

/We will now begin the eighth lecture on Jeremiah. /Today, we will begin with Jeremiah chapter 9. /The title of chapter 9 is "Tears." /First, Jeremiah's lament. /Verses 1-6. /Second, the mouth speaks peace, but the heart sets a trap. /Verses 7-11.

/Third, a time of lament will come on those who forsake the Lord's law. /Verses 12-22. /Fourth, do not boast of the things of the world, but boast only in the Lord. /Verses 23-24. /Fifth, the Lord will punish both the circumcised and the uncircumcised. /Verses 25-26.

/Read verse 1. /Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people.

/Jeremiah lamented as he thought about the destruction that would come upon the people of Judah. /Jeremiah saw that the people of Judah would be slain through Babylon their enemy. /Jeremiah lamented when he thought about the sufferings that Judah would receive.

/Jeremiah lamented for Israel's salvation. /This is the same as Paul's sorrow. /Romans 9:1-3 /We must always have prayerful hearts that the church would be well.

/Verse 3. /"They make ready their tongue like a bow, to shoot lies; it is not by truth that they triumph in the land. They go from one sin to another; they do not acknowledge me," declares the LORD.

/The people of Judah lied incessantly. /They were bold when they lied. /They lied and slandered one another. /They did not know God or God's truth. /Therefore, when believers abandon the truth, they ultimately abandon their faith.

/Verse 7. /Therefore this is what the LORD Almighty says: "See, I will refine and test them, for what else can I do because of the sin of my people?"

/God said that he would refine and test Judah because of their corruption. /God would melt all their pride and stubbornness through great sufferings. /God would make Judah clean and humble through such refinement.

/Verse 8. /Their tongue is a deadly arrow; it speaks with deceit. With his mouth each speaks cordially to his neighbor, but in his heart he sets a trap for him.

/The people of Judah slandered and harmed one another with lies. /Their mouths spoke cordially to one another, but their hearts set up traps to harm one another. /We must speak words of encouragement to one another. /We must speak helpful words.

/Verse 10. /I will weep and wail for the mountains and take up a lament concerning the desert pastures. They are desolate and untraveled, and the lowing of cattle is not heard. The birds of the air have fled and the animals are gone.

/Here, Jeremiah saw Judah being destroyed. /Thus, the mountains and the desert lands will all be ruined. /God would discipline the people of Judah for their sins.

/Verse 12. /What man is wise enough to understand this? Who has been instructed by the LORD and can explain it? Why has the land been ruined and laid waste like a desert that no one can cross?

/God looks for those who will realize that judgment is coming, and teach the people. /We must recognize God's judgment and salvation, and we must preach it to believers.

/Verse 13. /The LORD said, "It is because they have forsaken my law, which I set before them; they have not obeyed me or followed my law.

/The people of Judah forsook God's law, and they did not obey God. /Their hearts were stubborn and they chased after idols.

/Therefore, in verse 15, God would make them eat bitter food and drink poisoned water. /The Lord would bring greater disaster upon the people.

/Even today, many believers claim that they believe in Jesus, yet, forsake God's Word. /This generation of people have thrown away God's law. /Matthew 7:22-23 /We must believe and obey God's Word as it is.

/Verse 17. /This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Consider now! Call for the wailing women to come; send for the most skillful of them.

/Now, God said to call the wailing women. /This means to lament for the destruction of Judah. /There are skillful women here. They are those who cried when they needed to.

/Those who realize that sufferings would come are wise. /Those who cannot realize that sufferings would come are foolish. /Those who are stubborn and cannot lament are also foolish people.

/God told the people to hear about the forthcoming sufferings through Jeremiah, and that the women were to lament. /Luke 23:28 /Amos 6:3-7 /2 Timothy 1:4

/Jesus wept three times while He was on this earth. /Why didn't the people of Judah cry? /It is because they were arrogant. /Their hearts were hardened. /They were stubborn. /We must be gentle, humble, and sorrowful in heart.

/Verse 19. /The sound of wailing is heard from Zion: 'How ruined we are! How great is our shame! We must leave our land because our houses are in ruins.'"

/Here it teaches that Zion will wail as a result of their sins. /Jerusalem would be destroyed in the future, but Jeremiah was serious because he felt that they would be destroyed instantly.

/Verse 20. /Now, O women, hear the word of the LORD; open your ears to the words of his mouth. Teach your daughters how to wail; teach one another a lament.

/This means that they were to lament over the great sufferings that would come.

