

# JEREMIAH 3 vs 1

<sup>1</sup> **If a man puts away his wife** / the Lord is thinking out loud, connected to the previous chapter; if a man who divorces his wife... part of the pulling down and destroying process,

**and she leaves him, and becomes another man's** / then the new man divorces her; or... even if he dies,

**will she return to the first man again?** / not permitted by their law -- Deut.24; the Lord asks

**will not that land be greatly polluted?**

**but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers** ...if she was feverishly bleeping around with all the neighbors, will not her parcel be contaminated, won't it be infected, diseased by now?;

**yet you return to Me?** says the LORD ...so the thrill is gone, and now you've come back?

<sup>2</sup> **Lift up your eyes to the high places, and see where you have not been violated.**

**In the ways you have sat for them, as a nomad in the wilderness** ...like someone waiting to plunder a passing caravan; or like a harlot waiting to solicit fresh clients;

**and you have polluted the land with your whoredoms** ...with your zealous bleeping around

**and with your wickedness.**

<sup>3</sup> **Therefore the showers have been withheld, and there has been no latter rain** / so this metaphor is a made-up story, the LORD is talking about his 2 wives... and why there was a drought, why the March and April springtime rains were absent; because they were acting no different than those of our genius 21<sup>st</sup> century, who can't imagine the LORD God really withholds rain... due to faithlessness of nations;

**and you were as brazen as a whore, you refused to be ashamed** / studies of the effects of a male's sperm on a female's physiology are interesting; multiple partners over a period of time produce this very visible hardened forehead.

<sup>4</sup> **Will you not from this time cry to Me,**

**My father, You are the guide of my youth?**

<sup>5</sup> **Will He reserve his anger forever? will He keep it to the end?** / so they respond... suddenly sounding like a demure, innocent or maybe even whining, vacant headed teenager.

**Behold, this is how you have spoken, while you have done all the evil you could.**



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<sup>6</sup> The LORD also said to me in the days of Josiah the king / the last good king of Judah,

Have you seen what that **turncoat Israel** has done? (using Moffatt's descriptor)

she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree,

and there **has played the harlot** / in Hebrew one word: a verb; the **F-word**, doing what whores do best.

<sup>7</sup> And I said after she had done all these *things*, **Return** to Me;

but she did **not return** / this word: **return**... in the OT, is very much like the word: **metanoia**, **change your thinking**... in the NT; in this verse, something she did not want to do.

And her treacherous sister **Judah** saw *it*.

<sup>8</sup> And I saw, when for all the causes whereby **turncoat Israel** **committed adultery** / and again in Hebrew one word: a verb; the **F-word**, doing what whores do best,

I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce;

yet her treacherous sister **Judah** feared not, but also went **and played the harlot** / **F-ing**, doing what whores do best.

<sup>9</sup> And it came to pass through her light-hearted whoring around,

that she defiled the land,

and **committed adultery** **F-ing**, doing what whores do best **with stones and with sticks** / willing to have any relation.. with every dildo she could grab for a cheap thrill, for an exhilarating feel good moment.

<sup>10</sup> And yet for all this her treacherous sister **Judah** has **not returned** to Me with her whole heart,

but feignedly ...she faked her orgasm, says the LORD.

<sup>11</sup> And the LORD said to me ...it is the Lord telling Jeremiah this seductive story of faithlessness,

The **turncoat Israel** has justified herself more than treacherous **Judah**.

<sup>12</sup> Go and proclaim these words **toward the north** ...the Lord wants prophet Jeremiah to go face the direction they last saw Israel... as she was taken into captivity; and prophecy,

and say, **Return**, you **turncoat Israel**, says the LORD;

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**I will not cause My anger to fall upon you:**

**for I am merciful, says the LORD,**

*and I will not keep anger forever ...though He is slow to anger; He is quick to show mercy.*

**<sup>13</sup> Only acknowledge your iniquity,**

**that you have transgressed against the LORD your God,**

**and have scattered your ways to the strangers under every green tree,**

**and you have not obeyed My voice, says the LORD.**

**<sup>14</sup> Return, O rebellious children, says the LORD ...and God remembers his covenant promises with both Israel and Judah; He is faithful;**

**for I am married to you:**

**and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family ...in other words: even if only 1 or 2 from a city return I will welcome you back,**

**and I will bring you to Zion ...no matter how many... or how few find their way back, no one who turns to the Lord will be lost; God will find every one and bring them to victory:**

**<sup>15</sup> And I will give you pastors / shepherds...**

**according to My heart,** / and isn't this interesting. Ezekiel says, The LORD fired all the shepherds of Israel and He would come and be the Good Pastor and do the job the shepherds refused to do. So the book of Hebrews makes lots of sense, *God spoke in times past in bits and pieces through the prophets... but in the last days spoke to us through His Son...* the Good Pastor.

This verse speaks to the time the House of Israel returns to the Lord...when the time of the Gentiles comes to an end... and Messiah returns. Until then, we know of One who came... who said, I AM the Good Pastor. So let's hear the LORD again...

**I will give you pastors / shepherds... who will feed / pastor, shepherd... you with knowledge and understanding**

...and this will happen when He comes again with a rod of iron... until then, be confident the LORD is going to find at least one good Teacher – Himself... who will actually teach; so, the learners will actually learn... what is on the LORD's heart! Wow! How novel!

