# Jeremiah 19

Jesus

## I. Sign of the Broken Flask

1 Thus says the LORD: "Go and **get a potter's earthen flask**, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests. 2 And **go out to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom**, which is by the entry of the **Potsherd Gate…**

- **God to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom**; i.e. Lamentation

1. Just SW of Jerusalem. AKA Tophet.
2. Near the Potshard Gate. AKA Dung Gate. Later used as garbage dump
3. Place of Child Sacrifice Josiah shut down/tore down the shrine

**2 Kings 23:10** And he [Josiah] **defiled Topheth**, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, that **no man might make his son or his daughter pass through the fire to Molech**.

- **Haunt of Demons/Rephaim:** lit. Giants. Nephilim remnant, also Philistia

**Joshua 15:8b …** the Valley of Hinnom…which is at the end of the **Valley of Rephaim** northward.

Take the False Apostate Elders/Priests/Clay Pot
Go to that Dark Ghoulish Twisted place of Child Sacrifice

**2b … and** proclaim there the words that I will tell you, 3 and **say, 'Hear the word of the LORD**, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will bring such a catastrophe on this place, that whoever hears of it, **his ears will tingle**.

- **Ears Tingle:** Quiver. Vibrate from a horrid sound
- **First Mention:** Before the Ark stolen/Priests Die…

**1 Samuel 3:11** LORD to Samuel: "Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both **ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.**

Ears Tingle/Fear Begins

4 "Because they have forsaken Me and **made this an alien place**, because they have burned incense in it to other gods whom neither they, their fathers, nor the kings of Judah have known, and have **filled this place with the blood of the innocents** 5 (they have also built the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or speak, nor did it come into My mind), 6 therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that this place shall no more be called Tophet or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter.

**Psalm 106:37 They** even sacrificed their sons And their daughters to demons, 38 And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with blood.

- **Not Tophet:** Place of Fire
- **Not Hinnom:** Lamentation

Now the Valley of Slaughter

- Not slaughter of helpless innocents by Judah/Judah now slaughtered by the LORD
- What they thought the LORD never saw, He did

Abortion: Sacrificing precious children to demons. Altar of Selfishness

- Where do they go? He can't come to me. I will go to him. David

The incident of Abraham's interrupted sacrifice of Isaac was an emphatic way for God to say, "I do not want human sacrifice." [Guzik]

7 And I will **make void the counsel** of Judah and Jerusalem in this place, and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies and by the hands of those who seek their lives; their corpses I will give as meat for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth.

I will void the council of the False Prophets/Apostate Elders/Priests

Because this phrase in the original sounds something like the word used to describe the earthen flask some think Jeremiah symbolically emptied the bottle as he said this. [Guzik]

8 I will make this city desolate and a hissing; everyone who passes by it will be astonished and hiss because of all its plagues. 9 And I will cause them to **eat the flesh of their sons** and the flesh of their daughters, and everyone shall eat the **flesh of his friend** in the siege and in the desperation with which their enemies and those who seek their lives shall drive them to despair." '

Your Stubborn/Relentless/Selfish Bad Choices brought You Here…
Wages for sin is death. Consequences you bought and paid for

**Lamentations 4:10** The hands of the compassionate women Have **cooked their own children**; They became food for them In the destruction of the daughter of my people.

**Ezekiel 5:10** Therefore fathers shall eat their sons in your midst, and sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments among you, and all of you who remain I will scatter to all the winds.

