### Jeremiah

## Chapter 15

1And then the Lord said to me:  
  
 ‘If you’d stand SamuEl and Moses before me…  
 Even for them, my soul wouldn’t change.  
 So, send these people away from my face…  
 Yes, let them [be carried away]!  
  
 2‘And if they should ask, Where are we going?  
 You should tell them that thus says Jehovah:  
  
 ‘As many as are [appointed for] death  
 [Are the numbers of those] who will die;  
 As many as are [appointed] to the sword  
 [Are the numbers of those] who will die by the sword;  
 As many as are [appointed] to famine  
 [Are the numbers of those] who will starve;  
 And as many as are [appointed] to be captives  
 [Are the numbers of those] who’ll be carried away.’  
  
 3‘And Jehovah said:  
  
 ‘I will take vengeance in 4 different ways:  
  
 · They’ll be put to death by the sword,  
 · They’ll be torn to pieces by dogs,  
 · They’ll serve as prey for wild beasts,  
 · They’ll be rotting flesh for the birds in the skies.  
  
 4‘To many distresses, I’ll hand them  
 To all the kingdoms throughout the earth  
 Because of ManasSeh, king of Judah  
 (The son of King HezekiAh),  
 And for all that he did in JeruSalem.  
  
 5‘O JeruSalem; who will spare you?  
 Yes, who will be timid against you,  
 And who will say, ‘May you have peace?’  
 For to Me, you have now turned [your backs],’ says Jehovah.  
 6So now, you will be [forced to] retreat;  
  
 ‘Then I’ll stretch out My hand to destroy you  
 And I will not spare you thereafter.  
  
 7‘I’ll scatter and disperse those inside the gates,  
 And they will all become childless…  
 They’ll destroy My people, because they’re so bad.  
  
 8‘Then there’ll be more widows than the sands of the seas…  
 For to mothers of young men, I’ll send misery…  
 I’ll bring trembling and anxiety upon them at noon.  
  
 9‘So the one who bore 7 will have none,  
 For their lives will meet with misfortune  
 And their sun will have set at midday.  
 They’ll be disgraced and berated,  
 And I’ll hand what’s left to the sword,’ says Jehovah.’  
  
10So, woe to you, O mother who bore me;  
 For I’ve become a man who must judge  
 And bring bad things to this land.  
  
Yet, none of this will benefit me,  
 Since no one has offered to help me,  
 And I’ve been weakened by all those who curse me.  
  
11So may it be, O Jehovah the Almighty…  
 May they get no help in their time of distress,  
 And may their enemies bring them no good.  
 12Let them know that [You are like] iron  
 And Your strength is like a robe made of brass.  
  
13[Then the Lord said this concerning the people]:  
  
 ‘Because of the sins in your borders,  
 I’ll hand all your treasures to them.  
 14Before them, you all will be slaves,  
 And you’ll live in lands that you’ve never known.  
 For a fire will start burning among you,  
 Which will be lit by my rage.’  
  
15But Lord; please do not forget me…  
 Save me from those who pursue me…  
 Please don’t hold back [Your hand],  
 Since it’s because of You, that I’m hated  
 16By those who don’t want to hear what You’ve said.  
  
If You’ll completely finish them off,  
 Your words will bring joy to my heart.  
 For, O Jehovah the Almighty;  
 I’m a man who is called by Your Name!  
  
17I don’t sit among those who have mocked You,  
 And before Your hand, I was cautious.  
 I sat by myself all alone  
 Filled with great indignation.  
  
18But, why do You allow those who bring grief to win?  
 For my wounds by them have been so severe…  
 And now, where can I go to get healed?  
 Yes, to me, this is untested water…  
 It’s something that I cannot trust.  
  
19Then the Lord said:  
  
 ‘If you should ever return [to this land],  
 I’ll return everything that you’ve owned,  
 And before my face, you’ll stand once again.  
  
 ‘But now, you must separate those who are worthy  
 From all the rest that are not,  
 And you must serve as my mouth.  
  
 ‘And although they may come before you,  
 You must not go before them.  
 20For, to these people, I’ve made you  
 A fortified wall of forged brass.  
  
 ‘So, although they’ll wage war against you,  
 They won’t be able to beat you,  
 Because I am here and I’ll save you.  
  
 ‘Yes, I’ll rescue you from their hands,’ said [the Lord]…  
 ‘From the hands of the wicked, I’ll save you…  
 I’ll ransom you from these cursed people.’