

Jeremiah 13 Ruined by Pride

Jesus

- Ch. 12 Jeremiah feels the persecution
- Hometown/brothers conspiring to kill him/shut him up

Jeremiah 12:5 If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied you, Then how can you contend with horses?

Rev it up... Condemn the Pride of Judah

Leviticus 26:19 [1st Mention] **I will break the pride of your power**; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. 20 And **your strength shall be spent in vain...**

OT Pride: heb. *gā'ôn* majesty, pomp, swelling. rt. to rise up, grow up, be exalted in triumph. Stealing/Taking to self what only belongs to God.

1 John 2:16 [Last mention] For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the **pride of life—is not of the Father** but is of the world.

NT Pride: gr. *alazoneia* lit. Empty, braggart talk. Insolent and empty assurance, which trusts in its own power and resources and shamefully despises and violates divine laws and human rights. An impious and empty presumption which trusts in the stability of earthly things. rt. Empty pretending or boasting

- Normal in our last days...

2 Timothy 3:1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, **proud...** 4b lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

No coincidence that perversity is now Proudly under the banner of Pride

- Sin that relegated Lucifer to become Satan
- Sin that says My kingdom come. My will be done
- Sin that blinds the reality of its danger till it's too late
- Sin that always ends in ruin/destruction if not put away

Message of Jer 13-14

Everyone who does not heed the warnings of Pride will one day wish they did

I. Ruined Symbol of the Linen Sash

1 Thus the LORD said to me: "Go and get yourself a linen sash, and put it **around your waist**, but do not put it in water." 2 So I got a sash according to the word of the LORD, and put it around my waist. 3 And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, 4 "Take the sash that you acquired, which is around your waist, and arise, go to the Euphrates, and **hide it there in a hole in the rock.**" 5 So I went and hid it by the Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me. 6 Now it came to pass after many days that the

LORD said to me, "Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take from there the sash which I commanded you to hide there."

- **Buy a new sash:** Girdle/Waste cloth/Innermost piece of clothing
- Wear it/Hide it in a rock in the River for many days. 6-month round trip

7 Then I went to the Euphrates and dug, and I took the sash from the place where I had hidden it; and there was the sash, **ruined**. It was **profitable for nothing**.

Worthless. Good for Nothing. W/Out Purpose
God uses the Exercise as a Teaching Moment...

8 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 9 "Thus says the LORD: 'In this manner I will **ruin the pride of Judah** and the great pride of Jerusalem.

I will Ruin the Pride of Judah
Left Worthless. Good for Nothing. W/out Purpose

- **Ruin:** lit to mar. To destroy, corrupt, go to ruin, decay. To decay, i.e. causatively
- **Causatively:** i.e. The source, reason, or producer of an effect

IOW The Result of Pride is always Ruin

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

Pride goes before a Ruined Life
What is Pride?

10 This evil people, who refuse to hear My words, who follow the **dictates of their hearts**, and walk after other gods to serve them and worship them, shall be just like this sash which is profitable for nothing. 11 For as the sash clings to the waist of a man, so I have caused the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah to cling to Me,' says the LORD, 'that they may become My people, for **renown, for praise, and for glory**; but they would not hear.'

Pride is pursuing the Dictates of your Heart...Rather than the Wisdom of God

Pride is following your own Selfish Feelings...Rather than the Word of God

Pride is stubbornly digging in...Rather than heeding God's loving warnings

Pride is imagining you can get away w/taking the Glory from the LORD w/out consequence

Pride says I know better than God and everyone else.

Pride ends in disgrace in being seen as a fool who refused Godly Wisdom

In reality there is perhaps no one of our natural Passions so hard to subdue as Pride. Disguise it, struggle with it, beat it down, stifle it, mortify it as much as one pleases, it is still alive, and will every now and then peep out and show itself. You will see it perhaps often in this History. For even if I could conceive that I had completely overcome it, I should probably be proud of my Humility. [Ben Franklin]

God's desire for His people: Cling tight to Him
To be a People of Renown/Praise/Glory for what He could do in them

Exodus 19:5b... a **special treasure** to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6 And you shall be to Me a **kingdom of priests and a holy nation.**

Deuteronomy 32:10b ...He encircled him, He instructed him, He kept him as the **apple of His eye.** 11 As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up, **Carrying them on its wings...**

