

# JEREMIAH 13 vs 1

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD to me / Jeremiah, this is the first major symbolic act the prophet was told to do,

Go and buy a **linen belt** / in Hebrew: *ezor*, a wrapped loincloth around the waist... mentioned 8 times in this chapter; actually, it is more like thigh-length underwear, an important under garment of the high priest; something symbolizing very personal, intimate closeness of Israel to God's heart,

and put it upon thy loins / put it around your waist, buckle up your vital parts; of the Branch of Jesse, Isaiah says: *rightness... and faithfulness will be His belt -- Isaiah 11*; the great apostle Paul wrote, *gird your loins with truth -- Eph.6*,

and do **not** put it in water / we know unwashed underwear quickly stinks, right?

<sup>2</sup> So according to **the word of the LORD**,

I bought an **ezor** and put it around my waist.

<sup>3</sup> Then **the word of the LORD** came to me the second time, saying,

<sup>4</sup> Take the **ezor** that you bought, which is around your waist,

and arise, go to the Euphrates / if this is a literal assignment, then Jeremiah had to travel 350 miles by foot or caravan, so do the math to estimate how long that took; traveling 20 miles a day would take around 17 or 18 days one way... and can't you see Jeremiah starting out walking?; or he may have symbolically only traveled to Parah a northern town representative of the river,

and hide it there in a hole of the rock.

<sup>5</sup> So I went, and hid it by the Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me.

<sup>6</sup> And after many days, the LORD said to me,

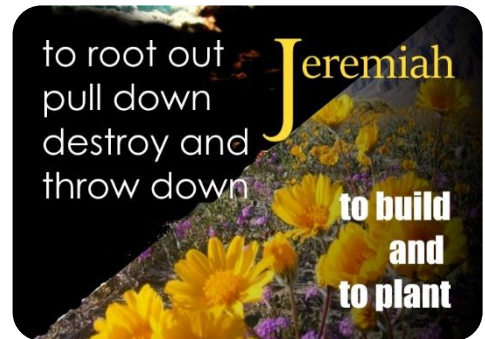
Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take the **ezor**, which I commanded you to hide there.

<sup>7</sup> Then I went to the Euphrates, dug and took the **ezor** from the place where I had hid it:

and, behold / pay attention,

the **ezor** was marred, it was profitable for nothing / it was spoiled, quite useless.

<sup>8</sup> Then **the word of the LORD** came to me, saying,



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<sup>9</sup> Thus says the LORD,

After this manner I will spoil the **pride of Judah**, and **the great pride** of Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> This evil people, who refuse to hear My words, who go in the stubbornness of their heart, and go after other gods, to serve and worship them,

are as this **ezor**, good for nothing / worthless.

<sup>11</sup> For as the **ezor** covers the loins of a man / it covers his life-giving vital parts,

so I have wrapped Me / My agenda giving vital life...

in **the whole house of Israel** and **the whole house of Judah**, says the LORD;

they are for Me a people, with a name / *ruled by God*, for praise, for glory:

but they would **not** listen.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore speak this word to them:

Thus says the LORD God of **Israel** / *ruled by God*,

Every wineskin will be filled with wine:

and if they say to you,

Don't we already know that every wineskin will be filled with wine? / they were confident they would be prosperous; some say, Yeah! Others say, boring! Nothing new! We've heard it all before.

<sup>13</sup> Then you will say to them:

Thus says the LORD, Behold / pay attention,

I will fill all the dwellers of this land, from the kings who sit on David's throne, and priests, and prophets, to all the dwellers in Jerusalem, with drunkenness.

<sup>14</sup> And / in the coming crisis, like a massive bunch of drunks crashing on the freeway...

I will allow them / *their will be done*...

to dash one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, says the LORD:

I will **not** pity, nor spare, nor have mercy,

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but destroy them.

**15 Listen, and give heed; do not be arrogant: for the LORD has spoken.**

**16 Give glory to the LORD your God, before He causes darkness, before your feet stumble on the darkening hills.**

**You look for light, while He makes it deep darkness, and only gloom.**

**17 If you will not listen,**

**then my soul will secretly weep because of your pride; my eyes will sorely weep, and flow with tears, because the LORD's flock is carried away captive.**

**18 Say to the king and to the queen:**

**Humble yourselves, sit down** / take the low seat; that is something everybody can do; and should do, though few actually do, particularly Pharisees. Jesus said, *everyone who humbles himself will be exalted, but he who exalts himself will be humbled* -- **Luke 18:**

**for your glorious crown, like your whole realm has fallen.**

**19 The cities of the Negev / in the south... are locked up, and no one can open them:**

**All Judah** will be carried away captive, wholly carried away captive.

**20 Lift up your eyes, and see they come from the north** / Babylon and the Chaldeans, their special allies and colleagues and associates and connections and comrades are coming:

**where is the flock that you were given, your beautiful flock?**

**21 What will you say when He visits you?**

**For you taught them to be captains** / and comrades,

**now as chief over you:**

**will not sorrows seize you, as a woman in childbirth?**

**22 If you say in your heart,**

**Why has this happened to me?**

**For the greatness of your iniquity** / for a host of reasons... starting with

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**your skirts have been removed, and your heels exposed** / clearly... Judah was culpable

**for faithlessly whoring around, you are exposed and butt naked.**

**23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin?**

or

**Can the leopard change his spots?**

**then you, who are accustomed to do evil...**

**can also do good** / but you get the impression, the Lord isn't going to wait around for that unlikely transformation to happen.

**24 Therefore I will scatter them like tumbleweed blown by the wind of the wilderness.**

**25 That is your lot** / your inheritance, **your portion measured from Me, says the LORD;**

**since you have forgotten Me,**

**trusting** / in Hebrew: *batach*, like leaning on a shepherd's staff or walking stick...

**leaning on falsehood** / instead of leaning on the LORD.

**26 Therefore I will strip your skirts off over your face** / she will be greatly exposed,

**that your shame is seen.**

**27 As for your adulteries** / your faithless sexual philandering with others who are married,

**and your neighing** / your endless horsing around,

**your lewd whoring around,**

**and your abominations on the hills** / your disgusting vices, your detestable acts... on the high places to be seen by all; which included burning their children, sons and daughters... obviously some sort of demonic sacrifice;

**and in the fields** / they worked their faithlessness wherever opportunity permitted.

**Woe to you, O Jerusalem!** / how terrible it will be for you, the capital city

**Will you **not** be made clean? Even once?**