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## Daily Bible devotional; Daily Rice 2024 August 21 Jeremiah 44

YouTube Prayer Link

The people of stoney heart

Jeremiah chapter 44 focuses on Jeremiah's prophecies and warnings about the people of Judah continuing to practice in Egypt and serving other gods. After the Babylonian army captured Jerusalem, some of the people of Judah fled to Egypt and continued to worship idolatry. Jeremiah prophesied that God would punish them, but they refused to listen, and as a result, Jerusalem was destroyed and they were punished. In this chapter, God accuses the people of Judah of sinning because of idolatry and sternly warns them not to continue to disobey God's will. Jeremiah conveyed God's message to them, telling them that if they did not repent, God would treat them as Jerusalem would, subjecting them to destruction and calamity. But the people of Judah remained stubborn, continued to worship idolatry, and were eventually punished by God. The entire passage emphasizes God's justice and judgment, while also expressing the need for repentance. God said that because the Jews worshipped the queen seriously, they provoked Him to anger and were destroyed, but the Jews said that it was because they did not worship the queen that the nation was destroyed. Their interpretation of the environment may sound ridiculous to us today, but there are many people like them today, many of whom will not understand this spiritual mystery until the last moment, which God said, "He who entered into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, the remaining Jews, shall know whose word stands, or mine?" Is it their words?" (44:28) The Jews are in a great darkness, and they think, "Then we will be full of bread and pleasure, and there will be no evil." (44:17)。 The type of Egypt was physical pleasure, and the Jews, because they liked to eat well and enjoy pleasures, finally returned to Egypt according to their condition. There is nothing wrong with their hope, but when they make

it their highest goal, it leads them to make wrong judgments. "And the women said, Are we not our husbands when we burn incense and pour out drink offerings unto the queen of heaven, and make bread for her image, and pour out drink offerings unto her?" (44:19) When we look at the condition of the Jews, we may think that they are stupid, that we are smarter, when in fact we do more and more seriously than they do. They only make bread and burn incense to the queen of heaven, but we name the whole land the queen of heaven, so we should be wary when we see the condition of the Israelites. If the people of Judah were to be judged idolatrous in Jerusalem and face an even greater judgment in Egypt, we should consider that what has happened to us will not be lighter than theirs, for God has never been partial to man, and what He did to Israel is also to the world. In fact, the sin of Egypt existed, and God overthrew Egypt in order to prove that their decision to join Egypt was wrong. In fact, our sins have surpassed the Israel people in Egypt, and although God's mercy still exists, we do not know when God's time will come, so we must do our best to preach the gospel. As we continue to do this, God's grace remains, because God does not want one to perish, and if there is one else who can be saved, God is willing to wait. Because we continue to preach the gospel, God will delay judgment even until all the people in this land are saved. God first uses a symmetrical structure to emphasize that God has been sending prophets to warn the people that they are not innocent victims:

God's plague on Jerusalem and Judah today; the wrath of God; The people burned incense and served other gods; God kept sending prophets to warn the people; The people still burned incense to other gods; the wrath of God; God brought plague to Judah and Jerusalem today.

44:12 "And those who will enter the land of Egypt and sojourn there, the remaining Jews, will be destroyed by the sword, and will fall in the land of Egypt, and will be destroyed by the famine of the sword; and from the least to the greatest, they shall die by the famine of the sword, and they shall be reviled and appalled, and cursed and dishonored." The reason for the judgment was that the fugitives did not receive the hard lesson, 'have not repented or feared' (v.10), but continued to provoke God's wrath 'burning incense to other gods in the land of Egypt where they had gone. Since they are determined to go their own way, they will repeat the mistakes of their predecessors (v.13). Before the people entered Egypt, they knew that they were "spiritually right" and meant to "obey the voice of the Lord our God" (42:6), but they denied that the prophets spoke the word of God (43:2). Now in Egypt, the people have become rightly opposed to God, declaring that 'we will not listen to what you say to us in the name of the Lord' (v.16). Because they think that instead of obeying God's Word 'you will be blessed' (42:6), they will 'burn incense to the queen of heaven' in order to 'eat well and be happy' (v.17).

After the people have experienced a painful lesson, they have reversed black and white and reinterpreted history. They do not think that God's "abundant kindness, forbearance, and patience" in the past is God's "abundance of kindness, forbearance, and patience" (Romans 2:24), and that people will always come to different conclusions based on different worldviews; For "the light shines in darkness, but darkness receives no light" (John 1:5), when the spirit of man is plunged into darkness

The people were hopeless, but God prophesied, 'There will be signs of my punishment in this place, that your word of my evil will stand' (v.29). For 'all these things happened to them as a

warning, and they are written in the Scriptures, as a warning to us, of the last days' (I Corinthians 10:11), so that we may know whose word will stand and whose word will not (v.28).

