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God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Various information and topics that help the reader of the Bible understand the apostles and the Lord Jesus Christ's teachings.

Jeremiah 19.

(2010).

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Teach it, don't demand it.

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Jeremiah 19.

The following is a brief overview of the main topics.
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The Valley of Hinnom will be the Valley of Slaughter.

Jeremiah 19:1-2 ----- ¹Thus says the LORD, "Go, buy a potter's earthenware flask, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests, ²and go out to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom at the entry of the Potsherd Gate, and proclaim there the words that I tell you.

Hinnom; the valley of the son of Hinnom was the principal place of the worship of Molech. Molech (Milcom) was a god worshipped especially by the Ammonites with gruesome orgies in which little ones were sacrificed. In some place the image of the god was heated and the children that had been slain were placed in its arms. The people of Judah to God's horror and revulsion where sacrificing their own children to this pagan abomination called a god (Jer 19:5).

For further information see the title: -

- Molech, in (Various Topics) (WEBSITE MENU).

Potters Gate; a gate in the wall of Jerusalem which is thought to be the same gate that leads to the Valley of Hinnom or the Dung Gate.

The LORD tells Jeremiah to take a clay jar (a symbol of Judah) and some of the elders, the priest's and the people of Judah to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom.

The LORD tells Jeremiah to: -

Jeremiah 19:3-5 ----- ³You shall say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I am bringing such disaster upon this place that the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle. ⁴Because the people have forsaken me and have profaned this place by making offerings in it to other gods whom neither they nor their fathers nor the kings of Judah have known; and because they have filled this place with the blood of innocents, ⁵and have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or decree, nor did it come into my mind

The LORD is bringing disaster on Judah because they: -

- Have forsaken God.
- Profaned their land by making offerings in it to other gods.
- Filled their land with the blood of innocents (probably referring to the laws they have perverted to gain the houses and land of the poor and those they have killed for their own gain etc.).
- Built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal.

Notice; it never even came into God's mind that His people would actually burn their children to pagan God's (v5).

The evil of Judah has so far surpassed that of previous generations that God is forced to intervene, judge and punish the entire nation.

I am bringing such disaster upon this place; (v3) refers to Babylon's armies eventually surrounded Jerusalem and after a bitter siege of a year and a half the city fell to Nebuchadnezzar and was destroyed.

Zedekiah was blinded and carried to Babylon, and the great bulk of the population was taken there with him (587 B.C.). Archaeologists have found that all of the cities of Judah were completely destroyed at this time, thus ended the glorious kingdom of David and Solomon. Observers would have said that the Hebrew nation was annihilated, and indeed, the other nations conquered by the Assyrians and Babylonians did cease to exist. But the prophets proclaimed a better hope for the chosen people. "A remnant shall return" Isaiah had said, and in time this remnant, purged and returned, became the basis on which a new Israel would be built.

The Valley of Slaughter.

Jeremiah 19:6 ----- ⁶therefore, behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when this place shall no more be called Topheth, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter.

Topheth; was an area in the valley of Hinnom where human sacrifices were made to Molech. The people gathered here to worship their god; Jeremiah is telling them that this place that they come together in will become a place of slaughtered human bodies.

BIRD'S AND WILD ANIMALS WILL EAT ISRAEL'S DEAD BODIES.

Jeremiah was the final prophet to give Judah many warnings of the looming destruction of Jerusalem and the doom of its inhabitants.

Jeremiah 19:7 ----- ⁷And in this place (the Valley of the Son of Hinnom) I will make void the plans of Judah and Jerusalem, and will cause their people to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hand of those who seek their life. I will give their dead bodies for food to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the earth.

I will give their dead bodies for food to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the earth. This punishment was contained in the Covenant Israel entered into with the LORD at the foot of Mount Sinai. God promised to bless and prosper the nation if they remained faithful to Him, but if they turned from God and did what was evil in His sight the dead bodies of the people of Judah would be left on the surface of the earth and eaten by birds and wild animals because there would be no-one to bury them.

Not to be Buried was a Symbol of Shame.

The more respected the person the greater the burial ceremony and the tomb that was built for them, so only those who were considered unworthy and disgraceful would be left to decay on the surface of the earth and be eaten by birds and wild animals i.e. Jezebel.

Thus; it was a symbol of unworthiness, disgrace, dishonour and shame for a body not to be buried. Moses warned Israel when they entered into the Covenant with God that if they turned from the LORD and did evil birds and wild animals would eat their dead bodies.

