

## Minimizing Our Sin - 11/03/19

**TEXT – Jer 6:13-17** *For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness;*

**Jer 8:11-12** *For they have **healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly**, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace. 12 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.*

**Jer 3:10** *And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but **feignedly**, saith the LORD.*

**INTRO – Jer 1:4-8** Jeremiah was by birth a priest, and dwelt at Anathoth, a village in the tribe of Benjamin, about three miles north of Jerusalem. Hilkiyah, possibly the father of Jeremiah, was the high priest at that time. The duration of his prophesying was more than forty years. He is known as the weeping prophet

**Jer 9:1** *Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!*

**He began to prophesy in the thirteenth year of Josiah's reign;**

Jeremiah was, in fact, not only "the evening star of the declining day of prophecy," but the herald of the dissolution of the Jewish commonwealth.

His whole strength lay in his determination to do what was right at whatever cost. He faced danger, opposition and mockery without; fear, despondency, and disappointment within.

**The sense of duty prevailed over every other consideration;**

**Jeremiah began his ministry in the 13th year of Josiah.**

**Zephaniah and Habakkuk were contemporaries of his earlier ministry. Daniel of his later.**

Jeremiah remained in the land ministering to the poor Remnant ([2Ki 24:14](#)) until he went into Egypt where he died, early in the 70 year's captivity.

**Jeremiah's vision includes: the Babylonian captivity; the return after 70 years; the world- wide dispersion; the final regathering; the kingdom-age; the day of judgment on the Gentile powers, and the Remnant.**

**Three prominent acts were:**

**1. Burying his girdle in the Euphrates river 13:1-11**

**2. Going to the potters house 18:1-12**

**3. Placed in the dungeon Jer 38:9** *My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the dungeon; and he is like to die for hunger in the place where he is: for there is no more bread in the city.*

**Jeremiah suffered all kinds of abuse and trials although he was a faithful prophet of God.**

**Jer 7:27** *Therefore thou shalt speak all these words unto them; but they will not hearken to thee: thou shalt also call unto them; but they will not answer*

**Jer 20:1-2** *Now Pashur the son of Immer the priest, who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things. 2 Then Pashur smote Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD.*

**Isa 55:8** *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*

### **I. Judah Did not See Their Sin As Exceeding Sinful**

**Rom 7:13** *Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.*

**Jer 1:16** *And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.*

#### **A. They did not want to hear the Word of God**

**1 Jn 3:4** *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*

#### **B. They rejected the paths of their fathers**

**They were at ease in Zion – Thinking peace was permanent**

**Jer 6:16** *Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.*

#### **C. Walked in imaginations of their heart**

**Jer 13:10** *This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.*

**Lam 3:60** *Thou hast seen all their vengeance and all their imaginations against me.*

**2 Co 10:5** *Casting down **imaginings**, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*

**Rom 1:21** *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their **imaginings**, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

#### **D. They ignored the judgment to come**

**Jer 2:16-17** *Also the children of Noph and Tahapanes have broken the crown of thy head. 17 Hast thou not procured this unto thyself, in that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, when he led thee by the way?*

## **II. The Prophet Is Hated By The People**

**Jer 20:1-2** *Now Pashur the son of Immer the priest, who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things. Then Pashur smote Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD.*

**Jer 37:15** *Wherefore the princes were wroth with Jeremiah, and smote him, and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe:*

**Jer 38:6** *Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon of Malchiah the son of Hammelech, that was in the court of the prison: and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the dungeon there was no water, but mire: so Jeremiah sunk in the mire.*

**The people consoled themselves by denouncing the preacher**

## **III. God's Plan Is Revealed – Judgment and grace**

### **A. They could have avoided the captivity if they had repented**

**Jer 7:5-7** *For if ye thoroughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbour; If ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt: Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.*

### **B. The promise for future blessing**

**Jer 23:3** *And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.*

### **C. True repentance brings restoration**

**Jer 29:10-13** *For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. 12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. 13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.*

**CONCL – Jer 33:6-9** *Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth. 7 And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first. 8 And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me. 9 And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth . . .*