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

Jeremiah 25.

(2010).

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Jeremiah 25.

The following is an overview of the main topics.
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The focus of this chapter; is God's judgment on Judah and also on the surrounding nations that have afflicted the people of God, and the nations that Judah has mixed with and become corrupted by.

Jeremiah has persistently warned Judah for 23 Years.

Jeremiah 25:1-3 ----- ¹The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah (that was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon), ²which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem: ³"For twenty-three years, from the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, to this day, the word of the LORD has come to me, and I have spoken persistently to you, but you have not listened.

Josiah; (means Jehovah supports him) (King of Judah) Josiah was the son of Amon and the grandson of Manasseh. Josiah reigned for 31 years. His religious leadership ranks him with Jehoshaphat and Hezekiah as an outstanding religious ruler. Josiah's reign was the last surge of political independence and religious revival before the disintegration of the Southern Kingdom (the Two Tribes of Judah) which ended with the destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon in 586 B.C.

Amon; (father of Josiah) Amon was the successor and son of King Manasseh and the father of the illustrious (extremely distinguished and deservedly famous) king Josiah. He was an evil king and after two years of reign was slain by officials of his household. Even prior to Jeremiah God sent prophets to warn Judah but they did not listen and now have rejected the words of Jeremiah for 23 years.

Israel has been a stubborn and rebellious; nation from the beginning even before Moses died the LORD knew how rebellious and stubborn the people of Israel were, prior to Moses death the LORD said: -

Deut 31:16-17 ----- ¹⁶And the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, you are about to lie down with your fathers. Then this people will rise and whore after the foreign gods among them in the land that they are entering, and they will forsake me and break my covenant that I have made with them. ¹⁷Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide my face from them, and they will be devoured. And many evils and troubles will come upon them, so that they will say in that day, 'Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?'

Before Moses died and prior to Israel crossing the River Jordan
And entering the Promises Land Moses said: -

Deut 31:27-29 ----- ²⁷For I know how rebellious and stubborn you are. Behold, even today while I am yet alive with you, you have been rebellious against the LORD. How much more after my death! ²⁸Assemble to me all the elders of your tribes and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears and call heaven and earth to witness against them. ²⁹For I know that after my death you will surely act corruptly and turn aside from the way that I have commanded you. And in the days to come evil will befall you, because you will do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger through the work of your hands."

Thousands of years later Zechariah said: -

Zechariah 7:12 ----- ¹²They (Israel) made their hearts diamond-hard lest they should hear the law and the words that the LORD of hosts had sent by his Spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great anger came from the LORD of hosts.

God has been enormously patient with Israel, but they have broken the Covenant and are now reaping the curses that were written in the book of the law that formed part of the Covenant they entered into with the LORD through Moses at Sinai.

Pause for a moment; this is really amazing, everything the LORD gave Moses to write in the book of the Law at Mount Sinai thousands of years ago and which formed the curses of the Covenant are now coming upon the entire nation of Israel because they have broken the Covenant of the LORD (See Blessings and Curses Deuteronomy chapter 28).

God Persistently sent Prophets to Warn Judah.

Jeremiah 25:4-7 ----- ⁴You (Judah) have neither listened nor inclined your ears to hear, although the LORD persistently sent to you all his servants the prophets, ⁵saying, 'Turn now, every one of you, from his evil way and evil deeds, and dwell upon the land that the LORD has given to you and your fathers from of old and forever. ⁶Do not go after other gods to serve and worship them, or provoke me to anger with the work of your hands. Then I will do you no harm.' ⁷Yet you have not listened to me, declares the LORD, that you might provoke me to anger with the work of your hands to your own harm.

The Covenant states; that Israel was not to worship other gods or go after them, but they are practising gross idolatry, established Baal altars, Asherim, star and planetary worship, acknowledged Moloch deity in the sacrifice of children in the Hinnom Valley, astrology, occultism, altars for worshipping the host of heaven in the Temple court, and the shedding of innocent blood. Cheating the innocent out of justice, not helping the less fortunate and oppressing the poor for their own gain all these permeated the land of Judah.

Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon is the LORD'S Servant.

Jeremiah 25:8-9 ----- ⁸"Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: Because you (Judah) have not obeyed my words, ⁹behold, I will send for all the tribes of the north, declares the LORD, and for Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my (the LORD'S) servant, and I will bring them against this land (of Judah) and its inhabitants, and against all these surrounding nations. I will devote them to destruction, and make them a horror, a hissing, and an everlasting desolation.

