### Jeremiah

## Chapter 19

1Well at that, the Lord said to me:  
  
 ‘Go buy a shaped earthenware pitcher  
 From the elders of the people and the priests.  
 2Then go to the graveyard of Hinnom’s sons  
 At the threshold of the East Gate,  
 And read all these words that I’ll tell you:  
  
 3‘Say:  
  
 ‘O you kings of Judea,  
 And you who live in JeruSalem;  
 Hear the word of Jehovah!  
 For Jehovah of Armies, the God of IsraEl now says  
 That He’ll bring so many bad things to this place  
 That it will ring in the ears of those hearing about it!  
  
 4‘For, they’ve left Him and [chosen] this place  
 Where they burn incense to their strange gods  
 (Gods that their fathers never knew).  
 And the kings of Judah have filled up this place  
 With the blood of innocent men.  
  
 5‘Here, they’ve built [altars] to [a] BaAl,  
 And they’ve burned their sons in a fire…  
 Something that God never spoke of  
 And which He never told them to do,  
 Or ever came into His heart!  
  
 6‘And because of this, days will come,’ said the Lord,  
 ‘When they’ll call this [The Valley] no longer,  
 Nor the Graveyard of Hinnom’s sons.  
 It’ll be called, The Graveyard of Slaughter!  
  
 7‘For there, I’ll slay the counselors of Judah,  
 As well as those of JeruSalem…  
 Before their enemies, I’ll cut them down  
 Through the hands of those who are seeking their lives.  
 Then I’ll hand their dead to the birds as their food,  
 As well as to the wild beasts of the ground.  
  
 8‘I’ll order the extinction of this city…  
 It’ll be just a place where hissing is heard.  
 And all that come here will look at it sadly,  
 Then whistle [when they see] its disaster.  
  
 9‘Here they’ll eat the flesh of their daughters and sons,  
 And in their strongholds, the flesh of their neighbors,  
 When their enemies (those seeking their lives) have arrived.’  
  
 10‘Then, break that pitcher in front of their eyes,  
 And before those who’ve traveled there with you,  
 11Then tell them that thus says Jehovah:  
  
 ‘This is how I will do it;  
 I’ll break your city and its people  
 Just like this pot has been shattered  
 So that it cannot be repaired.  
 Then they will be buried here in this place  
 Where [they now play] tambourines…  
 And there’ll be no other place to be buried.’  
  
 12‘Jehovah says:  
  
 This is what I will do to this place,  
 And to all those who live here…  
 I’ll hand this city to destruction…  
 13Yes, all of JeruSalem’s homes  
 And the palaces of all of its rulers.  
  
 ‘It will all fall into ruin  
 Because of the bad things they’ve done here.  
 For here, they’ve burned incense on roofs  
 To each of the [Zodiac signs],  
 And they’ve offered drinks to strange gods.’  
  
  
14Then JeremiAh left [the valley] where The Lord had sent him to prophesy, and he went and stood in the courtyard of the [Temple] of Jehovah and said this to all the people who were there:  
  
 ‘Thus says Jehovah of Armies:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I’ll bring calamity on this city  
 And to the rest of its cities and towns.  
 I’m bringing all of the evils that I’ve spoken against her;  
 For, you have hardened your necks,  
 And not listened to the instructions that I sent.’