/Verse 21. /Death has climbed in through our windows and has entered our fortresses; it has cut off the children from the streets and the young men from the public squares.

/Many people would die as a result of God's wrath and judgment. /The judgment of death would come. /Death will enter their fortresses and will come upon kings as well. /Death will come on the young.

/Therefore, authority and youth will be of no use in such times. /There will be no exemptions from God's judgment.

/Verse 23. /This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches,

/No one will be able to boast of his wisdom when God's judgment comes. /No one will boast of his strength at God's judgment because it will all be useless. /Money will be useless. /No one can save himself with his wisdom or strength.

/Rather, the things of the world can be a trap. /Ezekiel 7:19 /Whoever trusts in and boasts of his wisdom will fall to his own schemes. /1 Corinthians 3:18, 19 /Man cannot believe in Jesus by his own wisdom.

/Man must throw away his wisdom and have faith like that of a child. /Matthew 11:25 /Next, it tells the strong man not to boast of his strength. /We must not boast of our strength, but rely on God. /Isaiah 3:1

/When man gives up his strength, God's power falls strongly on him. /2 Corinthians 12:9 /Exodus 2:11-15 /Ecclesiastes 9:11 /Next, it tells the rich man not to boast of his riches. /1 Timothy 6:17-19

/We must not put our hope in possessions that will not last forever. /The possessions of the world will not last forever. /Proverbs 23:5 /1 Corinthians 7:29 /Galatians 6:14

/Verse 24. /but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.

/We must not boast of the things of the world, the things of the flesh. /We must first boast of knowing God. /God is God who exercises kindness, justice, and righteousness. /God is God of infinite love, power, and wisdom.

/True boasting is boasting about God. /“Kindness” here signifies God’s love. /God is God who pours out his mercy and love onto us. /Second, God exercises “justice.”

/God is just in all his ways. /God accomplishes righteousness and disciplines the evil. /The path of righteousness is justice. /Next is “righteousness.” /Righteousness is to walk down the right path. /God is pleased when we chase after God’s righteousness.

/Verses 25-26. /“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will punish all who are circumcised only in the flesh--Egypt, Judah, Edom, Ammon, Moab and all who live in the desert in distant places. For all these nations are really uncircumcised, and even the whole house of Israel is uncircumcised in heart.”

/When God judges, he will judge both the circumcised and the uncircumcised. /The “circumcised” refer to the people of Judah. /The “uncircumcised” refer to foreign peoples.

/Thus, both the people of Judah and people of foreign nations will receive judgment. /Then why would the circumcised people of Judah be destroyed? /It is because they were only externally circumcised but not circumcised in heart. /Jeremiah 4:4 /Romans 2:28

/The hearts of the people of Judah left God. /They walked on in greed. /They threw away God’s law. /They disobeyed God’s Word. /These indicate that their hearts were not circumcised. /Therefore, they cannot avoid God’s judgment.

/Therefore, when God judges, both the circumcised and uncircumcised will be judged as a result of their sins. /Therefore, it is important that we are gentle and humble in hearts, and that we obey God’s Word. /It is important that we throw away greed in our hearts. /Here we will conclude the lecture on chapter 9.

/We will continue with Jeremiah chapter 10. /The title is “The gods that did not make the heavens and the earth will perish.” /First, idols cannot bring harm or give blessings. /Verses 1-5. /Second, the Lord is a great and mighty God. /Verses 6-11.

/Third, the Lord is God who created the heavens and the earth. /Verses 12-16. /Fourth, whoever does not seek the Lord will not prosper. /Verses 17-22. /Fifth, man’s life is not his own. /Verses 23-24. /Sixth, those who devour Jacob will receive the Lord’s wrath. /Verse 25.

/Read verses 1-2. /Hear what the LORD says to you, O house of Israel. This is what the LORD says: “Do not learn the ways of the nations or be terrified by signs in the sky, though the nations are terrified by them.

/“The ways of the nations” is the path that foreign nations walk down. /The “signs in the sky” signify changes in the sun, moon, and stars. /Foreign nations feared the sun, moon, and stars because they believed that they held signs of good and bad luck.

/Therefore, foreign nations feared changes in the sun and moon. /Matthew 10:28 /We must not be afraid of these things. /We must fear God who controls life and death, fortunes and misfortunes of humans.

/Some people fear superstitions. /Some people cannot move whenever they want. /People check their horoscopes and see how compatible they are with their partners through fortune telling. /People seek fortune tellers and physiognomies to check their fate and fortunes.