The LORD uses secular Nations; kings, and people to achieve His plans and purposes, sometimes to bless and other times to bring judgment. God called Babylon His servant and used the armies of King Nebuchadnezzar to bring judgment on Judah.

The Voice of the Bridegroom and the Voice of the Bride.

Jeremiah 25:10 ----- ¹⁰Moreover, I will banish from them (Judah) the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the grinding of the millstones and the light of the lamp.

The LORD will banish from Judah the voice of: -

Mirth; happiness, enjoyment and laughter.

Gladness; to be happy, cheerful, delighted and pleased.

The Bridegroom; God through the Prophets.

The Bride; the joyful voice of God's people

The grinding of millstones; prosperous and fruitful work.

The light of the lamp; the Word of God.

The voice of the Bridegroom and of the Bride (Jer 7:34)
in this context refers to: -

God (the Bridegroom) (through the true prophets) and the people of Judah (the Bride), the voice of the Bridegroom came to Judah the Bride through the prophets, but God's people made their hearts diamond hard against His word and have fallen so far away from their original calling the sound of joy and gladness and the voice of God is about to be removed from amongst them.

The mighty and cruel armies of Babylon fulfilled Jeremiah's words when they invaded the land of Judah, burned the people's houses, destroyed their farms and the city of Jerusalem and pillaged the treasures of the Temple of God and took the people captive to Babylon for 70 years.

But; there is also a faint echo of another Bridegroom and another Bride in a future age when the sound of joy and gladness and the voice of the Bridegroom and the voice of the Bride will be removed, but this time the Bridegroom is the Lord Jesus Christ and the Bride are all those who by faith belong to him. A time is coming when their call to salvation will no longer be heard amongst the deceptive and corrupt religious systems of the world and the oppressive world system of money and trade.

Rev 18:22-23 -----²²and the sound of harpists and musicians, of flute players and trumpeters, will be heard in you (Babylon) no more, and a craftsman of any craft will be found in you no more, and the sound of the mill will be heard in you no more,²³and the light of a lamp will shine in you no more, and the voice of bridegroom and bride will be heard in you no more, for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery.

The voice of God's people will not be heard in Babylon (a symbol of the world's false religion and the world's oppressive system of money and trade) anymore simply because it has been destroyed by the Lord Jesus Christ, the "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" (Rev 19:15-18).

The Voice of the Bridegroom and the Voice of the
Bride in this context refers to: -

- The call of salvation through preaching, witnessing and testimonies.
- The singing of praise and worship to God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The sound of godly joy and gladness in the Lord.

Judah will Serve Babylon 70 Years.

Jeremiah 25:11 -----¹¹This whole land shall become a ruin and a waste, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

These nations.

Refers to all the nations of Judah, the entire land of Judah will serve the king of Babylon for 70 years.

After 70 years are completed the LORD will punish the king of Babylon.

Jeremiah 25:12-14 ---¹²Then after seventy years are completed, I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity, declares the LORD, making the land an everlasting waste.

¹³I will bring upon that land (of Babylon) all the words that I have uttered against it, everything written in this book, which Jeremiah prophesied against all the nations (that inflicted Judah). ¹⁴For many nations and great kings shall make slaves even of them and I will recompense them according to their deeds and the work of their hands."

The LORD is going to judge Babylon and its allied nations because of the cruel and the oppressive way they treated His people and He will punish the surrounding nations because they mocked and scorned Israel during their defeat and their captivity.

Though God used Babylon to punish Israel His heart was grieved at their suffering.

Jeremiah says of the LORD: -

Jeremiah 9:1 ----- ¹Oh that my (the LORD'S) head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

The lesson for us Today.

Mocking and delighting in another person's suffering and sorrow is not a godly attitude, even if they have done us harm.

The Wrath of the LORD is against Jerusalem and the cities of Judah.

Jeremiah 25:26- ----- ¹⁵Thus the LORD, the God of Israel, said to me: "Take from my hand this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. ¹⁶They shall drink and stagger and be crazed because of the sword that I am sending among them." ¹⁷So I took the cup from the LORD'S hand, and made all the nations to whom the LORD sent me drink it: ¹⁸Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, its kings and officials, to make them a desolation and a waste, a hissing and a curse, as at this day; ¹⁹Pharaoh king of Egypt, his servants, his officials, all his people, ²⁰and all the mixed tribes among them; all the kings of the land of Uz and all the kings of the land of the Philistines (Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod); ²¹Edom, Moab, and the sons of Ammon; ²²all the kings of Tyre, all the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the coastland across the sea; ²³Dedan, Tema, Buz, and all who cut the corners of their hair; ²⁴all the kings of Arabia and all the kings of the mixed tribes who dwell in the desert; ²⁵all the kings of Zimri, all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of Media; ²⁶all the kings of the north, far and near, one after another, and all the kingdoms of the world that are on the face of the earth. And after them the king of Babylon shall drink.