The Covenant stated: -

Deuteronomy 28:26 -- ²⁶And your dead body shall be food for all birds of the air and for the beasts of the earth, and there shall be no one to frighten them away.

At the time of Jeremiah Israel had made their hearts diamond hard against God's prophets, His word and even God Himself and to add to their evil they were worshipping idols, pagan gods and sacrificing their children to Molech.

The LORD through Jeremiah gave the people of Judah many warnings: -

Jeremiah 7:33 ----- ³³And the dead bodies of this people will be food for the birds of the air, and for the beasts of the earth, and none will frighten them away.

Jeremiah 15:3 ----- ³I will appoint over them four kinds of destroyers, declares the LORD: the sword to kill, the dogs to tear, and the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth to devour and destroy.

Jeremiah 16:4 ----- ⁴They shall die of deadly diseases. They shall not be lamented, nor shall they be buried. They shall be as dung on the surface of the ground. They shall perish by the sword and by famine, and their dead bodies shall be food for the birds of the air and for the beasts of the earth.

Jeremiah 19:7 ----- ⁷And in this place I will make void the plans of Judah and Jerusalem, and will cause their people to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hand of those who seek their life. I will give their dead bodies for food to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the earth.

Jeremiah 34:20 ----- ²⁰And I will give them into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those who seek their lives. Their dead bodies shall be food for the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth.

Summary; Bird's and Wild Animals will Eat Israel's Dead Bodies.

When Babylon invaded the land of Judah outside the walls of Jerusalem and slaughtered the people of Judah they left their dead bodies lying on the surface of the earth and the birds and wild animals ate them, because there was no-one to bury them, because Israel turned from the LORD and did gross evil they are reaping one of the curses which was written in the Laws of the Covenant that they entered into with the God when they stood as a nation with Moses at Mount Sinai.

Jeremiah was the final prophet to give Judah many warnings of the looming destruction of Jerusalem and the doom of its inhabitants.

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL WILL EAT THEIR CHILDREN.

Jeremiah 19:8 ----- ⁸And I will make this city a horror, a thing to be hissed at. Everyone who passes by it will be horrified and will hiss because of all its wounds. ⁹And I will make them eat the flesh of their sons and their daughters, and everyone shall eat the flesh of his neighbor in the siege and in the distress, with which their enemies and those who seek their life afflict them.'

The following shows; Moses warned Israel when they entered into the Covenant with God that if they turned from the LORD and did evil they would eat their own children.

Deut. 28:53-57 ----- ⁵³And you shall eat the fruit of your womb, the flesh of your sons and daughters, whom the LORD your God has given you, in the siege and in the distress with which your enemies shall distress you. ⁵⁴The man who is the most tender and refined among you will begrudge food to his brother, to the wife he embraces, and to the last of the children whom he has left, ⁵⁵so that he will not give to any of them any of the flesh of his children whom he is eating, because he has nothing else left, in the siege and in the distress with which your enemy shall distress you in all your towns. ⁵⁶The most tender and refined woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because she is so delicate and tender, will begrudge to the husband she embraces, to her son and to her daughter, ⁵⁷her afterbirth that comes out from between her feet and her children whom she bears, because lacking everything she will eat them secretly, in the siege and in the distress with which your enemy shall distress you in your towns.

The LORD warned Israel: -

Leviticus 26:29 ----- ¹⁵if you (Israel) spurn my statutes, and if your soul abhors my rules, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant ----NOW GO TO VERSE -----²⁹You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters ----NOW GO TO VERSE -----⁴⁶These are the statutes and rules and laws that the LORD made between him and the people of Israel through Moses on Mount Sinai.

The penalties for turning from the LORD were written in the Covenant.

Moses warned Israel if they turn from the LORD and do evil they will: -

Deut. 28:53 ----- ⁵³And you shall eat the fruit of your womb, the flesh of your sons and daughters, whom the LORD your God has given you, in the siege and in the distress with which your enemies shall distress you.

Ezekiel warned Israel: -

Ezekiel 5:10 ----- ¹⁰Therefore fathers shall eat their sons in your midst, and sons shall eat their fathers. And I will execute judgments on you, and any of you who survive I will scatter to all the winds.

Ezekiel told Israel a third of them would die by war, a third by fire when the siege was over (referring to Babylon) and a third by famine when God breaks their supply of bread, because their wickedness had increased more than the nations, and countries all around them (Ezekiel 5:1-17).

