



Jeremiah 3:6-6:30

Study written by Holli Worthington

Day 1-

Pray: Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and help you understand God's word (Ps. 25:5). Ask him to open your eyes to see God as he has revealed himself in his word (Ps. 119:18) and to soften your heart so that you will be satisfied by his love (Ps. 90:14) and treasure him above all else.

Read: Jeremiah 3:6-6:30

Day 2- Jeremiah 3:6-25

1. How did Judah react to witnessing the sin and judgment of the Northern kingdom of Israel according to 3:6-10?

-Why is Judah's sin worse than Israel's?

2. How does God show his steadfast love and mercy in verses 3:12, 14 and 22?

3. How did Judah return to God according to 3:10?

-How did their walk not match their talk according to 3:4-5?

4. What does God promise in 3:12, 15-18 to Israel (and later to Judah) if they return?

Scholar's Note: [Verses 15-18] brings us right into the era of the new covenant, and indeed to the new heavens and the earth and the 'New Jerusalem' of Revelation 21-22, whose 'temple is the Lord God' (Rev.21:22), and whose open gates admit 'the glory and the honor of the nations' (Rev.21:26)."¹

5. How is God's heart revealed in 3:19-20?

6. In verse 3:13 God calls his people to repent. How do they make a beginning to answer this call to repentance in 3:22-23, 25?

7. What was the cost of their sin according to 3:24?



Judah's sin cost them everything. Yet they were still unwilling to give it up. They had a loving, generous Father, yet they chose to serve false gods of their own making whose worship required them to sacrifice their children on a fiery altar!

We are enormously blessed to have God's Spirit living inside us! If you are a follower of Jesus, your blind eyes have been opened and your hard heart has been exchanged for a soft one. But even so, at times, we too, inexplicably cling to sin that is so destructive to our souls.

Think of a sin you struggle to give up or purposely ignore and reflect on the following thoughts:

- ❖ What do you believe that sin will offer you?
- ❖ What does clinging to that sin reveal that you don't believe about God?
- ❖ What truths about God can you use to overwhelm your nagging sin?

- ❖ What emotions and unhealthy habits feed your nagging sin?

Day 3- Jeremiah 4

8. The people acknowledged their guilt, but true repentance is more than just words. What repentant *actions* does God call his people to in 4:1-2?

Picture and Ponder: “If we do not feel the magnitude of our sin, if we are not gripped by its stench and grossness, if we pass over it lightly with glib affirmations of grace—we will probably never get around to the serious vigilance required for killing it.”²

9. If their repentance is just talk and not whole-hearted turning away from their sin and obeying God, what will be the consequences according to 4:4?



True repentance is more than just feeling bad for your sin or for the consequences of your sin. To repent means to turn and go the other way. It involves intentionally acting. Words are cheap as the saying goes. True repentance begins with godly sorrow for our sin, but it doesn't stop there. It leads to actions that include fighting sin, intentionally turning away from the idols you serve and turning to God, digging down to the root of your sin so that you can seek healing and holiness from Jesus.

True repentance brings true change. The people of Judah repented with their mouths, but their hearts were still hard and unchanged. Just a few verses later in 5:3 Jeremiah says, “they felt no anguish”... “they refused to take correction”... “they refused to repent.” When we repent only with our words, our hard hearts will soon give us away.

- ❖ Is there something you have repented of with your words but have not followed through on with your actions?

- ❖ Do you generally think or act as if it's enough to ask for forgiveness of a particular sin, but not to actively fight against it?

- ❖ What are the strategies you use for fighting sin in your life?

- ❖ One of the dictionaries I used to look up the word *repent* said that the expression was now obsolete. Hopefully this is not true in the lives of believers! What part does repentance play in your daily faith walk?

For Discussion: In our culture where true repentance is rare what kind of impact do you think it would make on unbelievers to see Christians they know admitting their sins and asking for forgiveness? Do you have any examples of this?

10. How does Jeremiah describe the judgment that will be brought upon Judah for her sin in 4:6-7 and 6:25?

Day 4- Jeremiah 5 and 6

11. God lays out his case against his people, supporting his just judgment. List the reasons for judgment from 4:18, 22, 5:3, 7, 11-12, 19, 23, 28, 6:6-7, 10.

12. What hope does God provide in 4:27, and 5:18?

13. What theme do you see in 6:10,16, and 17?



In Jeremiah 5:7 God asks, “How can I pardon you?” His righteousness and justice require judgment for sin. We know that’s true. We feel it in our own hearts. When we see evil and wickedness in our world, or when someone sins against us, we want justice. We want sin to be punished—if it’s not ours.

Praise God, Jesus is the answer to the question! God’s justice *and* mercy are displayed in Jesus our Savior. God’s justice can be satisfied and we can be pardoned because Jesus, the perfect God-man, became our substitute, taking the punishment for our sin and then crediting to us his perfect record of obedience.

Spend time in prayer using the following verses to thank God for providing the answer in Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:19 “...that is in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them...”

1 Peter 2:24 “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.”

Colossians 1:21-22 “And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

Day 5- Reflect

*“Do you not fear me? declares the Lord.
Do you not tremble before me?
I placed the sand as the boundary for the sea,
a perpetual barrier that it cannot pass;
though the waves toss, they cannot prevail;
though they roar, they cannot pass over it.
But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart;
they have turned aside and gone away.
They do not say in their hearts,
‘Let us fear the Lord our God, who gives the rain in its season,
the autumn rain and the spring rain,*

*and keeps for us the weeks appointed
for the harvest.” Jeremiah 5:22-24*

- How does this reveal who God is, what his character is like?

- In what ways does this truth have meaning and relevance for your life?

- Spend time responding to God in prayer with praise, confession and requests concerning the truths revealed in Jeremiah this week.

¹ Kidner, Derek. Kidner Classic Commentaries- Jeremiah. Intersity Press USA, 1987, p.37

² Ortlund, Gavin. Four Steps to Kill Nagging Sins. Article. May 3, 2016, desiringgod.org

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