Jeremiah w/Elders/Priests/People
Preaching/Holding an Empty Unworkable Clay Pot…

10 "Then you shall **break the flask in the sight of the men** who go with you, 11 and say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Even so I will break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, which cannot be made whole again; and they shall bury them in Tophet **till there is no place to bury.** 12 Thus I will do to this place," says the LORD, "and to its inhabitants, and make this city like Tophet. 13 And the houses of Jerusalem and the houses of the kings of Judah shall be defiled like the place of Tophet, because of all

the houses on whose roofs they have burned incense to all the host of heaven, and poured out drink offerings to other gods.” ’ ”

You thought you could sin/walk away/leave it behind?
I will make your hometowns like the place of Child Sacrifice

- Their sin has found them out/followed them home. Why? Refuse to repent

Q. Must our sin follow us for the rest of our lives?
A. No. Repent/Restored/Refreshed

**1 Corinthians 6:9** Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **…11** And such were some of you. **But** you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

**Revelation 1:5** and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. **To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood…**

**Q.** Why won’t Judah turn and be saved? **A.** They didn’t want to/now they cant. People generally do what they want to do; i.e. they do what they consider most important. They consider pleasure at the expense of God/others more important than a relationship with God. Thus they hardened their hearts/stiffened their necks. Just as a clay pot is unable to be remolded after it is hardened, so the people are now unable to repent [NJC]

Jeremiah breaks the pot in front of the Apostate Elders

- Now at the Temple and on a roll…

14 Then Jeremiah came from Tophet, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy; and he **stood in the court of the LORD’s house** and said to all the people, 15 “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Behold, I will bring on this city and on all her towns all the doom that I have pronounced against it, because **they have stiffened their necks** that they **might not hear My words.’ ”**

Everyone who sees the LORDs judgment on Judah?
Ears Tingle w/Fear. Mouths Hiss w/Contempt

- Should’a Listened?
- Now a Sea Change in Ch 20

# Jeremiah 20

Jesus

## I. Fear on Every Side

1 Now Pashhur the son of Immer, **the priest** who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things. 2 Then Pashhur struck Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD.

- **Pashhur:** heb. Freedom. Peacefulness

The Apostate Priest AND Chief Governor in the Temple

- **Smote the Prophet** of the LORD/**Bound him** in stocks very publicly

1. **Smote:** Probably 39 lashings [Harrison]
2. **Stocks:** Heb. to twist. A form of scaffold in which prisoners were detained in a crooked/confined position producing cramped muscles. rt. Change or transform

3 And it happened on the next day that Pashhur brought Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then Jeremiah said to him, "The LORD has not called your name Pashhur, but **Magor-Missabib**.

- **Lit.** Fear on Every Side

4 For thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will make you a **terror to yourself** and to **all your friends**; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and your eyes shall see it. I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive to Babylon and slay them with the sword. 5 Moreover I will deliver all the wealth of this city, all its produce, and all its precious things; all the treasures of the kings of Judah I will give into the hand of their enemies, who will plunder them, seize them, and carry them to Babylon. 6 And you, Pashhur, and **all who dwell** in your house**, shall go into captivity**. You shall go to Babylon, and **there you shall die**, and **be buried** there, **you and all your friends**, to whom you **have prophesied lies**.' "

- Listen you, Fear on Every Side

Your friends/family that don't die by the sword
Will die with you in Babylon

- You will be a Plague to self/others
- IOWs No longer live in freedom but fear every second

**Psalm 53:5** …There they are **in great fear Where no fear was…**

**Proverbs 28:1** The wicked flee **when no one pursues** But the righteous are bold as a lion.

The LORD can turn *Freedom to Fear*
*Freedom from Fear* is a Gift of God that can be revoked…

**Leviticus 26:14** '…if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, 15 and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, 16 I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you…**17b …**Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall **flee when no one pursues you …36** 'And as for those of you who are left, I will send faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; the sound of a shaken leaf shall cause them to flee; they shall flee as though fleeing from a sword, and they shall fall when no one pursues.

- Big man prophesying lies: Thus the Lord says? Dangerous
- Liars will have their place in the lake of fire. Valley of Hinnom

## II. Unpopular

7 O LORD, You induced me, and I was persuaded; You are stronger than I, and have prevailed. I am in derision daily; Everyone mocks me. 8 For when I spoke, I cried out; I shouted, **"Violence and plunder!"** Because the word of the LORD was made to me A reproach and a derision daily.

