

# JEREMIAH 8 vs 1

How do we honor the greatest Father? The loving Father of our Lord Jesus Christ was the theme and topic and focus of the Son... all the days He walked among us. Of His Father, He never spoke an unkind word, never a hint of hurt or harm did He associate with His Name; certainly all the books ever written could never exhaust the magnitude of His mercy, His grace, and His loving kindness toward us; while for countless centuries... He receives our complaints, our ingratitude and our censure.

In the 3 previous verses, Jeremiah told us of many unspeakable things... both **Israel = ruled by God** and **Judah = the praise God** were doing with great regularity; nauseating things that NEVER were commanded, and NEVER entered into the mind of the LORD God. So let's review, and remember: **so we NEVER forget.**

**Tophet**... means: *fireplace*... / but **not** the warm, fuzzy, cozy place to gather round with hot chocolate... oftentimes referred to as: *high places*; in Hebrew, **boshet**... means: *shameful thing*. **Tophet** (mentioned in 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23; and by Isaiah and Jeremiah, is where young king Josiah purged the land of detestable pagan practices to the Baalim);

**The fireplace** was located in **the Valley of Ben Hinnom** (also called: *the Valley of the Children of Ben Hinnom*, mentioned in Joshua, associated with the Jebusite people who occupied the area surrounding Jerusalem; to know their history, is to know why God wanted them destroyed!) later the **Valley of Hinnom** was shortened to become known as: *Gehenna*... (in Greek: *geenna*, in the NT it's always translated **hell**); the **garbage dump** of Jerusalem. So, it is **boshet**... *shameful*... isn't it?

**Tophet**, *the fireplace*, in the Valley of the Children of Ben Hinnom, Gehenna, **hell**... the garbage dump... was where for centuries, cherished manmade tradition and unharnessed hocus pocus was celebrated... where princes and priests and merchants and bankers and people of Israel and Judah... rich and poor gathered at the high places, or around **the fireplace**... with their families... and mindlessly, senselessly sacrificed children—sons and daughters... callously and heartlessly burning these innocents... in the fires of Baal. Yes, it is **boshet**....

C.S. Lewis wisely said, our little mistakes, our oops! in life... after a million years, might not look so little.

If you were GOD, what would you do to those people? If you were a Hitler or a Charles Manson, most likely you would applaud them, but if you were GOD's advisor, what would you suggest He do to those people?

Jeremiah says, The Valley of Hinnom, renamed the Valley of Slaughter was filled with bones to overflowing by the invading troops of the Babylonians and the Chaldeans.

**<sup>1</sup> At that time, says the LORD, they shall bring out of their graves... the bones of the kings of Judah, and the bones of his princes, and the bones of the priests, and the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem:**

**<sup>2</sup> And they shall spread them before the sun, and the moon, and all the host of heaven, which they have loved, which they have served, and gone after, and searched out, and worshipped / since they loved all the weird, demonic inspired pagan practices, the LORD who created them, accommodates and honors them; *their will be done!***

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**They will not be gathered or be buried; they will be for dung upon the face of the earth /** such total desecration of a conquered people was common; often done to simply plunder the latent wealth they knew would be buried with the dead... people who thought *they could take it with them*.

**<sup>3</sup>Death shall be chosen / it will be preferred... rather than life, by all the remnant who remain of this evil family, who remain in all the places where they went, says the LORD of hosts.**

**<sup>4</sup>Moreover you shall say to them, Thus says the LORD: Will they fall, and not rise up? Will they not return, after a wrong turn? /** this turning... always indicates the NT metanoia moment, it's a time to change their thinking, to reconsider, to turn over and over in the mind, until they rethink and relearn.

The old American Shaker's song understands this principle: Tis the gift to be simple, tis the gift to be free; tis the gift to come down where we ought to be; and when we find ourselves in the place just right, twill be in the valley of love and delight. When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend... we shan't be ashamed; to turn, turn will be our delight, till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

**<sup>5</sup>Why then have these people of Jerusalem turned away in perpetual rebellion? They hold fast /** they are anchored... **in deceit, they refuse to return.**

**<sup>6</sup>I have listened and heard what they say; not a word of truth!**

**No one turns from their evil, saying, What have I done?**

**Everyone turned to his own way, as a horse galloping into the battle.**

**<sup>7</sup>Yes, the awkward stork in the heavens knows her seasons; the dove, the crane and the swallow know when to migrate /** little peanut head birdbrains know when to go and when to return;

**but My people know not /** they never heed... **the ordinances of the LORD / THE 10 COMMANDS.**

**<sup>8</sup>You say what? We are wise, and the law of the LORD is with us? /** you say, we got the memo; yeah, yeah, yeah... we know the directions, but don't do... Jesus said *not a jot or tittle will pass away*.