I Am His, and He Is Mine
Wade Robinson 1877

v2 Heav'n above is deeper blue; earth around is sweeter green; something lives in ev'ry hue Christless eyes have never seen. Birds with gladder songs o'erflow; flow'rs with deeper beauties shine; Since I know, as now I know, I am His and He is mine. Since I know, as now I know, I am His and He is mine.

v3 Taste the goodness of the LORD: welcomed home to His embrace, all His love, as blood outpoured, seals the pardon of His grace. Can I doubt His love for me, when I trace that love's design? By the cross of Calvary I am His and He is mine. I am His and He is mine.

The LORD called Judah for His Renown/Praise/Glory
They wanted the Renown/Praise/Glory for themselves

- Everybody's a tough guy till their not...those who follow the dictates of their hearts

King Nebuchadnezzar: Walked around his palace roof boasting of his own power/majestic Babylon, his sanity was stripped away, and he was driven away to **live like a wild animal** until he acknowledged God's supreme authority.

King Uzziah: Humble/Famous then his heart grew proud; he unlawfully tried to burn incense in the temple—a duty reserved strictly for the priests—and was **struck with leprosy** for the rest of his life.

Haman: Consumed by self-importance/furious that Mordecai refused to bow to him. Plotted against the Jews and led to his **public humiliation/execution** on the very gallows he built for Mordecai.

David: Humiliated in front of his entire Kingdom. Deceived: Above correction/and 5 min of pleasure

King Herod Agrippa: When the people shouted that his voice was the voice of a god and he accepted the glory meant for God rather than rebuking them, an angel of the LORD struck him down.

Acts 12:21 So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. 22 And the people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" 23 Then immediately an angel of the LORD struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And **he was eaten by worms and died.** 24 **But the word of God grew and multiplied.**

1 Peter 1:24 ..."All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, 25 But the word of the LORD endures forever."

- Movie/Music/Sports stars are all gone
- Caleb Flynn: Pastor? 107,000 text messages to partner in adultery inc. plans to kill wife
- If I could literally kill her and not go to hell I would do it in a heartbeat?
- Previously appeared on American Idol. His 2 daughters 12 and 10 were in their rooms

Insanity of Pride: My will not Your will be done

1. *I will* ascend into heaven
2. *I will* exalt my throne above the stars of God
3. *I will* also sit on the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north
4. *I will* ascend above the heights of the clouds
5. *I will* be like the Most High

- Consequence always a million X worse than we imagine
- Satan banished to eternal punishment forever still thinks he will win?

Israel's I will: Taken w/Fishhooks to Assyria
Judah's I will: Siege/Cannibalism/Captivity

Worthless. Good for Nothing. W/out Purpose in lieu of Humility
Pride Destroys...Humility Restores

Romans 12:3 For I say to everyone... not to think of himself **more highly than he ought** to think, but to **think soberly**, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

II. Drunkenness Symbol of the Wine Bottles

12 "Therefore you shall speak to them this word: 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "**Every bottle shall be filled with wine.**" ' "And they will say to you, 'Do we not certainly know that every bottle will be filled with wine?' 13 "Then you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, **I will fill all the inhabitants of this land—even the kings who sit on David's throne, the priests, the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem—with drunkenness!**"

Wine will be Plentiful!

- **False Prophet's Interpretation:** We know we will continue to prosper in our sin
- **Jeremiah's Explanation:** Spiritual drunkenness leaving you vulnerable to attack

The Angel of the LORD surrounds those who fear Him
When we do not fear God we are left vulnerable to our enemies

14 And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together," says the LORD. "I will **not pity nor spare nor have mercy**, but will destroy them."

- **False prophets** shoot the arrow first then draw the bulls eye adding context to match
- **True teachers** of the Word find God's bulls eye of interpretation within the context

III. Pride Precedes Captivity

15 Hear and give ear: **Do not be proud**, For the LORD has spoken. 16 **Give glory** to the LORD your God Before He causes darkness, And before your feet stumble On the dark mountains, And while you are looking for light, He turns it into the shadow of death And makes it dense darkness.

Give Glory to the LORD while there is still Light
IOWs while you still can

Exodus 10:22 [9th Plague] ...and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. 23 They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days.