Let's pray together:

Abba Heavenly Father, we come to You and ask You to open our spiritual eyes so that we can prioritize and make sound judgments. Give us a contrite heart and zeal to preach the gospel, so that we can all truly repent before You and receive Your saving grace.

Heavenly Father, as we look to You and see the hard stone hearts of the people of Israel, we also reflect on ourselves whether we can learn from their experiences. I don't want to be more and more rebellious under God's discipline, and the road is more and more bumpy, and I still want to return to my old way after falling. Give us the right attitude to face our mistakes and your conviction that only You love us with unchanging love, and that through You can turn our lives upside down and walk on a path that pleases You. Amen.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

Jeremiah 44

44:1 And there was a word of Jeremiah concerning all the Jews who dwelt in the land of Egypt, and of the Jews who dwelt in the borders of Mido, Tabini, Noph, and Barthro,

44:2 Thus saith the God of Israel, Yahweh Almighty, "You have seen all the calamities that I have brought upon Jerusalem and the cities of Judah. those cities are now desolate and uninhabited .

44:3 This is because of the wickedness of the inhabitants, to burn incense and serve other gods, that they provoke me to anger, and to the gods whom you and your fathers did not know.

44:4 I have sent my servants the prophets from early on, saying, Do not do this abomination which I detest.

44:5 But they do not hearken, they do not turn their ears to hear, they do not turn away from evil things, they burn incense to other gods.

44:6 Wherefore my anger and wrath were poured out, and I went up like a fire in the great cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, so that they were all desolate, as they are today.

44:7 Now this is what the God of Yahweh, the God of Israel, says, Why have you done this great evil to yourselves, that your men, women, babes, and milk-bearers have been cut off from Judah? not a single one will be left . 44:8 It is because of what your hands have done, that you have burned incense to other gods in the land of Egypt where you have gone to live and provoked me to anger, that you have been cut off, and that you have been cursed and disgraced among all the kingdoms of the earth.

44:9 The wickedness of your fathers, the wickedness of the kings of Jedaus and their concubines, the wickedness of yourselves and your wives and children, you have forgotten what you did in the land of Jedaus, in the streets of Jerusalem.

44:10 There is no remorse, no fear, no law in the way I set before you and your fathers.

44:11 So the God of Israel, the Lord of hosts, says, I will turn my face against you and bring calamity upon you, so that I will cut off all Judah.

44:12 He who is determined to enter the land of Egypt and sojourn there is the remnant of Judah, and I will destroy them all. They will fall in the land of Egypt and will be destroyed by the famine of the sword. From the least to the greatest, they will die by a famine of the sword, so that they will be reproached, terrified, cursed, and dishonored. 44:13 As I punish Jerusalem with the sword, with famine, with pestilence, with Jerusalem, so will I punish those Jews who dwell in Egypt.

44:14 Even those who entered into Egypt to sojourn, even the remaining Jews, had no escape, nor could they remain and return to the land of Judah, and their hearts longed to return to the land where they dwelt. Except for those who escaped, none of them could return. 44:15 And those who dwelt in Egypt, Pather, who knew that their wives and children had burned incense to other gods, and that all the women who were standing by them, gathered together in a crowd, and answered Jeremiah 44:16 concerning what thou hast said to us in the name of Jehovah, We will not listen.

44:17 We will surely do everything that comes out of our mouths, and we will burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings according to us and our fathers, kings, and princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, We did the same as we always do, because we were well fed and happy, and we did not see any calamities. 44:18 Since we stopped burning incense and pouring out offerings to the Queen of Heaven, we have lacked everything, and perished by the sword and famine.

44:19 And the woman said, We burn incense to the queen of heaven, pour out drink offerings, make bread for the queen of heaven, and offer offerings to her, but to her husbands. 44:20 And Jeremiah said to all the men and women who answered him in that way, 44:21 You and your fathers, kings, princes, and all the people of the land, and the incense that you have burned in the great cities of Jew, and in the streets of Jerusalem, Will not Yahohua remember and think in his heart?

44:22 Yahweh could no longer bear the wickedness you have done and the abominations you have done. Therefore your land is desolate, and horrifying, and cursed, and uninhabited, just as it is today.

44:23 You have burned incense, you have sinned against Jehovah, you have not listened to his voice, you have not done his laws, your statutes, your laws; So you are suffering this calamity just as you are today.

44:24 And Jeremiah said to all the people and all the women, Listen to the words of Jehovah, all you Jews in Egypt.

44:25 Thus saith the God of Israel, the Lord of armies, saying, With your mouth, and with your wives, we will fulfill our vows, and we will burn incense and pour out offerings to the Queen of Heaven. Now you just have to stick to what you wish and make amends.

44:26 Listen to Jehovah, all you who live in Egypt. And Yahweh said, I swear by my great name, and in all Egypt my name will no longer be called by the mouth of one great man, saying, I swear by Jehovah, who lives forever on the Lord.

