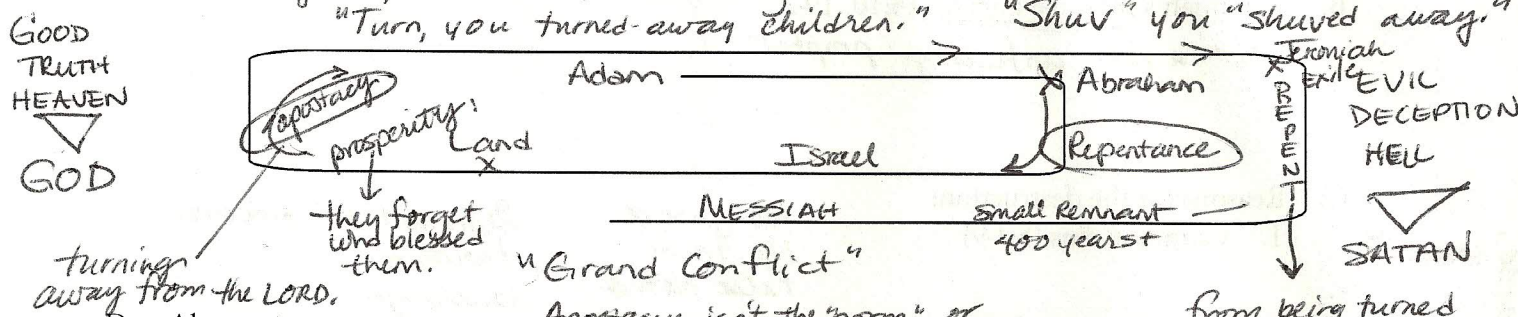


# Lesson 2: Jeremiah 3:6-6:30

- I. Aspects of True Repentance (3:6-4:4) *Don't hear much about it today.*
- A. It is not to be done in pretense (3:10). *pretense = trying to fool someone.*
  - B. It involves the guilty party doing something <sup>against</sup> their sin against the LORD their God (3:13, 25).  
Acknowledge/Admit *Needs to be acknowledged.*  
*Ultimately the offended party.*
  - C. It means (for an apostate people) to \_\_\_\_\_ from being \_\_\_\_\_ away from the LORD (3:14, 22).  
*Wayward; faithless; backsliding*  
*"Turn, you turned-away children."* *"Shuv" you "shuvved away."*



- D. Alternatives to apostasy: *Apostasy isn't the "norm" or necessary. Not sinless perfection.*
  1. Never straying seriously (having once turned):
  2. Cycles of repentance (in miniature): *A good story → "defiled by this"*

- E. It involves a fresh realization of the LORD's mercy and kind intentions (3:12b, 15-18).  
*This leads us to walk His straight & narrow path. Not our "This is a good idea." He is welcoming those who want to be close to Him.*
- F. It is accompanied by sincere confession of the LORD as the only Source of salvation, in contrast to previous misguided pursuits (3:22b-23). *You are the only way I can be saved. Not pulling up your bootstraps. Relying on Him to rescue & save.*

- G. It includes positive behavioral change (4:1, 3) that facilitates the fulfillment of the LORD's intended destiny for the person/people involved (4:2, Gen 12:2-3).  
*Not "I'll try to do better." But actual change. Keeping book on shelf. Keeping TV off.*
- H. Its absence eventually facilitates the unleashing of divine wrath (4:4b). *Keeping computer safe.*

- I. Biblical examples concerning repentance:
  1. Individual: King David - Ps 51 (after being confronted for committing adultery)  
*"According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions" Luke 24: 46-47*
  2. Group: The local church at Ephesus - Rev 2:1-7 (after straying from previous devotion)  
*"Repent and do the works you did at first... To the one who conquers, I will grant to eat of the tree of life"*
  3. Nation: King Josiah re. Judah - 2 Kg 22:8 - 23:27 (after Book of the Law was discovered)  
*"Great is the wrath of the LORD... because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this book"*

*mini-repentances: quickly dealt with. "I turn from this"*

*Repentance precedes fulfillment of purpose - destiny.*

*He wants us to voluntarily choose Him.*

*Death/Resurrection  
Repentance & forgiveness of sins led proclaimed.*

Implication - They didn't repent

II. Doom from the North (4:5-6:30) A preview of what's coming before it's released.

A. Imagery of coming desolation:

1. Blow the trumpet/raise a standard (4:23) <sup>5/6</sup>  
Time of emergency; to assemble
2. Earth without form and void (4:26)  
Genesis creation account: dismantling creation, return to chaos.
3. Ruined cities (4:26)  
Complete towns obliterated.
4. People fleeing/being murdered (4:29-31)  
Women crying out at their murderers coming down the street.



B. Jeremiah's personal anguish (4:10, 19-22)

Not a cold, unfeeling prophet.

C. Reasons for the destruction:

1. Common sins (5:1-9)  
No justice  
No truth  
False oaths  
Resistant to correction  
Idolatry  
Adultery
2. Lost perspective (5:23-25)

They don't say "We should seek the Lord." Baal is perceived as the provider for them.

D. Confusing voices of the false prophets (5:12-13, 6:14)

Jeremiah's not the only prophet speaking. "You're all right. The Lord cares about you." The Lord is the one who gives the paycheck.

False sense of security. This is why Jeremiah feels God is deceiving people -> the other guys appeal to be speaking for God.

E. Yahweh, the Enforcer of the judgment:

1. Will bring the army of terror (5:15, 6:22-26)  
"I am bringing it on."
2. Will not cause there to be a complete destruction (4:27, 5:18)  
Not going to start some "New people" somewhere else. He renews the "old people."

When God's Word is truly taught - comfort yes. But times when we start squirming; not comfortable.

III. Further considerations:

- A popular question today: "Is America headed for Judgment?"
- Possibly a closer parallel to the Judah of Jeremiah's day would be the church in America.  
Both are God's people in different
- In many respects, the church in America has lost much of its HOLY influence and we now have on our hands a predominantly SECULAR society.  
The people of God who want to follow Him with all their heart are in the minority.
- One constructive question we should be asking: "To what extent are aspects of Judah's apostasies evident in my own LIFE?"

↳ Let it work out from ME. My family, church, neighborhood change.

Be sensitive when there needs to be CORRECTION = REBUKE.

When people of God melt in so closely w/ society = there's no DIFFERENCE = apostasy.

If we are continually only around people who make us feel good all time -> false prophets.

Why Judgment is always for redemptive purpose.

Jeremiah was a person of destiny.

→ formed  
→ consecrated  
→ appointed

} God's purpose  
for an individual.  
Eternal ramifications.

Not "I'm someone great &  
going somewhere great."



Is there a similar weighty destiny  
for everyone born?

Not called to write scripture or be prophet.

Gal. 1:5

Ps. 139

You knit me together in my mother's womb.  
Before there was I day - you knew them.

Sort out to know God & His purpose for me.

Opportunities & choices → one step @ a time.

We don't see it until the end.

Apostasy → renunciation

obvious revolt or slow backsliding.

Can happen in an individual, group, church, denomination or nation.

Implies a previous knowledge of God:

They know better.

A hardness towards God's correction.

"I didn't do anything wrong!" "How dare you say  
anything about me."