**v7 Amplified:** O Lord, You have persuaded me and I was deceived; You are stronger than I and You have prevailed. I am a laughingstock all day long; **Everyone mocks me.**

- I'm saying the same things every day…Warnings of Coming Judgment
- **And I'm paying for it…**

9 Then I said, "**I will not make mention of Him,** Nor speak anymore in His name." But His word was in **my heart like a burning fire** Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And **I could not**.

- I tried to hold it in but I could not!

How can we be a witness if we haven't seen?
How can we give a testimony if we haven't heard?

- Do our hearts burst w/the New Wine of the Holy Spirit's message
- The Truth that can change lives/destinies/world? If not why not?

**Psalm 39:3** My heart was hot within me; While I was musing, **the fire burned. Then I spoke** with my tongue

**Acts 4:20** For we **cannot but speak** the things which we have **seen and heard**.

**Acts 18:5b** …Paul was **compelled by the Spirit**, and testified …that Jesus is the Christ.

- No Witness/No Testimony?

1. …not spending time with the LORD
2. …not serious about the LORD
3. …not looking for/Not listening to/Expecting from the LORD

I cannot help but speak the revealed Word of God to others
No matter the cost…

10 For I heard many mocking: **"Fear on every side!"** "Report," they say, "and we will report it!" All my acquaintances watched for my stumbling, saying, "Perhaps he can be induced; Then we will prevail against him, And **we will take our revenge on him."**

- Mockery: Where is the *Fear on every side*?
- Everyone I know seems to be waiting for me to fall/Ready to Pounce

**Psalm 41:9** Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.

**Luke 11:53 …**the scribes and the Pharisees began to assail Him vehemently, and to cross-examine Him about many things, 54 **lying in wait for Him**, and **seeking to catch Him** in something He might say, that they **might accuse Him**.

**Psalm 35:21** They also opened their mouth wide against me, And said, **"Aha, aha!** Our eyes have seen it."

**Psalm 40:15** Let them be confounded because of their shame, Who say to me, **"Aha, aha!"**

**Psalm 70:3** Let them be turned back because of their shame, Who say, **"Aha, aha!"**

**Q.** What do I do with Aha, aha? **A.** Praise God

11 **But the LORD is with me** as a **mighty, awesome One**. Therefore my **persecutors will stumble**, and **will not prevail**. They will be **greatly ashamed**, for they will not prosper. Their **everlasting confusion** will never be forgotten. 12 But, O LORD of hosts, You who test the righteous, And see the mind and heart, Let me see Your vengeance on them; For I have pleaded my cause before You. **13 Sing to the LORD! Praise the LORD!** For He has delivered the life of the poor From the hand of evildoers.

- So far so good…

14 **Cursed be the day in which I was born!** Let the day not be blessed in which my mother bore me! 15 Let the man be cursed Who brought news to my father, saying, "A male child has been born to you!" Making him very glad. 16 And let that man be like the cities Which the LORD overthrew, and did not relent; Let him hear the cry in the morning And the shouting at noon, 17 Because he did not kill me from the womb, That my mother might have been my grave, And her womb always enlarged with me. 18 Why did I come forth from the womb to see labor and sorrow, That my days should be consumed with shame?

- Welcome to ministry. Constant battle, but…

**Q.** Is it possible to be consistent?
**A.** With God all things are Possible…

**1 Corinthians 15:58** …be steadfast, immovable…

**Steadfast** in OT: heb. kûn. to be firm, be stable, be established, to be set up, be fixed, to be firmly established, be stable, be secure, be enduring, to be fixed, be securely determined, to be directed aright, be fixed aright, prepare, be ready, to be prepared, be arranged, be settled, set up, accomplish, do, make firm, to fix, make ready, prepare, provide, provide for, furnish, to direct toward, to arrange, order, be fastened, to be prepared, be ready, to set up, to constitute, make, to fix, to direct. Be restored

**Psalm 57:6** They have prepared a net for my steps; My soul is bowed down; They have dug a pit before me; Into the midst of it they themselves have fallen. Selah7 My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; **I will sing and give praise.**

**Isaiah 50:7** For the Lord God will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

Jesus is Steadfast/Immovable in the midst of Persecution
So are we *as we abide in Him*

# Jeremiah 21

Jesus

## I. The LORD Now the Enemy

1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD **when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur** the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, saying, 2 "**Please inquire of the LORD for us**, for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon makes war against us. Perhaps the LORD will deal with us according to all His wonderful works, that the king may go away from us."

