

Jeremiah Study

Chapters 13 - 16 (~32min)

- The people aren't "listening", so God is going to have Jeremiah "show" them in a different way.

Chapter 13

(13:1) The "sash" was a girdle

- This was the "thing" that secured clothing & weapons to one's body.

	<p>Cultural Context: Girdle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A girdle was a type of belt or sash worn around the waist.• It was commonly made of leather, cloth, or woven materials.• Girdles were used to secure clothing, especially long robes or tunics.• They often symbolized strength and readiness for action.• In some contexts, girdles were associated with modesty and virtue.• The term "girding up one's loins" referred to tucking in garments for mobility.
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(13:4-6) The journey to the Euphrates would have been ~100 mile trek.

- 100 miles there to bury it
- 100 miles back
- 100 miles there to dig it up
- 100 miles back again

(13:7-11) The Lesson

- Israel clings to God like the Sash clings to Jeremiah
 - Israel became useless to God because:
 - They refused to Hear God's Word
 - They followed their *own* hearts
 - They followed & worshiped other gods
 - Had they followed God's ways, they *would* have been:
 - Renowned
 - Praised
 - Glorified

(13:12-27) Pride comes before the Fall



Examine: Why is Pride so dangerous?

Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

- Pride leans on *our own* understanding & strength
- The proud cannot admit when they are wrong
- The proud don't listen & thus don't learn
- The proud typically elevate themselves above others (sometimes even God)
- God hates pride:
 - James 4:6 "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble"
 - 1 Peter 5:5 "Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God opposes the proud".

What areas of your life struggles with pride?

- Do those areas also struggle with insecurity?
- (Pride is sometimes a band aid for or byproduct of insecurity)

Chapter 14

(14:1-10) Sounds like a taunt. (v9) "... like a might one who cannot save?"

(14:11-16) God is NOT putting up with False Prophets or the people that "loved to have it that way".

(14:17-18) This does come to pass. Those outside the city die by sword (war) and those inside the city during the siege will die by pestilence & famine.

(14:19-22) They will finally get it, but it will be too late. And their hearts still don't sound genuine:

- "... for Your name's sake" God
- "...do not break Your covenant with us". - Blame Game.
 - God didn't break the covenant, they did. But they try to blame God.

Chapter 15

(15:1-9) Destruction is imminent

- What did Manasseh do? (see 2 Kings 21)
 - Reigned as king of Judah for 55 years, one of the longest in history.
 - Promoted idol worship, including the worship of Baal and Asherah.
 - Built altars to foreign gods in the Temple of the Lord.
 - Practiced child sacrifice, a significant departure from Jewish law.
 - He sacrificed his own son in fire

- Engaged in divination and consulted mediums and spiritists.
- Led the people of Judah into sin, causing widespread corruption and idolatry.
 - **2 Kings 21:9** But the people did not listen. Manasseh led them astray, so that they did more evil than the nations the Lord had destroyed before the Israelites.

(15:10-21) Jeremiah's pity party

- Jeremiah is starting to worry about his part in this
- God pronounces judgement upon His people, but then he reassures Jeremiah

Chapter 16

(16:1-9) God's directions for Jeremiah

- Do not get married
- Do not have children
- Do not mourn or lament the death of this people
 - God has taken away His peace, lovingkindness & mercies
- Do not feast with them

(16:10-13) Again, "Why" is this happening?

- They have forsaken God
- Followed, served & worshiped false gods
- Not kept God's Law
- Even WORSE: they followed the dictates of their own evil hearts,
 - so that no one listens to God.

(16:14-21) God will save a remnant & bring them back

- and ALL will know that "My name is the Lord (Jehova)