

WATCH OUT FOR THE WARNINGS!

Jeremiah 2-19

Highway incident in Honduras

We passed a small sign but didn't realize the danger.

Israel's case is similar.

Many warnings given—they don't pay attention.

As they draw near the final barricades, they step on the gas!

They're headed for destruction, but refuse to stop.

Jeremiah presents 8 messages

—final barricades to stop them from destruction.

He accuses them of their sin and warns them to repent.

EIGHT WARNING MESSAGES 2:1-19:13

What's his 1st message? What's his point?

Marriage on the rocks 2-3:5

1st message of warning: Jeremiah uses the example of a marriage on the rocks as a graphic example of Israel's dangerous relationship with God.

Marriage begins well.

Wife becomes unfaithful.

She seeks other lovers and leaves her husband.

Thus the marriage is ruined.

How does this illustration describe Israel's condition?

In spite of His "wife's" unfaithfulness,

God's love continues and He waits for her to come back.

What's Jeremiah trying to accomplish?

God wants His people to be a light in the midst of pagan nations.

Rather than do that, they disobey Him and imitate their neighbors.

Is this a problem today? What should we do about it?

Follow the leader 3:6-6:30

2nd warning:

Israel's captivity is a warning to alert Judah.

Judah witnessed evidence of danger of unfaithfulness.

A little over 100 years earlier, Israel was destroyed by Assyria.

In spite of Israel's example, Judah is following the same path.

She refuses to repent.

Therefore, Judah merits more serious discipline than Israel.

God will bring a foreign nation to judge them.

3:6-10; 5:1-5 => 15-19

The gate of the temple 7-10

3rd warning: Accuses them of false confidence in the temple and failure to obey God's voice.

Although they refuse to submit to God, they keep offering sacrifices.

They're trusting in the temple and in their sacrifices for protection.

God doesn't want that kind of sacrifice.
 He wants love and submission to His authority.
 In spite of temple, God will destroy it and judge His people.

7:3-4 => 12-15 (1 Sam. 4)

The broken covenant 11-12

4th warning: condemns them for violating conditions of the Mosaic covenant (Deut. 28-30).

Enjoyment of blessing based on submission to God's authority.

Since the people are in rebellion, God will punish them.

11:2-5, 8-11

Ruined and broken 13

5th warning: 2 object lessons, linen waste band and broken jug, to demonstrate effects of coming judgment.

The linen waist band, or girdle (1-11),

is intimate clothing, worn against the body.

Demonstrates close relationship God desires to maintain between His people and Himself.

However, it's separated from Him.

The result: it became ruined and totally useless.

So it will be with them.

Their separation from God will make them useless to Him.

Symbol of the broken jug (12-27)

Based on popular saying, *"Every jug will be filled with wine!"*

Refers to time of prosperity when every jug will be filled.

Jeremiah says that they will be full, but not like they think.

They'll be drunk.

They'll be like bunch of full jugs, carried on someone's back.

They bang against each other, break, spill contents all over.

Judah also is going to be broken and scattered.

Empty vessels and cracked ground 14-15

6th warning: uses a drought as illustration to demonstrate the certainty of coming judgment.

God will leave the land desolate because of their sin.

The unmarried prophet 16-17

7th warning: uses prophet's celibacy as an object lesson.

God prohibits him from marrying.

He may not participate in their mourning, nor in their rejoicing.

Because of their sin, and coming judgment,

he should separate from them completely.

The potter's rights 18-19

8th warning: a final appeal to repentance.

Observation of life around the potter's house
provides two distinct lessons for God's people.

Potter makes vessels according to his plan 18

When they don't turn out right, he destroys them and starts over.

God is working with Israel according to His will.

He invites her to repent.

When she rejects His invitation,

He judges her and starts to work on her again. 18:1-6

Hardened clay becomes useless 19:1-13

Jeremiah buys one of the jars.

He smashes it in front of the people.

He compares Israel to a damaged jug.

It cannot be repaired.

The people have become hard and refuse to return to Him.

Therefore, He'll break them, as one breaks a useless pottery jug.

19:1-4, 10-11a

These eight messages were delivered to Judah

because they have turned to sin and idolatry.

They have hardened their hearts and stiffened their necks,
so as not to hear God's voice, nor obey His law.

They want Him as a life preserver, useful for emergencies.

Therefore, God will curse them, in order to correct them
and bring them back to Himself.

What do these messages tell us about God?

What is the message for the U.S.?

What is the message for God's people today?

In what ways are we similar?

In what ways are we different?