/These are foreign customs and superstitions. /We must not follow after these superstitions, but we must follow God's Word.

/Verse 3. /For the customs of the peoples are worthless; they cut a tree out of the forest, and a craftsman shapes it with his chisel.

/"The customs of the peoples" refer to superstitions and customs of foreign peoples. /They cut trees and made it their idol. /They took silver and gold and made it their idol. /However, those idols can only move when people most them. /Idols cannot walk.

/Idols cannot speak. /Idols are useless and cannot bring misfortunes or blessings on people. /God is the only one who controls life and death, fortunes and misfortunes of people.

/Verse 6. /No one is like you, O LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power.

/The name of God is great and mighty in power. /No one can compare himself to God. /The idols and gods of the world are completely useless.

/Verse 8. /They are all senseless and foolish; they are taught by worthless wooden idols.

/All who serve idols are senseless and foolish.

/Verse 9. /Hammered silver is brought from Tarshish and gold from Uphaz. What the craftsman and goldsmith have made is then dressed in blue and purple-- all made by skilled workers.

/Idols were made with wood and iron, and then painted with beautiful colors. /Idols were beautifully made. /However, idols are breathless. /They do not bring misfortunes or blessings upon people. /However, our God is the true God, and he is the living God.

/Verse 10. /But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God, the eternal King. When he is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure his wrath.

/Our Lord God is the true God and he is the eternal God. /The Lord is the living God, and he is Almighty God. /Therefore, all the idols would be destroyed.

/Only the things of God are in heaven. /Only the things of the Word of God are in heaven.
/Only the things that we obeyed remain in heaven.

/Verse 12. /But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom
and stretched out the heavens by his understanding.

/God created the heavens and the earth. /He reigns over nature, the heavenly bodies, and
the weather. /God reigns over wind and lightning. /Those who serve idols will be shamed.
/They will become foolish like all the idols.

/Verse 17. /Gather up your belongings to leave the land, you who live under siege.

/Here, it says that Judah will be taken as prisoner to Babylon. /The people of Judah will
also be distressed.

/Verse 19. /Woe to me because of my injury! My wound is incurable! Yet I said to
myself, "This is my sickness, and I must endure it."

/The prophet Jeremiah lamented over the disaster that was to come upon Judah. /The
enemies would invade and Judah would be ruined, and the people of Judah would be
taken captive.

/Verse 21. /The shepherds are senseless and do not inquire of the LORD; so they do not
prosper and all their flock is scattered.

/The shepherds refer to the leaders of Judah. /They were prophets and high priests of the
time. /Today, they refer to the pastors.

/Verse 23. /I know, O LORD, that a man's life is not his own; it is not for man to direct
his steps.

/A man's life is not his own, but is in God. /Proverbs 16:9 /We are where we are now
according to God's will. /Things do not happen according to our plans. /Therefore, things
are only accomplished if God allows it.

/Verse 24. /Correct me, LORD, but only with justice-- not in your anger, lest you reduce
me to nothing.

/God's mercy is infinite. /The Lord disciplines his people, but he also has mercy on them.

/Verse 25. /Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not acknowledge you, on the
peoples who do not call on your name. For they have devoured Jacob; they have
devoured him completely and destroyed his homeland.

/Here, "Jacob" refers to God's chosen people, the people of Judah. /Those who do not
"acknowledge" God refer to those who attempt to destroy God's church, and this is a

prayer that God would destroy such people. /God's wrath will surely be on these people.

/Today, God will pour out his wrath on those who attempt to harm the church and the believers. /God protects his church and believers. /Here we will conclude the lecture on chapter 10.

/We will continue with chapter 11. /The title of chapter 11 is, "Excluded from his hometown." /First, those who do not obey the Lord's covenant will be cursed. /Verses 1-5. /Second, Jeremiah encourages the people to follow the Lord's covenant. /Verses 6-8.

/Third, Judah threw away the covenant, thus, God will not hear their prayers. /Verses 9-14. /Fourth, there will be disaster on those who commit adultery. /Verses 15-17. /Fifth, Jeremiah is rejected by the people in his hometown. /Verses 18-23.

/Read verses 1-2. /This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Listen to the terms of this covenant and tell them to the people of Judah and to those who live in Jerusalem.