God is going to punish all the nations in the Middle East that the twelve tribes of Israel are dwelling amongst and finally Babylon.

The LORD is Summoning a Sword against all the inhabitants of the Earth.

Jeremiah 25:27-29 -- ²⁷"Then you shall say to them (all the nations), 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Drink, be drunk and vomit, fall and rise no more, because of the sword that I am sending among you.' ²⁸"And if they refuse to accept the cup from your hand to drink, then you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: You must drink! ²⁹For behold, I begin to work disaster at the city that is called by my name, and shall you go unpunished? You shall not go unpunished, for I am summoning a sword against all the inhabitants of the earth, declares the LORD of hosts.'

The LORD is sending a sword amongst you; refers to Babylon.

The city that is called by my name; refers to Jerusalem.

God is telling Judah if they don't submit to the king of Babylon then disaster will come upon them.

Notice; God asks Judah, "Do they think they will go unpunished while He punishes the wickedness of the surrounding nations?" Implying the people of Judah think because they are God's chosen people they will be exempt from His judgment (v29). The Bible tells us God is no respecter of people, wickedness is wickedness whether a person believes in God or not. Those who deliberately use and oppress others for their own gain or do them harm physically, financially, emotionally or spiritually will suffer loss when Christ returns.

The LORD will Roar from His Holy Habitation Mightily against Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 25:30-33 -- ³⁰You, therefore, shall prophesy against them all these words, and say to them:" "The LORD will roar from on high, and from his holy habitation utter his voice; he will roar mightily against his fold, and shout, like those who tread grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth. ³¹The clamor will resound to the ends of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against the nations; he is entering into judgment with all flesh, and the wicked he will put to

the sword, declares the LORD.' ³²"Thus says the LORD of hosts: Behold, disaster is going forth from nation to nation, and a great tempest is stirring from the farthest parts of the earth! ³³"And those pierced by the LORD on that day shall extend from one end of the earth to the other. They shall not be lamented, or gathered, or buried; they shall be dung on the surface of the ground.

The LORD will roar from his holy habitation; means God will bring great destruction to the land of Judah, the city of Jerusalem and all the surrounding nations.

One end of the earth to the other; in this context refers to the entire Middle East.

They will not be lamented, but left as dung on the surface of the ground; the armies of Babylon left the defeated and dead bodies of Judah lying on the surface of the earth for the birds and wild animals to eat.

These words of Jeremiah are absolutely amazing; for the following reasons the Covenant (Deuteronomy chapter 28) One of the curses written in the Covenant that the LORD had made between Him and the people of Israel through Moses on Mount Sinai stated if Israel spurned the LORD'S statutes and abhorred His rules so that they broke God's Covenant a day would come when their dead bodies would not be buried.

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.

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.

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

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 (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.

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.

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.

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.

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 warn Judah of the looming destruction of Jerusalem and the doom of its inhabitants.

The Days of Judah's Slaughter have Come.

Jeremiah 25:34-38 -- ³⁴Wail, you shepherds, and cry out, and roll in ashes, you lords of the flock, for the days of your slaughter and dispersion have come, and you shall fall like a choice vessel. ³⁵No refuge will remain for the shepherds, nor escape for the lords of the flock. ³⁶A voice—the cry of the shepherds, and the wail of the lords of the flock! For the LORD is laying waste their pasture, ³⁷and the peaceful folds are devastated because of the fierce anger of the LORD. ³⁸Like a lion he has left his lair, for their land has become a waste because of the sword of the oppressor, and because of his fierce anger."

Notice; it is the Shepherds that are called to mourn, because they have led their flock, the nation of Judah to destruction.

The LORD is likened to a lion that has left its lair; when a lion leaves its lair it is hunting for food, it is determined, focused, strong, powerful and tears apart its prey, thus the LORD is about to do to Judah.

The sword of the oppressor; refers to the mighty and cruel armies of Babylon.

A Brief Summary of the Towns and Villages mentioned in this Chapter.

Ammon/Ammonites; The child that the younger daughter had to her father Lot was called Ben-ammi he is the father of the Ammonites.

Even though they were related to Israel they refused to give Israel bread and water when they came out of Egypt, they joined with the Moabites in securing Balaam to curse Israel and they opposed the work of Nehemiah in restoring the walls of Jerusalem.

