

Jeremiah – Part 12

Back to Egypt

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. Today we are beginning a new series of studies on the book of the prophet Jeremiah. Our topic today: Back to Egypt

Scripture Theme Song: “For I know the thoughts”
(Jeremiah 29:11-13)

- 1) Political anarchy after defeat by Babylonians
 - a) Jer. 40:7-16
 - b) Jer. 41:1-3
 - c) Jer. 41:4-10
 - d) Jer. 41:11-18
 - e) Jeremiah knew the story of Joseph, one of the 12 sons of Jacob. What lesson can we learn from Joseph, who was sold as a slave, falsely accused of sexual misconduct and thrown into prison? Gen. 39:20-23.
 - f) What promises give you courage when things seem to go from bad to worse?
 - i) Deut. 31:6
 - ii) Hebrews 13:5
 - iii) Others?
- 2) Seeking divine guidance
 - a) Jer. 42:1-3
 - b) What are your thoughts when you hear this request to the prophet Jeremiah?
 - c) Why is it so important to seek divine guidance rather than simply trusting in our own wisdom?
 - d) Jer. 43:7 Why do people ask for divine guidance and then disregard it?
 - e) Why are people so willing to go back to places where they were once oppressed? Exodus 16:3; Num. 16:13.
 - i) They forget how bad it was.
 - ii) They forget or don't know that there is a better option.
 - f) Think of a time when you went back into an oppressive situation, like an unhealthy relationship or a bad habit. What was going on in your mind?
- 3) Slipping farther into apostasy
 - a) Psalm 1:1 – do you notice the progression here?
 - b) Genesis 13:11-12; Gen 19:1-19; Gen. 19:12-14
 - c) Jer. 42:11-16; Jer. 43:7; Jer. 44:7-8; Jer. 44:15-19
 - d) The history of Israel, and of humanity in general, is one apostasy after another. Why doesn't God just give up on us? 2 Peter 3:9
 - e) Does someone here have an experience of slipping into apostasy, making one poor decision after another? What did it take for the Lord to finally get your attention and bring you home?
- 4) Discussion questions
 - a) It's easy to condemn others for making foolish decisions, disregarding the counsel of God. How can we avoid the same fatal mistake?
 - b) Share a story of a Bible character who inspires you to faithfully follow the counsel of God.