

JEREMIAH 6 vs 1

¹ Flee for safety children of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee from the midst of Jerusalem / Jeremiah was from this tribe; 2 tribes -- Judah and Benjamin comprised the **House of Judah**, the southern kingdom,

blow the trumpet in Tekoa / 12 miles south of Jerusalem:

light a signal on Beth-hakkherem / 2 miles south of Jerusalem:

for out of the north evil approaches and great destruction...

² on the daughter of Zion so beautiful and delicate / on the City of David, where the flock of God gathers, Jerusalem.

³ The shepherds with their flocks / Babylon's commanders and soldiers... **will come against her; they will pitch their tents round about her; everyone tending in his place.**

The invaders strategize...but Jeremiah knows what is going on:

⁴ Prepare to war against her; arise, and let us attack at noon.

Woe / how terrible it will be for Jerusalem... **to us for the daylight declines, and the evening shadows stretch out.**

⁵ Arise, and let us attack at night, and let us destroy her fortresses.

⁶ For this is what the LORD of hosts said, Cut down the trees, and build a siege mound against Jerusalem: this city is to be visited; in her midst is only oppression.

⁷ As a fountain pour fresh water, so she pours out her wickedness: violence / in Hebrew, **hamas**; what filled the earth at the time of Noah... **and destruction is heard in her; sickness and wounds are ever before Me.**

⁸ Be warned, O Jerusalem, lest I turn from you; lest I make you desolate, and not habitable.

⁹ Thus says the LORD of hosts, They will glean the remnant of Israel as thoroughly as a vineyard: pass your hand again over the vine like one gathering grapes into the baskets / **Judah** and Jerusalem will be picked clean.

And Jeremiah is listening to the LORD, he wants to be very clear...

¹⁰ To whom will I speak, and give warning? Will they hear?



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Behold, their ear is uncircumcised / this word is rarely used in the OT; but each time it's significant; when God first gave the 10 commandments, He said circumcise your heart -- because Moses said they were a stubborn people. In the next chapter, Jeremiah tells us the House of Judah completely abandoned those 10 commands that assured their blessing – is there any wonder about all the confusion you hear particularly from the orthodox Jewish folks who rarely if ever mention the writings of the great prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zechariah, and all the others.

Instead they cling to their Talmud traditions – much like the Roman church who elevated their traditions over the Word of God; yet when its people actually study the bible, they usually come out of that manmade confusion; prophet Hosea said, the Lord could have written 10,000 commandments and the people would have ignored them. Prophet Ezekiel writes a whole chapter about **the graveyard of the uncircumcised nations of the world** – Ezekiel 32.

To whom will I speak, and give warning? Will they hear? Behold, their ear is uncircumcised / it's closed, and they do not listen: Behold, the word of the LORD is a reproach to them; they have no delight in it / people who talk like that are different than King David.

¹¹ Therefore I am full of the fury of the LORD; I am weary with holding it in: pour it out upon the children in the street, and on the gathering of young men: for the husband and wife will be taken, the aged and the very old.

¹² And their houses will be taken by others, together with their fields and their wives: when I will stretch out My hand against the inhabitants of the land, says the LORD / and we know from history that is what happened to the House of Judah – just as God said; nobody young or old, rich or poor was spared. And if it happened to them, what about those in our time who have done the same?

¹³ From the least to the greatest, all are covetous prophets and priests alike, all deal falsely / they all are deceitful hocus pocus workers.

¹⁴ they have bandaged the hurt of My people slightly / they dress the wounds superficially, saying, **Peace, peace; when there is no peace** / All's well, all's well... when all is not well.

¹⁵ Were they ashamed of their abominable conduct? No, they were not at all ashamed, they do not even blush: so they will fall among the fallen:

they will be brought down at the time I visit them, says the LORD / and that visit is still on the Lord's calendar; it will be a terrifying day – and when it happens it will be sudden.