**Lo /** mark this, **highlight this, the lying pen of the scribes has rewritten useless directions.**

/ Dr. Moffatt translated this verse: **your scribes have written them wrong, and falsified them** which is something we in the church know... continues even today; *the stream of truth has been polluted for centuries*. The global agenda at the highest level of academia throughout the renown universities has worked overtime to destroy confidence in the word of God; notice the deist policies that have stealthily crept in to overtake the once protestant communities... throughout the world; the roman church is historic for its Dark Ages, its falsification of documents... and its relentless attack to discredit the Bible; it is nothing new.

The LORD says, be faithful... if you knew where to look in the L.A. Coliseum, you'd see where we sat the evening John Paul 2 was there; now you know why they sang that version: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee.

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**<sup>9</sup>The wise men are put to shame, they are dismayed and caught:**

**Lo / mark this, they have rejected the word of the LORD;**

**so, what wisdom is in them?** / from the beginning these highly educated scribblers, falsifiers, criminals, not caretakers of the word of God, they were warned not to add anything to it, or subtract anything from it—  
**Deut.4.**

**<sup>10</sup>Therefore will I give their wives and their fields to others, who shall inherit them: because from the least to the greatest all are covetous, from the prophet to the priest, all deal falsely / they all are deceitful.**

**<sup>11</sup>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.**

**<sup>12</sup>Were they ashamed of their abominable conduct?**

**No, they were not at all ashamed, they do not even blush:**

**so they shall fall among the fallen: they shall be brought down at the time I visit them, says the LORD.**

**<sup>13</sup>They shall devour them, says the LORD: there shall be no grape on the vine, nor fig on the fig tree, and the leaf shall wither; and the things that I have given shall pass away.**

**<sup>14</sup>Why are we sitting still? Assemble yourselves, and let us go into the fortified areas, and let us be silent there:**

**for the LORD our God silenced us, and gave us cheap vinegar to drink,**

**because we sinned against the LORD.**

**<sup>15</sup>We looked for peace, but no good came;**

**for an hour of healing, but behold terror!**

**<sup>16</sup>From Dan / in the far north...was heard the snorting of the enemies horses:**

**the whole land quaked at the sound of the neighing of his stallions;**

**for they come, and have devoured the land,**

**and the city is stripped of all who dwelled there.**

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<sup>17</sup> **For, behold** / Yes, you see correctly,

**I send serpents against you, poisonous rattlers which you cannot charm,  
and they will bite you, says the LORD.**

The LORD says...

<sup>18</sup> **My sorrow is past healing,**

**My heart is sick within Me** / the Eternal Father finds NO pleasure in this severe discipline.

<sup>19</sup> **Why have they provoked Me with their graven images, their foreign idols?** / He already had one image in view: *His dear Son*; He doesn't need any grubby graven image blocking His view. And Moses till his last day gave the children of God fair warning: read about it in Deuteronomy 4,5,6,7,8 and 9.

**Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of My people because of those who dwell in a far country** / because the invaders have arrived:

**Is the LORD not in Zion? Has the King left her?**

She says...

<sup>20</sup> **“The harvest is past, the summer is ended,  
and we are not saved.”** / there is nothing left to keep us alive

Jeremiah says...

<sup>21</sup> **For the hurt of the daughter of my people** / for my poor people in Jerusalem

**I am broken-hearted;**

**I mourn; dismay has seized me** / horror grips me...

Jeremiah wonders...

<sup>22</sup> **Is there no balm in Gilead** / no curative medicine;

**is there no physician there?** / a resin for medicinal use was only a day's journey away

**Then, why has the health of the daughter of my people... not recovered?**

Simple, because it was spiritual disease; nothing you could purchase from the market down here.