

The WordSeekers : XtremeXplorationSundays Bible-Study Notes

March 13, 2005

“Which chair are you in right now?”
Or, “Measuring Your Spiritual Progress”

People in Chair #1: Committed Christians: the baggage is thrown out

People in Chair #2: Carnal Christians: a salvation but with baggage

People in Chair #3: Unbelievers: no relationship with God

FOCAL VERSES: Jeremiah 5: 1 – 5; 7 – 8; 11 - 12

Observation ‘Satellite-Level’ Jeremiah Chapters: 2 - 6

Chapter 2 describes the faithlessness of God’s covenant people. In Jeremiah’s first sermon/message:

V5: “What injustice have your fathers found in Me, that they have gone far from Me, have followed idols, and have become idolaters?”

V7: “I brought you into a bountiful country ... but when you entered, you defiled My land and made My heritage an abomination.”

V13: “For My people have committed two evils:
They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters.
And dug themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.”

Chapter 3 records God’s plea for repentance. He uses the rather shocking analogy of comparing the Northern Kingdom to an unfaithful wife—the Kingdom of Judah’s treachery was even greater!

v11: “Backsliding Israel has shown herself more righteous than treacherous Judah.”

V22: “Return you backsliding children, and I will heal your backsliding.”

Chapter 4 describes the utter destruction and suffering that will fall upon Judah from the north.

V6b: “For I will bring disaster from the north, and great destruction.”

V27: “... The whole nation shall be desolate; yet I will not make a full end.”

V30, 31: The people of Judah will suffer much and cry for help—after the fact that they denied God.

In Chapter 5 God challenges Jeremiah to “find one righteous person. If he does, God will pardon Judah.

Chapter 6 tells of the destruction of Babylon in further detail and emphasis.

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Interpretation Chapter 5:

Verses - 1 - 5

V1, 2: God is speaking to Jeremiah and challenging him to find “ a *single* person, *anyone* who acts justly, who seeks to be faithful ...”

God says, if you do find one, I will pardon Judah, but don't just take their words, 'as the Lord loves', on face value.

V3: Jeremiah discovered a people hardened by their refusal to repent.

V4: Jeremiah now thinks that maybe it is just the poor and uneducated that “have played the fool.” 1 Samuel 26: 21b “Indeed, I have played the fool and erred exceedingly.”

V5: Jeremiah now decides he will go find the righteous people among the leaders, the educated people. What he found was that they also had hardened hearts because they refused to abide by the strict laws of Moses.

Fetters:

1. A chain or shackle for the ankles or feet.
2. Something that serves to restrict; a restraint.


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Verses 7 - 8

V7, 8: God now says that Judah has abandoned Him by turning to idols, committing adultery, and lusting having others' wives.

The impression left is that their behavior is wide spread and normal.

Word study of: "gashed themselves"

Lexicon Results for gadad (Strong's 01413)	
Hebrew for 01413	
	
Pronunciation Guide	
gadad {gaw-dad'}	
TWOT Reference	Root Word
TWOT - 313	a primitive root [compare 01464]
Part of Speech	
v	
Outline of Biblical Usage	
1) to penetrate, cut, attack, invade a) (Qal) to penetrate, cut into b) (Hithpoel) 1) to cut oneself 2) to gather in troops or crowds	
Authorized Version (KJV) Translation Count – Total: 8	
AV - cut 5, gather together 1, assemble by troop 1, gather 1; 8	

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Verses 11 – 12 and 13

The false prophets have given Judah a false sense of security about their immediate future.

V11: God is speaking comparing the unrighteous behavior of Judah is like that of those of the Northern kingdom of Israel. They were both “very treacherous to Me.” Word study of: Treacherous:

Lexicon Results for bagad (Strong's 0898)	
Hebrew for 0898	
בָּגַד	
Pronunciation Guide	
bagad {baw-gad'}	
TWOT Reference	Root Word
TWOT - 198	a primitive root
Part of Speech	
v	
Outline of Biblical Usage	
1) to act treacherously, deceitfully, deal treacherously a) (Qal) to act or deal treacherously, faithlessly, deceitfully, offend	
Authorized Version (KJV) Translation Count – Total: 49	
AV - treacherously 23, transgressor 10, transgress 3, deceitfully 2, treacherous dealer 3, treacherous 2, very 2 (inf. for emphasis), unfaithful man 1, treacherous men 1, offend 1, unfaithfully 1; 49	
Hebrew Lexicon (<i>Help</i>)	
בָּגַד fut. יִבְגֵּד; once יִבְגֵּד (Mal. 2:10), properly to cover (whence בָּגַד covering, garment); hence— (1) TO ACT COVERTLY, FRAUDULENTLY, PERFI- DIOUSLY. (For verbs of covering, hiding are often applied to fraud and perfidy; compare لَبِسَ to cover, MORE (63 KBytes)	

V12: People of Judah are in denial and are putting their trust in the false prophets.

‘Sword’ equates to ‘war.’ Sword and famine are two typical forms of divine judgment in the Old Testament.

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Application:

We have seen how the people of Judah were:

- 1. hypocritical about their faith in God**
- 2. idolaters and adulterers**
- 3. complacent about the consequences of their ways and spirituality**

QUESTION: Which chair are you in right now, #1, or #2?