### Jeremiah

## Chapter 35

1It was during the time of JehoiAkim (son of JosiAh) the king of Judah that the Word of Jehovah came to JeremiAh saying:  
  
 2‘Call for the Rechabite families,  
 Then bring them to the House of Jehovah  
 And into one of the courtyards,  
 Where you must offer them wine.’  
  
3So I went and brought JaAzaniAh (son of JeremiAh and grandson of HabaZiniAh), as well as his brothers and sons, and the rest of the families of the Rechabites, into the Temple of Jehovah. 4There, I [seated them] in the dining room of the sons of Hanan (son of IgDaliYah, a man of God), which was located next to the house of the Temple overseers and above the house of MaAseJah son of ShalLum (who was in charge of guarding the entryways), 5and I set a clay pitcher of wine before them and some cups, and I offered them some wine.  
  
6But they said:  
  
 ‘There’s no way that we’re going to drink any wine, because our ancestor JoNadab son of RechAb told us:  
  
 ‘You must never drink wine – you and your sons – throughout the ages. 7Nor should you build houses, sow seeds, plant vineyards, or own any; you should live in tents all your days, that you may live many days in the land you’re inhabiting.’  
  
 8‘So we’ve obeyed the instructions of JoNadab son of RechAb our ancestor, and we haven’t done anything that he told us not to do. We haven’t drunk any wine throughout our lives – not us, our wives, our sons, or our daughters – 9nor have we built houses, owned vineyards, or planted seeds in fields… None of this has ever happened among us. 10We’ve done everything that our ancestor JoNadab told us to do, and we’ve been living in tents. 11Then when NebuChadNezzar the king of Babylon came to this land, we told him:  
  
 ‘We will leave [our position] in front of the Chaldeans and the armies of the Assyrians and go up to JeruSalem…’  
  
 ‘...and we’ve been living here ever since then.’  
  
  
12Well after that, the Word of Jehovah came to me and told me that 13Jehovah of Armies, the God of IsraEl, told me to do this:  
  
 ‘You must go and speak to the men of Judea  
 And to those who are living in JeruSalem;  
 Then, tell them that thus says Jehovah:  
  
 ‘There’s no way that you’ve heard the things that I’ve said;  
 14Yet, the sons of JoNadab son of RechAb  
 Have obeyed the instructions he gave to his sons  
 Not to drink any wine…  
 And they’ve drunk no wine to this day!  
 They’ve paid attention to their father’s commands.  
 But, when I spoke plainly to you,  
 You refused to listen to Me!  
  
 15‘So each morning, I sent you My servants the Prophets…  
 I sent them and told them to teach every man  
 To turn from his evil ways…  
 To be better and not follow or serve other gods,  
 So you could continue to live in the land  
 That I gave to your fathers and you.  
 But, you have learned nothing at all…  
 Your ears have paid no attention!  
  
 16‘Yet the sons of JoNadab son of RechAb  
 Have obeyed the commands of their father…  
 They’ve not done the things he said [not to do],  
 While you haven’t listened to Me!  
  
 17‘So because of this,’ says IsraEl’s God, Jehovah of Armies,  
 ‘{Look!} I will be bringing on Judah  
 And on those who live in JeruSalem  
 All the bad that I’ve spoken against them.  
 For, when I spoke, they paid no attention…  
 When I called out to them, they didn’t reply.’  
  
18Then JeremiAh said to the house of the Rechabites:  
  
 ‘This is what Jehovah has declared:  
  
 ‘Since the descendants of JoNadab son of RechAb  
 Have paid attention to their father’s commands  
 And done everything that he told them to do;  
 It’s because of this,’ says IsraEl’s God, Jehovah of Armies,  
 19‘No way will a man of JoNadab’s sons  
 Ever fail to stand before Me.’