/Verse 3. /Tell them that this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Cursed is the man who does not obey the terms of this covenant--

/Those who do not listen to the word of God's covenant will be cursed. /Psalm 1:1-6

/Verse 4. /the terms I commanded your forefathers when I brought them out of Egypt, out of the iron-smelting furnace.' I said, 'Obey me and do everything I command you, and you will be my people, and I will be your God.

/The "terms" refer to the promises God commanded the Israelites when he brought them out of Egypt. /There were two promises that God gave the Israelites. /First, the Israelites would be God's people, and the Lord would be their God.

/Second, God would give them the land of Canaan, which he promised their forefathers. /God kept his promise and led the Israelites into the land of Canaan. /God's promises will most definitely be fulfilled.

/Verse 6. /The LORD said to me, "Proclaim all these words in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem: 'Listen to the terms of this covenant and follow them.

/The people were to obey God's Word. /However, the people of Judah did not obey God's commands. /They did not even pay attention to God's commands.

/Verse 9. /Then the LORD said to me, "There is a conspiracy among the people of Judah and those who live in Jerusalem.

/The people of Judah refused to listen to God's Word. /They served idols instead. /The people of Judah broke the covenant promise that the Lord made with their forefathers.

/Verse 11. /Therefore this is what the LORD says: 'I will bring on them a disaster they cannot escape. Although they cry out to me, I will not listen to them.

/The people of Judah sinned, and as a results, God would bring disaster on them. /Judah sinned, and therefore God would not listen to them even if they cried out to him.

/God would not listen even if they prayed to him. /God hears the prayers of those who obey his Word. /Revelation 3:10 /Therefore, we must pray and obey.

/Verse 12. /The towns of Judah and the people of Jerusalem will go and cry out to the gods to whom they burn incense, but they will not help them at all when disaster strikes.

/Those who relied on idols will cry out to their gods when disasters comes, but it will all be useless. /Idols cannot save lives when disaster strikes. /The people of Judah served many idols.

/Verse 13. /You have as many gods as you have towns, O Judah; and the altars you have set up to burn incense to that shameful god Baal are as many as the streets of Jerusalem.'

/The people of Judah made many idols and served them. /The number of idols were as many as the streets of Jerusalem. /Therefore, God considered the idols despicable.

/God told Jeremiah not to pray for the people. /Therefore, God would not hear them even when they prayed to him. /Therefore, we must obey God's Word every day. /When we obey, God will hear our prayers in times of difficulties.

/Verse 15. /"What is my beloved doing in my temple as she works out her evil schemes with many? Can consecrated meat avert [your punishment]? When you engage in your wickedness, then you rejoice."

/The people of Judah loved idol, and God was not pleased with their offerings. /Judah sinned, but continued to give offerings to God.

/However, God said that he would not accept their offerings. /Today, when believers pair up with the world, they are committing adultery. /James 4:4

/Verse 16. /The LORD called you a thriving olive tree with fruit beautiful in form. But with the roar of a mighty storm he will set it on fire, and its branches will be broken.

/Verse 17. /The LORD Almighty, who planted you, has decreed disaster for you, because the house of Israel and the house of Judah have done evil and provoked me to anger by burning incense to Baal.

/God planted a thriving olive tree so that it would bear good fruit. /However, the tree did not bear fruit. /Therefore, God said that he would break the branches of the tree and set it

on fire.

/Here, the “thriving olive tree” refer to the good people of Judah. /In this way, God planted the good people of Judah in Canaan. /God led them out of Egypt to settle down in Canaan.

/However, the people did not bear good fruit, and thus, God was going to burn the people of Judah through the army of Babylon. /Today, if we do not bear fruit of faith, God will break us down. /John 15:2, 6 /Therefore, we must bear fruit of faith, fruit of the Holy Spirit, and fruit of light.

/Verse 18. /Because the LORD revealed their plot to me, I knew it, for at that time he showed me what they were doing.

/From verses 18-23, Jeremiah is persecuted by people in his hometown. /Jeremiah is persecuted by the people of Anathoth.

/In this way, the people of Jeremiah’s hometown persecuted the true prophet Jeremiah. /These people can be seen as fallen religious leaders.

/Revenge is in the hands of God. /Jeremiah did not plan to get revenge on his enemies. /He left his revenge in God’s hands. /Romans 12:19.

/The Lord said that he would judge the men of Anathoth. /In this way, God judges those who persecute God’s servants and God’s believers. /We must help true servants like Jeremiah. /We must also respect pastors who preach God’s Word.

/Here we will conclude the eighth lecture on Jeremiah. /Thank you.