Jeremiah warned Israel; Jeremiah was the final prophet to give Judah many warnings of the looming destruction of Jerusalem and the doom of its inhabitants.

Jeremiah 19:7 ----- ⁹And I will make them eat the flesh of their sons and their daughters, and everyone shall eat the flesh of his neighbor in the siege and in the distress, with which their enemies and those who seek their life afflict them.'

At the time of Jeremiah Israel had made their hearts diamond hard against God's prophets, His word and God Himself and to add to their evil they were worshipping idols, pagan gods and sacrificing their children to Molech.

God used Babylon to fulfil the foreboding words of the Covenant.

Babylon's armies surrounded the walls of Jerusalem for approximately 1½ years so no-one could go in or come out to get food. The famines within the city walls became so great parents were eating their own sons and daughters.

The author of Lamentations weeps at the horror taking place in Jerusalem.

Lament. 4:10 ----- ¹⁰The hands of compassionate women have boiled their own children; they became their food during the destruction of the daughter of my people.

Summary; the People of Israel will eat their Children.

The Covenant warned Israel if they spurned God's statutes, and abhorred His rules, so that they broke the LORD'S covenant they would eat the flesh of their sons, and their daughters, this was a statute made between God and the people of Israel through Moses on Mount Sinai. Ezekiel warned Judah a third would die by war, a third by fire when the siege was over (referring to Babylon) and a third by famine when God breaks their supply of bread, because their wickedness had increased more than the nations, and countries all around them (Ezekiel 5:1-17). Jeremiah was the final prophet to give Judah many warnings of the looming destruction of Jerusalem and the doom of its inhabitants. At the time of Jeremiah Judah had spurned God's statutes, abhorred His rules, and broken the Covenant made between God and the people of Israel through Moses on Mount Sinai so the LORD used Babylon (called God's great army) to fulfil the foreboding words of the Covenant. The armies of Babylon surrounded the walls of Jerusalem for approximately 1½ years so no-one could go in or come out to get food. The famines within the city walls became so great everyone was eating the flesh of their sons and daughters during the 1½ year siege of Babylon.

The author of Lamentations weeps as he looks upon the horror of compassionate women boiling their own children; for food during the destruction of Jerusalem (Lament 4:10).

The Potter's Clay Vase is Broken.

Jeremiah 19:10 ----- ¹⁰"Then you shall break the flask in the sight of the men who go with you, ¹¹and shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: So will I break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, so that it can never be mended. Men shall bury in Topheth because there will be no place else to bury.

The Potter; is a symbol of the LORD.

The Clay Jar; is a symbol of the city of Jerusalem and all its inhabitants.

The LORD will make Jerusalem like Topheth.

Jeremiah 19:12 ----- ¹²Thus will I do to this place, declares the LORD, and to its inhabitants, making this city like Topheth. ¹³The houses of Jerusalem and the houses of the kings of Judah— all the houses on whose roofs offerings have been offered to all the host of heaven, and drink offerings have been poured out to other gods—shall be defiled like the place of Topheth.' "

The LORD will make Jerusalem like Topheth; means Jerusalem will become a place of human sacrifice, death and slaughter, Topheth was an area in the valley of Hinnom where human sacrifices were made to Molech.

For further information see the title: -

- Molech in, Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Imaging the affront to God and His hurt when He looked from His Royal and Heavenly throne and saw His people and their families on their roof tops worshipping the stars, the sun, the moon and the (so called) Queen of Heaven and multitudes of pagan gods.

Jesus (the express image of God in the New Testament) when he saw how corrupt and selfish the religious leaders of his day had become and foresaw the looming destruction of Jerusalem said: -

Matthew 23:37 ----- ³⁷"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!

These words of Jesus also beautifully reflect how the heart of the LORD at the time of Jeremiah would have felt, and how God would have far rather blessed and protected Israel than bring disaster and destruction upon them.

Jeremiah proclaims Doom to Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 19:14 ----- ¹⁴Then Jeremiah came from Topheth, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy, and he stood in the court of the LORD'S house and said to all the people: ¹⁵"Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, behold, I am bringing upon this city and upon all its towns all the disaster that I have pronounced against it, because they have stiffened their neck, refusing to hear my words."

How amazing, faithful and courageous is Jeremiah, he has been standing at Topheth hearing the words of the LORD and has now returned to the city centre of Jerusalem amongst people who have been plotting to kill him and begins to pronounce destruction to their beloved city and doom to the people.

End.