

JEREMIAH 12 vs 1

¹ **O righteous LORD** / our LORD is always right, He loves to do what is right; He is not capricious; He is not silent; He is ever-watchful over the life He planted; ever-creative in His concern. The night He was betrayed, He prayed, *O righteous Father...* the righteous LORD learned from His righteous Father,

Jeremiah asks:

O righteous LORD, with You I struggle and ask You of justice: Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why are all who deal treacherously at ease?

² **You planted them, yes, they took root: they grow, yes, they bear fruit: You are on their lips, yet far from their hearts.**

³ **But you know me, O LORD: You see me, and examine my thoughts about You: Drag them off like sheep to be butchered, prepare them for the day of slaughter.**

⁴ **How long will the earth groan** / *we know all creation groans*; subjected to the futility of mankind, awaiting its fulfillment in the Messiah -- **Romans 8**,

and the herbs of every field wither? Birds and beasts perish... because of the wickedness of those who say, **He does not see what is happening.**

God answers:

⁵ **If you run with the footmen, and you are weary; then, how can you compete with horses?**

If in the land of peace, you leaned / on a staff or walking stick; **then, what will you do in the wild bushes of Jordan?**

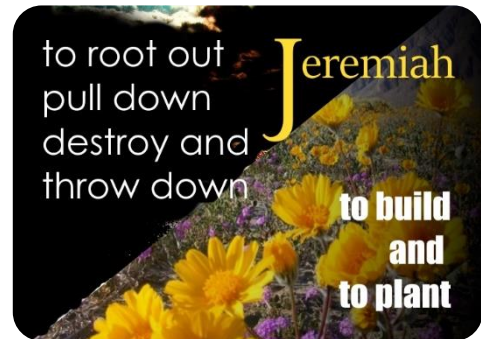
⁶ **For your brethren, the house of your father, even they have dealt treacherously with you;**

yes, they fully roared / shrieking like a woman... **against you: though they speak fair words to you, do not believe them.**

⁷ **I have abandoned My house, I have abandoned My inheritance; I give My dearly Beloved into the hand of her enemies.**

⁸ **My inheritance is to Me as a lion in the forest that roars against me: therefore I hate her.**

⁹ **My inheritance is to Me as a speckled bird** / a bird with freckles, an oddity,



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the other birdbrains that surround are against her; they go and gather all the beasts of the field, and bring them to devour.

¹⁰ **Many pastors have destroyed My vineyard**, they have trample My field; they have made My pleasant field a desolate wilderness.

¹¹ They made it desolate, and being desolate it groans to Me; the whole **earth** is made desolate, but no one takes it to heart.

¹² On all the high places in the wilderness, the spoilers have come:

the sword of the LORD / His powerful word... destroys from one end of the **earth** to the other end of the **earth**. There is no peace for anyone.

¹³ They have sown wheat, but will reap thorns:

they have strained themselves, but to no profit:

be ashamed of your revenues / your paltry harvest, your measly crops...

because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

¹⁴ **Thus says the LORD** against all My evil neighbors

who touch / seize... the inheritance which I gave **My people Israel**;

Behold / pay attention,

I will uproot them from their **ground** and uproot the **House of Judah** from among them.

¹⁵ And it will happen, after **I** have uprooted them

I will again return and have compassion on them / when? Well... 2,500 years later; and like the Good Shepherd He is, who has searched for His flock, and cared for His flock...

and will bring each of them to his own inheritance; each to his own **land** / which is interesting, all those in the neighborhood / cousins of these people... have known this... and they had 2,600 years to prepare the neighborhood to welcome them all home.

¹⁶ And it will happen, if they really learn the ways of My people, to pledge by My Name, as the LORD lives; as they taught My people to pledge by Baal; then they will be built up in the midst of My people – **we pray for our brothers and sisters in Gaza**, who heard the good news.

¹⁷ But if they will **not** obey, I will utterly uproot and destroy that nation, says the LORD.