

Jeremiah 6:1-30 **Destruction coming from the North**

Impending Destruction from the North

1 "O you children of Benjamin, Gather yourselves to flee from the midst of Jerusalem! Blow the trumpet in Tekoa, And set up a signal-fire in Beth Haccerem; For disaster appears out of the north, And great destruction.

2 I have likened the daughter of Zion To a lovely and delicate woman.

3 The shepherds with their flocks shall come to her. They shall pitch their tents against her all around. Each one shall pasture in his own place."

4 "Prepare war against her; Arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe to us, for the day goes away, For the shadows of the evening are lengthening.

5 Arise, and let us go by night, And let us destroy her palaces."

6 For thus has the Lord of hosts said:

"Cut down trees, And build a mound against Jerusalem. This is the city to be punished. She is full of oppression in her midst.

7 As a fountain wells up with water, So she wells up with her wickedness. Violence and plundering are heard in her. Before Me continually are grief and wounds.

8 Be instructed, O Jerusalem, Lest My soul depart from you; Lest I make you desolate, A land not inhabited."

9 Thus says the Lord of hosts:

"They shall thoroughly glean as a vine the remnant of Israel; As a grape-gatherer, put your hand back into the branches."

Message falling on deaf ears

10 To whom shall I speak and give warning, That they may hear? Indeed their ear is uncircumcised, And they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of the Lord is a reproach to them; They have no delight in it.

11 Therefore I am full of the fury of the Lord. I am weary of holding it in. "I will pour it out on the children outside, And on the assembly of young men together; For even the husband shall be taken with the wife, The aged with him who is full of days.

12 And their houses shall be turned over to others, Fields and wives together; For I will stretch out My hand Against the inhabitants of the land," says the Lord.

13 "Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is given to covetousness; And from the prophet even to the priest, Everyone deals falsely.

14 They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace.

15 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; At the time I punish them, They shall be cast down," says the Lord.

God's call to repentance rejected by the people

16 Thus says the Lord:

"Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

17 Also, I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not listen.'

18 Therefore hear, you nations, And know, O congregation, what is among them.

19 Hear, O earth! Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this people — The fruit of their thoughts, Because they have not heeded My words Nor My law, but rejected it.

God rejects the offerings of the people

20 For what purpose to Me Comes frankincense from Sheba, And sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, Nor your sacrifices sweet to Me."

21 Therefore thus says the Lord:

"Behold, I will lay stumbling blocks before this people, And the fathers and the sons together shall fall on them. The neighbor and his friend shall perish."

Invasion from the North

22 Thus says the Lord:

"Behold, a people comes from the north country, And a great nation will be raised from the farthest parts of the earth.

23 They will lay hold on bow and spear; They are cruel and have no mercy; Their voice roars like the sea; And they ride on horses, As men of war set in array against you, O daughter of Zion."

24 We have heard the report of it; Our hands grow feeble. Anguish has taken hold of us, Pain as of a woman in labor.

25 Do not go out into the field, Nor walk by the way. Because of the sword of the enemy, Fear is on every side.

26 O daughter of my people, Dress in sackcloth And roll about in ashes! Make mourning as for an only son, most bitter lamentation; For the plunderer will suddenly come upon us.

Jeremiah is sent to test the people

27 "I have set you as an assayer and a fortress among My people, That you may know and test their way.

28 They are all stubborn rebels, walking as slanderers. They are bronze and iron, They are all corrupters;

29 The bellows blow fiercely, The lead is consumed by the fire; The smelter refines in vain, For the wicked are not drawn off.

30 People will call them rejected silver, Because the Lord has rejected them."

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Impending Destruction from the North

✧ "O you children of Benjamin, Gather yourselves to flee from the midst of Jerusalem! Blow the trumpet in Tekoa, And set up a signal-fire in Beth Haccerem; For disaster appears out of the north, And great destruction.

I have likened the daughter of Zion To a lovely and delicate woman.
The shepherds with their flocks shall come to her. They shall pitch their tents against her all around. Each one shall pasture in his own place."

"Prepare war against her; Arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe to us, for the day goes away, For the shadows of the evening are lengthening.

Arise, and let us go by night, And let us destroy her palaces."

For thus has Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts) said:

"Cut down trees, And build a mound against Jerusalem. This is the city to be punished. She is full of oppression in her midst.

As a fountain wells up with water, So she wells up with her wickedness. Violence and plundering are heard in her. Before Me continually are grief and wounds.

Be instructed, O Jerusalem, Lest My soul depart from you; Lest I make you desolate, A land not inhabited."

Thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts):

"They shall thoroughly glean as a vine the remnant of Israel; As a grape-gatherer, put your hand back into the branches." [Jeremiah 6:1-9]

✧ God calls His people out of the path of destruction when He brings judgment on a city.

✧ Jerusalem is compared to a lovely delicate woman surrounded by enemies intent of her destruction.

✧ God has called for war against Jerusalem with siege mounds.

✧ The reason for impending punishment is the growing wickedness, violence, and plundering which has become continual grief and wounds in the eyes of Yahweh.

✧ Yahweh is warning Jerusalem to take heed lest His soul depart from her and He make her desolate and uninhabited.

✧ The invaders will totally plunder the city like the gleaning of a grape vine.

Message falling on deaf ears

✧ To whom shall I speak and give warning, That they may hear? Indeed their ear is uncircumcised, And they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of Yahweh (the Lord) is a reproach to them; They have no delight in it.