44:27 I wish to them that no blessing will be bestowed, and that all the Jews in Egypt will be destroyed by the sword and famine.

44:28 The number of those who throw off their swords and return from Egypt to the land of Judah is very small, and the one who enters Egypt to sojourn there is the remaining Judah, and he will know whose word stands. It's me, it's theirs. 44:29 And Jehohua said, I will punish you in this land, and there will be signs that you may know that my word of evil upon you will be established.

44:30 Thus saith Jehovah, I will deliver Pharaoh Phophra king of Egypt into the hands of his enemies and those who seek his life, just as I have delivered the house of Zedeh the great king of Jewah into the hands of his enemies and the king of Barbichadnezzar, who seeks his life.

Jeremiah chapter 44 focuses on Jeremiah's prophecies and warnings about the people of Judah continuing to practice in Egypt and serving other gods. After the Babylonian army captured Jerusalem, some of the people of Judah fled to Egypt and continued to worship idolatry. Jeremiah prophesied that God would punish them, but they refused to listen, and as a result, Jerusalem was destroyed and they were punished. In this chapter, God accuses the people of Judah of sinning because of idolatry and sternly warns them not to continue to disobey God's will. Jeremiah conveyed God's message to them, telling them that if they did not repent, God would treat them as Jerusalem would, subjecting them to destruction and calamity. But the people of Judah remained stubborn, continued to worship idolatry, and were eventually punished by God. The entire passage emphasizes God's justice and judgment, while also expressing the need for repentance.

In Jeremiah 44, here are some important verses and their significance:

1. "The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews who dwelt in the land of Egypt, that is, Judah in Mido, Tapin, Noph, and Pathro, saying, 'This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'You have seen me bring calamity upon Jerusalem and all the cities of Judah, making them desolate and uninhabited, and provoking me to anger because of the evil they have done, to this day.' (Jeremiah 44:1-2) These verses show that God was so angry at the unfaithfulness and rebellion of the Jews that He had sent calamities to punish them and make

their cities desolate. Jeremiah delivered God's word to the Jews living in Egypt, telling them that God's wrath was still burning because they were still stubbornly following their own ways.

2. "You have done evil to yourselves, and you have brought evil to this day. What you have in your hands is iniquity of your own making, the evil that you have done; This is what the Lord has said. (Jeremiah 44:7) These verses are Jeremiah's accusations to the people of Judah that their sins were of their own creation and would lead to their destruction. Jeremiah emphasized that they could not escape their sins and that their actions must be punished by God.

3. "Therefore this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'I will raise my face with anger against you and cut off all Judah from the land of Egypt.'" (Jeremiah 44:11) These verses show that because they continue to stubbornly follow their idols, God will be angry with the Jews living in Egypt and will eradicate them from this place. This is God's punishment because their sins have exceeded God's limits of tolerance.

Overall, Jeremiah 44 shows us God's punishment for sin and for those who stubbornly follow themselves

A warning of the people of the road. These verses also remind us that we must take responsibility for our actions

Jeremiah 44 records some of the actions and idolatry of the people of Judah in Egypt, and Jeremiah's warning against their stubbornness and disobedience at this time. Here are just a few of the important theological central ideas and theological takeaways:

**Idolatry and sin:** In Jeremiah 44, the people of Judah continued to burn incense, devotion, and worship idolatry in Egypt, which caused God's wrath. Jeremiah condemned their idolatry and sin, pointing out that it was the reason why they had turned away from God.

**God's Promises and Warnings:** In Jeremiah 44, God again warns the people of Judah through Jeremiah that their actions in Egypt will bring disaster and judgment, just as God had warned Jerusalem and Judah earlier. However, God also promises that those who obey His Word will be favored and saved by God.

**Stubborn Heart:** In Jeremiah 44, the people of Judah do not heed Jeremiah's warnings and insist on continuing to burn incense and offer to idols. This shows their stubbornness, disrespect and disobedience to God's Word. **God's patience and kindness:** In Jeremiah 44, God endured the sins of the people of Judah even though they were far from God. God continued to warn them through Jeremiah and call them to return. This shows God's kindness and forgiveness, and He longs for them to change their minds and return to Him.

Overall, Jeremiah 44 emphasizes idolatry and sin, God's promises and warnings, stubbornness, and God's patience and kindness. The central idea of the theology is the emphasis on the importance of turning away from sin and idolatry and submitting to God's Word and will. God's promises and warnings are real and unchanging, and we should be careful to listen to His Word.

When we stubbornly refuse to obey, we must face God's judgment. However, God's patience and kindness are constant, and He is willing to save those who have changed their hearts, and He longs for us to return to Him and receive His mercy. We

We should recognize our sins, repent and obey God's Word so that His blessings will come upon us.