

## “RUIN, REDEMPTION, AND RESTORATION”

### Studies in the Book of Jeremiah

#### Jeremiah 15:1-21

#### “Do You Desire Christ’s Presence More Than Christmas Presents?”

Introduction: The ancient kingdom of Judah suffered severely for the sin of covenant unfaithfulness and idolatry. Their sin was so severe that their sacrifices became unacceptable to God. The Lord Jesus Christ is the acceptable sacrifice for sin that succeeded where others failed. The more we understand the seriousness of sin the more we can celebrate the amazing grace of God.

#### I. We Need Jesus Because the Wages of Sin is Death (Jeremiah 15:1-9)

- A. The Lord explains to Jeremiah that Moses and Samuel would not be able to deter the judgement planned for the people (Exodus 33:11; 1 Samuel 3:19). The details of the punishment are stated using a frightful word picture (killed by a soldier, body dragged by a dog, birds and beasts consuming the body). Manasseh is named as the cause of the coming punishment (2 Kings 21:1-16, 23:26) Do you consistently analyze your life, your heart, to avoid the dangers of sin? What people describe as generational curses are really the effects of generational sin.
- B. The people forsook the Lord and went the opposite direction away from God. The Lord expresses that punishment will no longer be held up. This emotional expression is proof that God is merciful, He held back punishment for hundreds of years. The consequences of sin are terrible.

#### II. Jeremiah is a Type of Suffering Servant of the Lord (Jeremiah 15:10-21)

- A. Jeremiah faithfully served the Lord but was rejected by the people and treated with disrespect. Jeremiah 15:15-18 is a lament. Jeremiah suffered much persecution because of his ministry. He makes a declaration of innocence – God’s word was the joy and rejoicing of his heart. Jeremiah makes a statement of belonging to the Lord. Do you identify as belonging to Christ? Jeremiah separated himself from the idolators which means he did not participate in their sin.
- B. We have many examples of people wrestling with their faith due to extreme hardship and it seems as if Jeremiah overstepped. God snapped Jeremiah out of his emotional episode and instructed him to repent, clean up his attitude and words, and let the people return to him rather than digressing down to their level. God informs Jeremiah that the people will continue to oppose him but they will not win.
- C. Matthew is the only Gospel that mentions Jeremiah by name. It is probable that Matthew recognized the typology in Jeremiah’s ministry (Matthew 16:14;



Luke 9:19). Matthew is the only Gospel writer to record the visit of the Magi/wise men and it is in this birth narrative that Jeremiah is quoted (Matthew 2:18; Jeremiah 31:15). God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16; Romans 8:3-4).

**“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)**

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