Revelation 15:10 [5th Bowl: Darkness/Pain] Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. 11 They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

Give glory to the LORD Before it's too dark to see

17 But if you will not hear it, My soul will **weep in secret for your pride**; My eyes will weep bitterly And run down with tears, Because **the LORD's flock** has been taken captive.

Do we weep for those blinded by their pride?
People Foolishly disregarding the warnings of the LORD?

18 Say to the **king and to the queen mother**, "Humble yourselves; Sit down, For your rule shall collapse, the crown of your glory."

This word applied to the young King Jehoiachin and his mother Nehushta [2 Kings 24:8-16]. They were perhaps already in Babylonia by this time, yet could still benefit if they humbled themselves before Yahweh.

19 The cities of the South shall be shut up, And no one shall open them; Judah shall be carried away captive, all of it; It shall be wholly carried away captive.
20 Lift up your eyes and see Those who come from the north. Where is the flock that was given to you, Your beautiful sheep? 21 What will you say when He punishes you? For you have taught them To be chieftains, to be head over you. Will not pangs seize you, Like a woman in labor?

Jeremiah continues to Address the King/Queen Mother
The LORD said to give up to Neb but you did not believe

- Babylon from the North **will come**
- Your people you taught to fight **will die**
- You will writhe in pain, then you **will blame God...**

22 And if you say in your heart, "**Why have these things come upon me?**" For the greatness of your iniquity Your skirts have been uncovered, Your heels made bare.

Pride is the Garment of the Covering Cherub
I will uncover/disrobe you in front of your enemies.

- I could have saved if you called...

23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil.

Your habitual evil now engrained. Set like cement

Q.1 Can the leopard change its spots? IOWs Can I change who I am? **No.**

Q.2 Can a leopards spots be changed? IOWs Can who I am be changed? **Yes**

The LORD God can Transform Us

Luke 1:37 ...with God nothing will be impossible.

Luke 18:27 ...things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

The LORD can Transform Us
The LORD desires to Transform us

John 3:3b ...unless one is **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ... **16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **17** For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

The LORD desires all men to be saved ^[1 Tim 2:4]. Not all men believe they need Salvation
Thus, Pride keeps most people out of Heaven

Romans 3:23 ... **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God,

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us ...
If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Acknowledge Sin and Live
Dig in/Deny your sin/Eventually be found Uncovered/Humiliated

24 "Therefore I will scatter them like stubble That passes away by the wind of the wilderness. 25 This is your lot, The portion of your measures from Me," says the LORD, "Because you have **forgotten Me** And **trusted in falsehood**. 26 Therefore I will uncover your skirts over your face, That your shame may appear. 27 I have seen your adulteries And your lustful neighings, The lewdness of your harlotry, Your abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe to you, O Jerusalem! **Will you still not be made clean?"**

Jeremiah 14 Worse Than We Imagined

Jesus

I. Sword, Famine, and Pestilence

1 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the droughts. 2 "Judah mourns, And her gates languish; They mourn for the land, And the cry of Jerusalem has gone up. 3 Their nobles have sent their lads for water; They went to the cisterns and found no water. They returned with their vessels empty; They were ashamed and confounded And covered their heads. 4 Because the ground is parched, For there was no rain in the land, The plowmen were ashamed; They covered their heads. 5 Yes, the deer also gave birth in the field, But left [lit. abandon her young] because there was no grass. 6 And

the wild donkeys stood in the desolate heights; They sniffed at the wind like jackals; Their eyes failed because there was no grass.”

God will use Babylon *and* Natural Disasters to Judge
Drought in an Agrarian Society will cause them to cry out

7 O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, Do it for **Your name's sake**; For our backslidings are many, We have sinned against You. 8 O the **Hope of Israel**, his Savior in time of trouble, Why should You be like a stranger in the land, And like a traveler who turns aside to tarry for a night? 9 Why should You be like a man astonished, Like a mighty one who cannot save? Yet You, O LORD, are in our midst, And we are called by Your name; Do not leave us!