And because the LORD knows what He is planning for the faithless, He tirelessly asks His people to reconsider, and return to Him.

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, Stand in the cross-roads, and seek the old paths, Ask where is the good way, and walk in it,



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and **you will find rest for your souls** / when He lived among us, the Lord said, Come to Me, learn from Me; and you will find rest for your souls; [for My yoke is easy, My burden is light](#) -- Matt.11.

But they said, We will not walk in it / so they are a bunch of unruly hardheads and whiny jackasses who sound entrenched in their foolish behavior; it's the fool who said in his heart, there is no God – Psalm 14; and will the LORD say to some... Your will be done?

17 I also set watchmen over you, saying, Hear the sound of the trumpet / even if you only have one good ear; discern the warning signs and the approaching danger.

But they said, We will not hearken / so having been given adequate warning; the day will come; and He will say to these back-slapping happy scoffers and comedians... Go your way, it will be awful; Wow!

18 Therefore hear, O nations, and observe, O congregation, what will happen to them.

19 Hear, O earth: Behold, I will bring evil on this people, even the outcome of their thoughts, since they will not heed My words, nor My law, / the whole world is called to pay attention; Judah and those in Jerusalem, they have thoroughly rejected the Covenant God gave them at the time of Moses, God wrote 10 commandments and no more, that if they did them, they would be blessed and prosperous; when Jesus lived among us, He affirmed that Covenant given by God along with its blessings to those who would take God's covenant to heart – Matthew 5; Jesus summarized the LAW... in 2 parts: [1] Love for God the Father above all; and [2] Love for our neighbor as ourselves.

Behold, I will bring evil on this people, even the outcome of their thoughts, since they will not heed My words, nor My law, but rejected it.

And the LORD asks direct questions to some of those lovers of their artificial, manmade traditions... done to be seen of others:

20 For what purpose does incense from Sheba come to Me? Or the sweet cane / calamus... from a distant land? / thankfully the Bible was written so long ago. If the LORD was speaking this to Jeremiah today... it could easily fill up about 5,600 pages of every kind of name brand fragrance and flavor under the sun! Idolatry always seeks to replace God's word with our imaginations; too bad the people of God still prefer their empty traditions... over learning and taking to heart [His word](#) and what pleases Him.

Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, Your sacrifices are not sweet to Me.

21 Therefore thus says the LORD: Behold, I will place stumbling-blocks in front of this people; fathers and sons together will stumble over them; neighbors and friends will perish.

22 Thus says the LORD: Behold, a people is coming from the north country, and a great nation will be raised from the far side of the earth / and who could this great nation be?

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23 They / the people coming from the north country... will lay hold on bow and spear; they are cruel, and have no mercy; their voice roars like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against you, O daughter of Zion.

24 We have heard the reports of it: our hands grow feeble / they are limp: anguish has gripped us, pain, as of a woman in labor.

25 Go not into the field, nor walk on the way; for the enemy has a sword, and terror is on every side.

26 O daughter of My people, clothe yourself with sackcloth, and roll in ashes / humble yourself: mourning a most bitter lamentation, as for an only son: for suddenly the spoiler will come upon us.

27 I have made you / Jeremiah... an assayer and tester among My people, that you may know and test their ways.

28 They are all stubborn rebels, going about as slanderers / scoffers, and other such geniuses: they are brass and iron / they are complete hard heads; they are all corrupt / a generation of thugs and rotten criminals.

29 The bellows burn fiercely, the lead is consumed by the fire; in vain the refining continues: but the wicked are **not separated.**

30 They are called... reprobate / rejected silver, as worthless as fool's gold

because the LORD has rejected them.

Lead was added to the silver ore refining process; when heated, the lead would oxidize and act as a flux to remove the alloys. Here the process fails because the ore is not pure enough. These verses were recorded to identify the faithless nature of those people who had been greatly blessed by God, to become a blessing to the nations. If the Lord rejected them for their faithlessness, what will He do to those in our generation?