**<sup>16</sup> And it will come to pass, when you are multiplied**

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**and increased in the earth** / when you increase and become as numerous as *the stars in the heavens* or *sand in the sea* -- promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... in a place toward the north: *an appointed place for Israel... a place of their own... promised to king David, 2 Sam. 7...* though Isaiah tells us 2500 years ago, even that lovely island place was... *too crowded for all the children*, and wanted yet... *another place to dwell, Isaiah 49:20 – 51:5,*

**in those days** ...when the time of the Gentiles comes to an end,

**says the LORD** / in that other place somewhere north... Hosea says: *where they are scattered... where they no longer have mercy... where they are no longer My people...* in that northern place..., the direction they were last seen carried into Assyrian captivity; so wherever the 10 tribes of Israel went... considered lost to history around the Caucasus mountains... Oh?! The same place where the Caucasian tribes suddenly appear... and spread across northern Europe,



**they will say no more** / lots of old legalistic, religious ceremonial sounding hocus pocus. In that other place prepared for the House of **Israel**, the 10 northern tribes... inheritors of the birthright promises of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... **the Lord says:** Don't expect to hear a question or concern about any old relics, even what was at the center of their old worship practices when Moses led them,

**they will say no more**

**“The ark of the covenant of the LORD:**

**nor will it come to mind:**

**nor will they remember it;**

**nor will they visit it;**

**nor will it be re-made.”** / said differently, wherever they go, don't expect the House of **Israel**... to look like the House of **Judah**; don't expect those *ruled by God, who are now called: the sons of the living God, Hosea 1:* don't expect them to resemble... or act Jewish... because they are **NOT JEWISH!** There is a new and better way coming... since *God does not dwell in houses made by human hands.*

<sup>17</sup> **At that time** / when the time of the Gentiles comes to an end;

**they will call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD** / especially when the LORD returns to reign... *and the kingdom of this world becomes the kingdom of our LORD and of His Christ.* It makes you want to shout: **Hallelujah!** Doesn't it?

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and all the nations will be gathered to it, to Jerusalem,

to the name of the LORD:

**nor will they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart** / because these people finally got at least one good Teacher to listen to; and finally had a *METANOIA* moment... or 2; and finally changed their thinking... no longer believing the ideas and images and advertisements of the world; but took to heart... the way the LORD thinks... the way that always leads to peace and joy! And it is as if the LORD himself decided He would be the Teacher... and get the job done right.

<sup>18</sup> **In those days** / when the time of the Gentiles comes to an end,

**the house of Judah** ...the **2 southern tribes** who went into **Babylonian** captivity 170 years later;

will walk to *and with*...

**the house of Israel** ...the **10 northern tribes** who went into **Assyrian** captivity 170 years earlier,

**and they will come together** ...these 2 houses will have a kumbaya moment in some other place;

**out of the land of the north** ...in a northern place; Isaiah says, *Israel in the isles*: some parcel of land on planet earth: *an appointed place for Israel... a place of their own...* promised to king David

**out of the land... returning to the land that I have given**

**for an inheritance to your fathers** / returning to the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; and in the 20<sup>th</sup> century **that is exactly what happened**... with **the Balfour Declaration** November 1917.

<sup>19</sup> **I said, How I will set you among My children,**

**and give you a pleasant land,**

**the finest heritage of all the nations;**

**and I said,**

**You will call Me,**

**“My father”** / and the Lord God who speaks in faith is our loving Father... who will act in faith and do all this... as the time of the Gentiles comes to an end;

**and will not turn from Me.** And suddenly we are brought back to the hard, cold reality of faithlessness; yet hearing from His heart, the way home!

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<sup>20</sup> Surely *as* a wife treacherously departs from her husband,  
so you have dealt treacherously with Me, O **house of Israel**, says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup> A voice ...a worried voice, a Father's concerned voice... searching to rescue, urgently calling;  
was heard upon the high places,  
weeping *and* interceding for the **children of Israel** ...seeking both lost **Israel** and **Judah**:  
for they have perverted their way, *and* they have forgotten the LORD their God.

<sup>22</sup> **Return**, you **rebellious** children,  
*and* I will heal your **faithlessness**.

And our Father patiently, longingly hopes to hear...

**Behold, we come to You; for You are the LORD our God** / so 1 or 2 from a city and family came to their senses and returned. Good! I bet He would have come looking even if no one responded!

<sup>23</sup> Truly the hilltops *and* the many mountains / all the high places feign *help*:

Only in the LORD our God *is* the help of all **Israel** ...which includes: Judah and Benjamin; Issachar, Dan, Gad, Levi and the 6 others.

<sup>24</sup> For *our faithless* shame has devoured / has consumed the work of our fathers from our youth;  
their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters.

<sup>25</sup> **We** lie down in our shame, and our confusion covers us / so they stopped blaming others:

for **we sinned against** the LORD our God,  
we and our fathers, from our youth even **to this day**,  
**and have not obeyed** the voice of the LORD our God.

Wow! The LORD is a good Pastor... His sheep do hear His voice; and follow Him!