- Well this is Awkward.
- King sends Pashhur AKA Fear on Every Side to Jeremiah to get the Word of God?

3 Then Jeremiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to Zedekiah, 4 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, with which you fight against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans who besiege you outside the walls; and I will assemble them in the midst of this city. 5 I Myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger and fury and great wrath. 6 **I will strike** the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast; they shall die of a great pestilence. 7 And afterward," says the LORD, "I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, his servants and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence and the sword and the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life; and he shall strike them with the edge of the sword. **He shall not spare them, or have pity or mercy." '**

**Jeremiah 8:15** We looked for peace, but no good came; And for a time of health, and there was trouble! c.f. Jer 14:19

- Stop talking about Coming Judgment?

**1 Thessalonians 5:3** For **when they say, "Peace and safety!"** then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

- God uses the innate cruelty of Babylon
- No Pity or Mercy will be shown to Judah

What happens when the LORD becomes an Enemy?

**Amos 9:4** Though they go into captivity before their enemies, From there I will command the sword, And it shall slay them. **I will set My eyes on them for harm and not for good**.

**Lamentations 2:5** [After the fact] The **LORD was like an enemy**. He has swallowed up Israel, He has swallowed up all her palaces; He has destroyed her strongholds, And has increased mourning and lamentation In the daughter of Judah **…7** The LORD has spurned His altar, He has abandoned His sanctuary; He has given up the walls of her palaces Into the hand of the enemy. They have made a noise in the house of the LORD As on the day of a set feast.

8 "Now you shall say to this people, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death. 9 He who remains in this city shall die by [lit. fall away to] the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; but he who goes out and defects to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be as a prize to him. 10 For I have set My face against this city for adversity and not for good," says the LORD. "It shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire." '

## II. Message to the House of David

11 "And concerning the house of the king of Judah, say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, 12 O house of David! Thus says the LORD: "Execute judgment in the morning; And deliver him who is plundered Out of the hand of the oppressor, Lest My fury go forth like fire And burn so that no one can quench it, Because of the evil of your doings.13 "Behold, I am against you, O inhabitant [lit. dweller] of the valley, And rock of the plain," says the LORD, "Who say, 'Who shall come down against us? Or who shall enter our dwellings?' 14 But I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings [lit. your deeds]," says the LORD; "I will kindle a fire in its forest, And it shall devour all things around it." ' "

- Reaping the Consequences of our Actions/Choices should not surprise us

I can't believe I did that…

**Lamentations 4:12** The kings of the earth, And all inhabitants of the world, **Would not have believed That the adversary and the enemy Could enter the gates of Jerusalem—**

- Lloyd adultery story:

1. I can't believe I did that. You did.
2. Stop saying you don't believe you could do it. That's pride. You did

**Obadiah 1:3** The **pride of your heart has deceived you**, You who dwell in the clefts of the rock, Whose habitation is high; You who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to the ground?' 4 Though you ascend as high as the eagle, And though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down," says the LORD.

**Proverbs 1:31** Therefore they shall **eat the fruit of their own way,** And be **filled to the full with their own fancies.**

**Q.** Can a Leopard change His Spots? **A.** No.
But a Leopards spots *can be changed*

- Maybe you went down to the Valley of Hinnom to the Altar of Selfishness
- Maybe you've done the unthinkable. Can't believe you did it but you did. Welcome

**1 Corinthians 6:11** And such [all of us]. But [we] were washed, but [we] were sanctified, but [we] were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

**Revelation 1:5** … Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him **who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood…**

If you are still willing/able to come to Jesus
He is willing/able to give you a do-over