Therefore I am full of the fury of Yahweh (the Lord). I am weary of holding it in. "I will pour it out on the children outside, And on the assembly of young men together; For even the husband shall be taken with the wife, The aged with him who is full of days.

And their houses shall be turned over to others, Fields and wives together; For I will stretch out My hand Against the inhabitants of the land," says Yahweh (the Lord).

"Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is given to covetousness; And from the prophet even to the priest, Everyone deals falsely.

They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace.

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; At the time I punish them, They shall be cast down," says Yahweh (the Lord). [Jeremiah 6:10-15]

✧ The message is falling on deaf ears of a people who have rejected the word of Yahweh.

✧ They have rejected the word of Yahweh so long it has become impossible for them to hear the warning sent to them through Jeremiah.

- ✧ Jeremiah is weary of holding back and has decided to pour it out on the people who will suffer the consequences of their refusal.
- ✧ Yahweh will deliver houses, land, men and their wives to the enemy.
- ✧ The reason for the destruction is because they are given to covetousness from the least to the greatest, from the prophet to the priests. Everyone deals falsely.
- ✧ The message from the false prophets has little value as they say they shall have peace when there is no chance of peace, but only the threat of total destruction.
- ✧ Because their conscience is seared by all their sins and abominations they are unable to be ashamed and cannot even blush.
- ✧ Therefore they will fall at the time of the invasion as they face the punishment of Yahweh.
- ✧ This sounds so much like the situation in the world of today, and the result will be the Great Tribulation, as Yahweh punishes the nations of the world for their sins and abominations that have become common place and are approved by their changing of the laws.

God's call to repentance rejected by the people

✧ Thus says Yahweh (the Lord):

"Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

Also, I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not listen.'

Therefore hear, you nations, And know, O congregation, what is among them.

Hear, O earth! Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this people — The fruit of their thoughts, Because they have not heeded My words Nor My law, but rejected it. [\[Jeremiah 6:16-19\]](#)

- ✧ Yahweh is faithful to call the people to repentance, with the promise that safety and security will be the result of their return to Him.
- ✧ But the people refused to repent though Yahweh sent warnings to them.
- ✧ Yahweh then calls the nations and the earth to witness the calamity He will bring on His people because they have rejected His warnings and refused His Law.

God rejects the offerings of the people

✧ For what purpose to Me Comes frankincense from Sheba, And sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, Nor your sacrifices sweet to Me."

Therefore thus says Yahweh (the Lord):

"Behold, I will lay stumbling blocks before this people, And the fathers and the sons together shall fall on them. The neighbor and his friend shall perish." [\[Jeremiah 6:20-21\]](#)

- ✧ Yahweh refuses and will not accept their sacrifices and offerings because they have rejected His laws and turned their back on His call to repent.
- ✧ Yahweh will lay stumbling blocks before the people. [\[Isaiah 6:9-10, 8:14, 30:28, 1 Peter 2:7-8, Romans 1:18-32\]](#)
- ✧ They will fall and perish together.

Invasion from the North

✧ Thus says Yahweh (the Lord):

"Behold, a people comes from the north country, And a great nation will be raised from the farthest parts of the earth.

They will lay hold on bow and spear; They are cruel and have no mercy; Their voice roars like the sea; And they ride on horses, As men of war set in array against you, O daughter of

Zion."

We have heard the report of it; Our hands grow feeble. Anguish has taken hold of us, Pain as of a woman in labor.

Do not go out into the field, Nor walk by the way. Because of the sword of the enemy, Fear is on every side.

O daughter of my people, Dress in sackcloth And roll about in ashes! Make mourning as for an only son, most bitter lamentation; For the plunderer will suddenly come upon us. [[Jeremiah 6:22-26](#)]

✧ Again Yahweh repeats the warning of the invasion coming from the North.

✧ The warning is **magowr misabiyb** (fear is all around).

Jeremiah is sent to test the people

✧ "I have set you as an assayer and a fortress among My people, That you may know and test their way.

They are all stubborn rebels, walking as slanderers. They are bronze and iron, They are all corrupters;

The bellows blow fiercely, The lead is consumed by the fire; The smelter refines in vain, For the wicked are not drawn off.

People will call them rejected silver, Because Yahweh (the Lord) has rejected them." [[Jeremiah 6:27-30](#)]

✧ Yahweh has strengthened and set a protection around Jeremiah because he is sent to a rebellious people with an unpopular message to test the willingness of the people to repent.

✧ Yahweh knows that the people are hard as bronze and iron in their corruption.

✧ They are slanderers and rebels.

✧ Chastisement of Yahweh fails to remove their wickedness.

✧ When the invasion is complete, the world will know its destruction is because Yahweh has rejected the rebellious nation for their sins and delivered them into the hands of their enemies.

✧ Even today, the people of Israel the Jews are proof that what God has said He will do, God has done both good and bad. Therefore we may be certain that what God has said regarding the end-time He will fulfill in its own time exactly as He has done in the past.

✧ Now the entire world is following the path that brought judgment against Israel.

✧ How can God not punish the world for such sins as He punished Israel?

✧ Today we also need to take heed of the warning given to Jerusalem so long ago and it all proved to be true, God did as He said He would do.

✧ Will the people of the world defy God to His face and flaunt their sins openly till the world is destroyed by the Great Tribulation?