

JEREMIAH 16 vs 1

¹ The word of the LORD came also to me, saying,

² You shall **not** take a wife, neither shall you have sons or daughters... **in this place** / I bet Jeremiah always wanted to have kids. Notice the words: **in this place**. Where Jeremiah was, God had given him an assignment to do... that would have endangered family members. John Knox, the great Scottish reformer was nearly 70 years old when he married a very young woman. The people, including John Calvin objected at the time; but after John Knox passed from the scene... his 5 sons all became great pastors in Scottish history. Notice, these words do not mean Jeremiah did not... have a wife and kids, just not at this time, **in this place**.

³ For thus says the LORD / in essence, this is the LORD's sentence, His judgment

concerning the sons and concerning the daughters who are born in this place, and concerning their mothers who bare them, and concerning their fathers who begat them... in this land;

⁴ They shall die grievous deaths / of deadly diseases, of violence and its unintended results;

they shall not be lamented / they shall not be mourned;

neither shall they be buried / in the middle east today, people are generally buried within 24 hours; only in the west, are corpses painted like Cannon Michael Green once said, *as if they are attending some perennial garden party*, needless to say, that western mentality would not appeal to Jeremiah;

but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: they shall be destroyed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcasses shall be lunch for the birds of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

⁵ For thus says the LORD, Do **not** enter a house in mourning, do **not** go lament nor offer condolences: for I have removed My peace from this people, says the LORD, even My mercy and compassion.

⁶ Both the great and the small shall die in this land: they shall not be buried, they shall not be lamented; no gashing for them, no shaving the hair bald for them:

⁷ They shall **not** break *bread* in mourning for them, to comfort them for the dead; they shall **not** drink a cup of consolation for anyone's father or mother.

⁸ You shall **not** go to a house of feasting, to sit with them to eat and to drink.

⁹ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel;

Behold, **I will eliminate... in this place** before your eyes, and in your days,

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the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness,

the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride.

¹⁰ And it shall be, when you shall tell this people **all these words**,

they shall say to you,

Why has the LORD pronounced this great calamity against us? or

What is our iniquity / our great injustice; what is our crime? or

What is our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?

¹¹ Then you shall say to them,

Because your fathers abandoned Me, says the LORD,

and have followed other gods / who aren't gods, though they may be demonic manifestations,

to serve them, and to worship them,

and have abandoned Me,

and have **not** kept My law / so they were doing exactly what Adam did—or didn't do, when and forfeited life in the Garden of Eden. The night Jesus was betrayed, these are the very words... He said would show who it is who *does not love Him*—John 14;

¹² And you did worse than your fathers;

for behold, every one of you follows

after the stubbornness of his evil heart, **not** listening to Me:

¹³ So, I will throw you out of this land into a land that you and your fathers do not know;

there you shall serve other gods day and night / serving your make-believe to your heart's content;

where I will **not** show you any favor / the LORD God will leave granting any favors... to their new found fictitious reality.

¹⁴ Therefore,

behold, the days come, says the LORD,

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that it shall **no** more be said,

As the LORD lives, who brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

¹⁵ **But, as the LORD lives, who brought the children of Israel** / remember this is **not** just addressed to the children of Judah, the Jewish people. Israel, the 10 northern tribes... led by Ephraim... who were not Jewish... Israel had gone to Assyrian captivity 170 years earlier.

from the land of the north,

and from all the lands

where He had driven / banished... them:

and like a Good Shepherd / the Good Pastor says...

I will bring them again into their land that I gave to their fathers.

¹⁶ Behold, I will send for many fishermen, says the LORD,

and they shall fish them / now days, there are lots who want to be PASTOR, but thankfully, there is ONE GOOD PASTOR, and He is calling for: **fishermen; that's what we are doing with His word...** trawling for His people in every generation, in every nation;

and after will I send for many hunters / better,

many search and rescue teams,

and they shall search for them from every mountain pass, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks / every rock and crevasse will be explored, pursuing His people.

¹⁷ For My eyes are on all their ways: they are **not** hid from My face / from heaven's vantage point, God knows where they all are, He sees the big picture,

neither is their iniquity hid from My eyes / He sees it all, the good stuff, the bad stuff, too.

¹⁸ **But first...** / man may like pandemonium and chaos, but God loves order...

I will recompense their iniquity / they will pay for their injustices and inequities...

and their sin...

double; / why double? ... listen

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because

[1] they defiled My land / a land flowing with milk and honey; yet populated with thieves and robbers promoting demon inspired **boshet... shameful things...** things like: the adoration of some weird queen of heaven; and the disgusting things like burning innocent children... the relics and practices of both traditions still continue into our genius 21st century;

[2] they have filled My inheritance

with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable things / teaching their horrific, revolting pagan practices... to those who were supposed to be inheritors of all God's promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

And Jeremiah prophetically responds...

¹⁹ O LORD, my Strength, and my Fortress, and my Refuge in the day of affliction,

the nations shall come to You from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, vanity, and what is worthless.

²⁰ Shall man make gods for himself? Yet, they are nothing.

²¹ Therefore, behold / pay attention,

This one time, I will cause them to know My power and My might,

and they shall know that My Name is The LORD.