

# JEREMIAH 1 vs 13

Remember: the House of Israel / the 10 northern tribes... already had gone to Assyria 170 years earlier... when Jeremiah was writing this book.

**13 And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, What do you see?**

**And I said, I see a seething pot ...a large, boiling caldron;**

**and its face tilting away from the north** ...in other words, it is ready to boil over... and it is tilting from the north... not toward the north... which means: its contents are heading south to Jerusalem. So this is like hearing the hurricane or the tsunami is on its way.

**14 Then the LORD said to me,**

**from the north an evil will break forth on all the inhabitants of the land.**

**from the north** ...Jeremiah is indicating the direction of Babylon's invasion. First: from Babylon... west through Syria; then turning south to Jerusalem. Right?

**from the north** ...where Damascus is

**from the north an evil will break forth on all the inhabitants of the land.**

**Verse 15 For, lo ...mark this,**

**I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north** ...Babylon and all the others, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome...and any later arrivals, too, during the time of the Gentiles,

**says the LORD;**

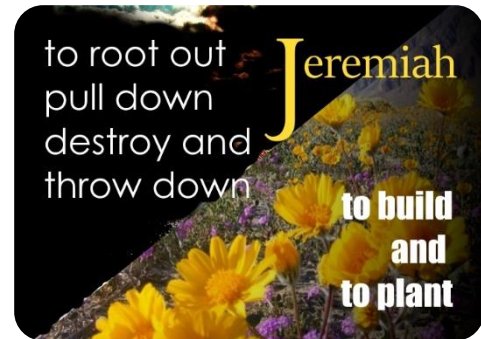
**and they will come,**

**and they will set everyone his throne at the entrance to the gates**

**of Jerusalem** ...of the blessed capital city of David 3,000 years ago. Now, from our historical vantage point, we know these thrones were more like patio chairs and outdoor furniture -- very temporary.

And the LORD adds...

**and against all its walls round about,**



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**and against all the cities of Judah** ...the 2 tribes of Judah... because all the northern 10 tribes of Israel went into captivity in Assyria 170 years earlier.

**<sup>16</sup> And I will pronounce My judgments against them...**

**regarding all the wickedness**

***of those who have forsaken Me,***

**and have burned incense / offered sacrifices... to other gods,**

**and worshiped ...and praised... and prized... and valued;**

**the works of their own hands** / so they were aggressively violating God's covenant, just an aside: you know those people who erroneously say: it's my life! No, not reality! We are renters... we are caretakers of the life... and all the talents that the Lord God uniquely gave... thrown into the package deal! Right?

**and who worshiped ...and praised... and prized**

**the works of their own hands** ...and you know, sometimes we should probably say: *our own hands*... in case we be throwing stones, and not learning lessons; and the people in those generations 3,000 years ago... rise up in the judgment against us. Right?!

**Verse <sup>17</sup> Therefore gird up your loins** ...more clearly, Jeremiah is told, buckle up your vital parts... get a little courage; get ready to speak some truth,

**and arise** ...get going!,

**and speak to them all that I command you:**

**be not dismayed at their faces** ...and you know, with what Jeremiah has to tell them, they might not be smiling; for a second time the Lord says...

**be not dismayed at their faces,**

**lest I dismay you before them** ...I see in the footnote to this KJV verse:

**lest I break you in pieces before them**

Said plainly...

**lest I take that rod and beat your butt... before them**

...so the Lord also has some words for Jeremiah,

# JEREMIAH 1 vs 13

Get a little cheery!

**Verse 18 For, behold ...pay attention,**

**I have made you this day a defended city ...a fortified city.**

The people thought Jerusalem was a defended city... and they were secure. Incorrect! Jeremiah is secure. He is like...**a defended ...and fortified city...** the Lord GOD being round about him,

**I have made you... a defended city**

**and an iron pillar** ...in Psalm 105, we read: Joseph was sent to Egypt...literally: *until iron entered into his soul*. The LORD toughened him up... like a lone, iron pillar

**and bronze walls** ...brass walls, impervious to the enemy's arrows

**against the whole land:**

**against the kings of Judah** ...who became just another lousy government... doing evil in the sight of the Lord,

**against its princes** ...the civil authorities... corrupt in their alliances and trades,

**against its priests** ...the religious authorities... routinely loveless; the arrogant, living dead,

**and against the people of the land** ...who tacitly approved; who sheepishly followed.

And did you hear that? There is nobody left! They are all against the prophet Jeremiah, chosen by God.

**19 And they will fight against you;**

**but they will not prevail against you** ...and doesn't that sound a lot like Jesus saying to His disciples: *I will build... My church, and the gates of hell... try as they may... will not prevail against it!*

**they will fight against you... but they will not prevail against you;**

**for I am with you, says the LORD,**

**to deliver you** ...which is exactly what the LORD said at the beginning... when the word of the LORD came. The LORD gives witness a second time... just in case Jeremiah didn't hear... or had forgotten;

**I am with you... to deliver you** ...to save and to rescue you... speedily!

You know, if God be for us; who... but a fool... would be against us!