Jeremiah was told by the LORD not to pray for this people, yet he petitions the LORD anyway, interceding for his nation: Our sin has not taken You by surprise. You are Mighty. You can save. IOWs Jeremiah seems to be trying to convince God/himself it's not really over...but it is ; that there is hope left, but there's not. [NJC]

10 Thus says the LORD to this people: “Thus they have **loved to wander**; They have **not restrained** their feet. Therefore the LORD does not accept them; He will remember their iniquity now, And punish their sins.” 11 Then the LORD said to me, “**Do not pray for this people**, for their good. 12 When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I will not accept them. But I will consume them by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.”

- **Do not pray for this people:** 3rd and final time

Sinking In: Living Nightmare really is about to begin
IOWs Since God is our only hope/He is done...Then we have no hope left

Thank God Almighty He Seals those who are His

2 Corinthians 1:22 ...who also has **sealed us** and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a **guarantee...**

Ephesians 1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were **sealed with the Holy Spirit** of promise...

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption...

Sealed: gr. *sphragizō*. lit. to set a seal upon, mark with a seal, to seal. rt. *sphragis* the seal placed upon books. Signet ring. a sign. Protecting from misappropriation

For those Born Again/Of the Spirit: Our Heavenly Destination *is Sealed in State*
For Judah: Their Catastrophic Judgment *was Sealed in State*

Revelation 22:11 He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

Not a command to persevere but a declaration of what was now inevitable [NJC]

Jeremiah would pen Lamentations after the inevitable
Among the rubble/corpses the false prophets said would never come

13 Then I said, "Ah, LORD God! Behold, the [false] prophets say to them, '**You shall not see the sword, nor shall you have famine**, but I will give you assured [lit. true] peace in this place.' " 14 And the LORD said to me, "The prophets **prophecy lies in My name**. I have **not sent them, commanded them**, nor **spoken to them**; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination [Telling the future by signs and omens], a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart.

It is very dangerous to claim the LORD saith when the LORD did not saith

15 Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who prophesy in My name, whom I did not send, and who say, 'Sword and famine shall not be in this land'—'By **sword and famine those prophets shall be consumed!** 16 And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; they will have no one to bury them—they nor their wives, their sons nor their daughters—for **I will pour their wickedness on them.**'

I will pour *their wickedness* back on them
Covered w/foulness of their own sin/Rather than the cleansing blood of Christ

17 "Therefore you shall say this word to them: '**Let my eyes flow** with tears night and day, And let them not cease; For the virgin daughter of my people Has been **broken with a mighty stroke**, with a **very severe blow**. 18 If I go out to the field, Then behold, **those slain with the sword!** And if I enter the city, Then behold, **those sick from famine!** Yes, both prophet and priest go about in a land they do not know.' "

Weeping Prophet Before/Now After the Fact
Worse than they could ever imagine in the city of Jerusalem

Lamentations 1:15 "The LORD has trampled underfoot all my mighty men in my midst; He has called an assembly against me To crush my young men; The LORD trampled as in a winepress The virgin daughter of Judah 16 "For these things I weep; My eye, my eye overflows with water; Because the comforter, who should restore my life, Is far from me. My children are desolate Because the enemy prevailed."

Lamentations 2:13b ...For your ruin is spread wide as the sea; Who can heal you?

II. Desperation not Repentance

19 Have You utterly rejected Judah? Has Your soul loathed Zion? Why have You stricken us so that there is no healing for us? We looked for peace, but there was no good; And for the time of healing, and there was trouble. 20 We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness And the iniquity of our fathers, For we have sinned against You. 21 Do not abhor us, for Your name's sake; Do not disgrace the throne of Your glory. Remember, do not break Your covenant with us. 22 Are there any among the idols of the nations that can cause rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Are You not He, O LORD our God? **Therefore we will wait for You, Since You have made all these.**

- Jeremiah sees the future: Judah shedding crocodile tears...

Unable to Accept the Reality of the Consequences of their Sin
God said it was over and it was over. Hope was gone

Job 30:26 ...when I **looked for good, evil came to me**; And when I **waited for light, then came darkness.**

Jeremiah 8:15 "We **looked for peace**, but no good came; And for a **time of health**, and there was trouble!

IOWs An unrepentant sinner cannot hope in the promises of God for help

Jeremiah 5:24 They **do not say in their heart, "Let us now fear the LORD our God..."**

Desperation without Repentance
Unable to Accept the Reality of the Consequences of their Sin

Pride was their Ruin