They were fierce in nature, rebellious against Israel, idolatrous in their religious practices, they threatened to thrust out the right eye of all in Jabesh Gilead were given to brutish murder and their chief idol was Molech, to whom they were guilty of offering human sacrifices.

For further information see the title: -

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

Arabia; a Large peninsula in SW Asia, predominantly occupied by Saudi Arabia, the inhabitants are Arabs it can refer to the whole or part of the Arabian Peninsula.

Ashdod; Ashdod was one of the five chief cities of the Philistines, it was assigned to Judah, but they failed to dispossess the inhabitants, it was a centre of Dagon (fish-god) worship.

Ashkelon; one of the five chief cities of the Philistines located about 12 miles from Gaza along the sea-coast. It was taken by the tribe of Judah shortly after the death of Joshua, but was retaken by the Philistines and was in their hands through much of the OT period.

Buz; a nephew of Abraham, second son of Nahor whose family apparently settled in Arabia.

Dedan; was an Arabian people descended directly from Noah and who were also related to him by his concubine Keturah. They were called travelling tradesmen and were an important commercial people who were connected with Tyre.

Edom (Esau); (Edom is Jacob's Brother) Abraham and Sarah gave birth to Isaac and Isaac and Rebekah gave birth to Esau and Jacob. The LORD told Rebekah Esau and Jacob would become two great nations. Isaac, near death and deceived by Jacob gave the blessing of the first born to Jacob making him Lord over Esau. Isaac then told Esau he would live in a desert place and by war. He would serve Jacob (Israel), but eventually Israel's authority over him and the tension between Jacob (Israel) and Esau would be broken. Esau is the father of Edom, the people are called Edomites, they settled in the land of Canaan in the hill country of Seir (also called Mount Seir). It is one of the Jordanian Mountains in the land of Edom on the opposite side of the River Jordan to Jerusalem.

Ekron; was the most northern of the five chief cities of the Philistines assigned to Judah. It is located on the boundary between Judah and Dan.

Elam; a country situated in a mountainous region on the E side of the Tigris River opposite Babylonia. They figure prominently in Babylonian and Assyrian texts because they were situated so close to them. When Babylon became active against Assyrian supremacy, Elam became Babylon's chief ally.

Gaza; was one of the five chief cities of the Philistines allotted to Judah, but it was almost always under non-Israelite control. Modern Ghuzzeh is the metropolis of the Gaza Strip which is crowded with Arab refugees today.

Jeconiah; was the son of Jehoiakim and grandson of Josiah, at 18 years of age he began to reign, but after three months was captured by Nebuchadnezzar.

Jehoiakim; was the second son of Josiah the godly king of Judah and father of Jeconiah. The king of Egypt made him king over Jerusalem, he was an oppressive and thoroughly godless king and died in disgrace, "buried with the burial of an ass" (Jer 22:19).

Media; the people of Media were warlike and skilful in their use of the bow and became famous for their horses. Their land was abundant with minerals and animals and birds were plentiful, but eventually these factors led to luxurious living, spelling the downfall of the empire. Their worship was conducted by priests and consisted of hymns, sacrifices---bloody and unbloody---and "...a peculiar ceremony called that of Soma in which intoxicating liquor is offered to the gods, and then consumed by the priests who drink until they are drunken. They believed in real spiritual intelligence divided into good and bad. At the head of the good beings was, 'ONE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE' who was worshipped as supreme creator, preserver and governor of the universe. He was called Ahuro-Mazdo and was the source of all good.

Moab; the child that the eldest daughter had to her father Lot was called Moab; he is the father of the Moabites their land was on the East Side of the River Jordan. The Moabites did not meet Israel with bread and water when they came out of Egypt and Moab hired Balaam against Israel to curse them. The land of Moab was on the East side of the Jordan River (Jerusalem is on the West side).

Philistines; the Philistines had five chief cities, Ashod, Gaza, Ashkelon, Gath, and Ekron. They worshiped the Semitic gods Dagon, Astarte and Baalzebub and were a major contender against the Hebrews for possession of Palestine (today they are the Palestinians).

Sidon; a city on the northern boundary of the Canaanites in Palestine, it belonged to the land of Israel according to promise. The people of Sidon went to hear Jesus and Jesus and Paul visited the region.

Teman; was a city in the north eastern part of Edom, noted at one time for the wisdom of its people.

Uz; was the country in which Job lived it must also have been good pasture land because Job had extensive herds of cattle.

Zimri; was an Israelite.

End.