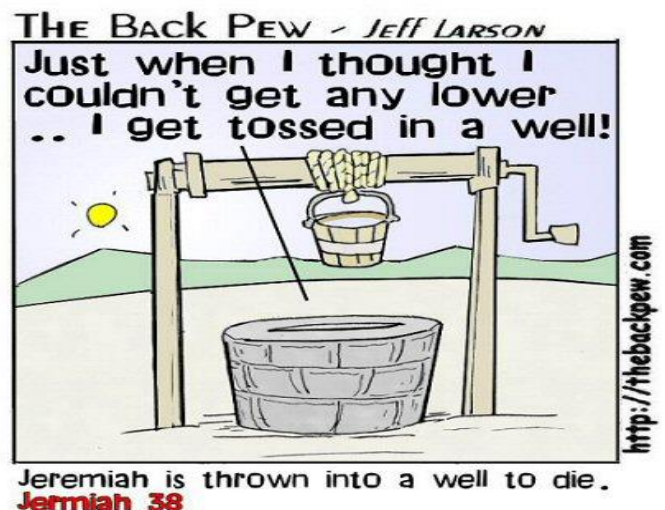
**INTRODUCTION**

- Abstaining from alcohol blessed the Rechabites for all eternity
- Six other groups of people were also to avoid alcohol/drunkenness
  1. Nazarites (those who took a special vow)..... Numbers 6:2-3
  2. Spiritual Leaders (Priests)..... Leviticus 10:9
  3. Political Rulers (Kings) ..... Proverbs 31:4
  4. Church Elders (not given to drunkenness) .. 1Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7
  5. Church Deacons (not given to much wine)..... 1Timothy 3:8
  6. Spiritually mature women (not given to much wine)..... Titus 2:3

Passage	Comments
Jeremiah 34:1-22	<p><b>The Jews Worship God with their lips...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To curry God's favor the Jews who owned Hebrew slaves set them free – but only for a time                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ By law, the Jews could own Hebrew slaves, but only for 6 years ..... Exodus 21:2</li> <li>♦ v16. When the Jews reneged on their covenant and enslaved their poor brothers again, God took it as polluting His name</li> <li>♦ vv17-22. Punishment would be harsh enslavement of the slave owners and destruction of Jerusalem</li> <li>♦ <b>Psalms 66:3</b> "...Because of the greatness of Your power Your enemies give feigned obedience to You"Most obey C</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
35:1-19	<p><b>Rechabites Will Always Stand Before God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv1-2,6. God tested the Rechabites by asking them to drink wine – but they refused since it would be in violation of their dad's orders to drink no wine</li> <li>• vv18-19. God's promise to the faithful Rechabites – They would always have a man standing before Him                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ This was a challenge to the Jews to obey God as the Rechabites obeyed their earthly father</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Other Long Term Promises	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. David will always have a man on his throne ..... Jer 33:17</li> <li>2. Levites will always be offering burnt offerings .....33:18</li> <li>3. Sons of Zadok will always be before God .....Ezk 44:15</li> </ol>
36:1-32	<p><b>Every Generation Is One Generation Away from Apostasy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• King Josiah, one of the best Kings of Judah, attempted to turn Israel around for God ..... 2Kings 23</li> <li>• vv24-25. Josiah's son, Jehoiakim, destroyed God's word</li> </ul>
37:1-21	<p><b>False Accusations Imprison an Innocent Man</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv14-15. Jeremiah's accused of being a traitor                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Jesus and the Apostles were frequently falsely accused</li> <li>♦ Their response and ours should be – bless and pray for those who spitefully use us ..... Mat 5:44</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
38:1-28	<p><b>Jeremiah's Situation Goes from Bad to Worse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v6. Jeremiah is put into a cistern to die</li> <li>• vv7-13. Ebedmelech seems to be Jeremiah's one lone convert after years of preaching for the Lord, and rescues Jeremiah from the cistern very carefully</li> </ul>
39:1-18	<p><b>Babylon captures Jerusalem and King Zedekiah</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv6-7. The cruelty of war – Zedekiah's sons are killed before his eyes, then his eyes are put out and he is exiled</li> </ul>

Key Passages on Intoxicating Drinks	Comments
<b>Genesis 9:21</b> He drank of the wine and became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent.	• First incidence of drinking alcohol in the Bible reveals it releases inhibitions
<b>Genesis 14:18</b> And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High.	• 2nd incidence of wine in the Bible reflects it was a favored component for socializing
<b>Genesis 19:32</b> "Come, let us make our father drink wine, and let us lie with him that we may preserve our family through him	• 3rd incidence of wine in the Bible led to incest and the creation of 2 wicked nations (Moabites and Ammonites)
<b>Genesis 27:28</b> Now may God give you of the ... fatness of the earth, And an abundance of grain and new wine;	• Wine (or possibly beer made from grain) was considered a blessing from God
<b>Exodus 29:40</b> ... and there shall be ... one-fourth of a hin of wine for a drink offering with one lamb	• Wine, because of its economic significance, was often part of a sacrifice demanded by God
<b>Psalms 4:7</b> [God has] put gladness in my heart. More than when grain and new wine abound.	• Gladness from God is more satisfying than an abundance of food and wine
<b>Psalms 104:15</b> And wine which makes man's heart glad, so that God may make his face glisten with oil, and food which sustains man's heart.	• Even Benjamin Franklin said "Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy"
<b>Proverbs 20:1</b> Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.	• It is the misuse of alcoholic beverages, which is a problem for an individual and society
<b>Proverbs 21:17</b> He who loves pleasure will become a poor man; He who loves wine and oil will not become rich.	• ...and the over-indulgence of a good thing also leads to financial woes
<b>Proverbs 23:20</b> Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine, Or with gluttonous eaters of meat;	• God puts gluttony and drunkenness in the same basket – It takes discipline to live right
<b>Proverbs 31:4</b> Kings should not drink wine, Rulers should avoid strong drink	• Simple rule to live by – if you are a leader, avoid alcohol
<b>Proverbs 31:6</b> Give strong drink to him who is perishing, And wine to him whose life is bitter.	• Medicinal value of alcohol
<b>John 2:1-10</b> ... they said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, ... but you have kept the good wine till now"	• When Jesus turned water into wine, He didn't make the cheap stuff
<b>Mark 15:23</b> They tried to give Jesus wine mixed with myrrh; but He did not take it.	• Jesus did not want his senses dulled from experiencing God's full wrath on our sins
<b>Romans 14:21</b> It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.	• If our eating and drinking causes others to avoid Christ, then we should be willing to curtail it

**NEXT WEEK: Jeremiah 40-45.** The last of the Judean kings to sit on a throne, King Zedekiah, is exiled to Babylon, and Jeremiah is taken to Egypt – Will the misery ever end?



**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- When someone 'throws you under the bus' or tosses you into a well, be content & glorify God .....Philippians 4:11; 1Peter 4:14-16
- There are benefits to living a disciplined life like the Rechabites (see side-table on intoxicating drinks)