### Jeremiah

## Chapter 14

1Then the Word of Jehovah came to me (JeremiAh) to [speak about] the drought.  
  
[For I had said:]  
  
 2‘Judah is mourning, for her gates are now empty,  
 And the land is enveloped in darkness,  
 As cries are ascending from JeruSalem.  
  
 3‘Her great ones send young men for water,  
 Who find nothing when they get to the wells;  
 So, all they bring back is just empty jars.  
  
 4‘The works in the land have failed also,  
 For there hasn’t been any rain.  
 So the farmers are shamed and they cover their heads.  
 5And when the hinds in the prairies give birth,  
 They just abandon their young…  
 For there’s not enough [grass] in the fields.  
  
 6‘Wild burros in the woods must suck wind;  
 And because there is so little hay,  
 The eyes of the wild beasts have failed.  
  
 7‘Because of our sins, [You’ve] opposed us, O Lord;  
 But, help us for the sake of Your Name.  
 However, our errors are many,  
 And we’re [guilty] of sinning against You.  
  
 8‘But Jehovah,  
  
 ‘You are IsraEl’s endurance…  
 In hard times, You’ve been our Savior.  
 So, why are You being a stranger to us…  
 Like a native-born son on vacation?  
  
 9‘Are You like a man who is sleeping,  
 Or someone who is able to save us?  
 For, You’ve been among us, O Lord,  
 And we are called by Your Name;  
 So, You should never forget us!’  
  
10And the Lord replied concerning these people:  
  
 ‘They’ve [sinned] and they have spared no one;  
 So, God hasn’t prospered their ways,  
 And because He is now recalling their sins…  
 For their errors, He’s coming to visit.’  
  
11Then the Lord told me:  
  
 ‘Don’t request good things for these people;  
 12For, when they fast, I won’t hear their prayers.  
 And if they should bring sacrifices,  
 I won’t look kindly upon them.  
 Rather, I’ll finish them off with the sword,  
 And to the rest, I will then send a famine.’  
  
13And I said:  
  
 ‘O Great Being… O Lord,  
  
 ‘Our prophets have said that we won’t ever see the sword and that we’ll never go hungry… Rather, they’re saying that You’re going to bring peace to our land!’  
  
14And then the Lord said this to me:  
  
 ‘Those who prophesy such in [God’s] Name  
 Are just telling them lies;  
 For, I did not really send them,  
 Nor did I tell them what they should say.  
  
 ‘So the visions that they have are all lies;  
 And the signs and omens that they prophesy,  
 Are just things that come from their hearts.  
  
 15‘Therefore, this was said by Jehovah:  
  
 ‘You must tell those who prophesy lies in My Name  
 (Those whom I didn’t send)…  
 [Because you’ve said] that famine and the sword  
 Will never come to this land;  
 You prophets will die by diseases,  
 And I’ll finish what’s left by starvation!  
  
 16‘Yes, you who are telling such stories  
 Will all die by the sword and by famine;  
 Then your bodies will be tossed in JeruSalem’s streets.  
  
 ‘You won’t be buried in tombs…  
 Nor will your wives, sons, or daughters.  
 For I’ll pour your own badness upon you!’  
  
 17‘Then tell them that Jehovah said this:  
  
 ‘Your eyes will be filled with tears day and night…  
 For you will never stop crying!  
 To the daughters of My people will just come defeat…  
 Yes, they will be horribly beaten!  
  
 18‘So, when you go out to the fields,  
 You’ll see those cut down by the sword.  
 And when you enter the cities,  
 You’ll see the misery of famine.  
 Then, to lands that you’ve never known,  
 They’ll carry you prophets and priests!’  
  
19[And I asked:]  
  
 ‘Are you saying that Jehovah has rejected all of Judah and that He has removed His Soul from Zion? Why is He striking us instead of healing us? For although we’ve been waiting for peace, nothing good has happened… [we’ve been waiting for] healing, but things are just getting worse!  
  
 20‘O Lord, we’re aware of our errors and the sins of our fathers… Yes we know that we’re guilty of sins before You. 21But please back off because of Your Name… Don’t destroy Your glorious throne! Please remember Your Sacred Agreement… Please don’t wipe it away!  
  
 22‘For, which idol of the nations can bring rain… Which one can bring what they say they can bring from the skies? Who other than You can accomplish such things… [Who other than] our God Jehovah?  
  
 ‘Therefore, we’ll continue to wait upon You, since You’re the One who created it all!’