

Lesson 3
The Lord's Call to Return
Jeremiah 3:6 – 5:30

Questions

1. What did backsliding Israel (the northern kingdom) and Judah do to show their spiritual adultery against the Lord (3:6-10).

2. What was Jeremiah told to say to backsliding Israel and why (3:11-13)?

3. What things would the Lord do for Israel if they returned to him (3:14-18)?

4. What attitude was needed in order to return to the Lord and why did Israel need to return to him (3:19-25)?

5. What kind of Israelite did the Lord want to return to him (4:1-2)?

6. What kind of heart did the Lord want for those who returned to him (4:3-4; see also 4:14)?

7. What did the Lord bring from the north upon Jerusalem and Judah (4:5-9)?

8. How did Jeremiah respond to the Lord's announcement of coming destruction (4:10)?

9. What (or who) is coming against Jerusalem and why (4:11-18)?

10. What additional response did Jeremiah have concerning the coming destruction and how did he describe it (4:19-26)?
11. What did the Lord speak and purpose against Jerusalem (4:27-31)?
12. Who was Jeremiah told to look for in Jerusalem and who did he find (5:1-3)?
13. Who did Jeremiah find when he looked among the great men (5:4-6)?
14. How did the Lord act toward Israel and how did they respond in return (5:7-9)?
15. How did Israel and Judah act toward the Lord (5:10-13)?
16. What would Jeremiah's word be like to the people of Israel (5:14)?
17. What nation would the Lord bring upon Israel and what would they do (5:15-18)?
18. Why did the Lord bring this nation upon his people (5:19)?
19. How did Israel act toward the Lord God at this time (5:20-24)?
20. What iniquities did Israel commit at this time and what would the Lord do (5:25-29)?
21. What horrible thing was found in the land of Israel at this time (Jer. 5:30-31)?

Digging Deeper

1. What did Zephaniah, the contemporary of Jeremiah, say about returning to the Lord (Zeph. 2:1-3) and about Jerusalem being rebellious (Zeph. 3:1-7)?
2. What people from the north did the Lord use to bring destruction upon Jerusalem and Judah (4:6; see also 5:15-17)?
3. When would Jeremiah 3:14-18 be completely fulfilled?
4. How do you explain Jeremiah 4:10? In what way did the Lord greatly deceive his people?
5. What does this mean: "But these with one accord have broken the yoke and burst the bonds" (5:5)?

Applications for Today

1. Let us be careful not to backslide and commit spiritual adultery against our Lord – it will take us away from God (3:6-12, 14, 22; Heb. 10:38-39; Jas. 4:4; 2 Pet. 2:21).
2. When we sin, let us confess our sin and return to the Lord (3:1, 7, 10, 12; etc.; Jas. 5:19-20; 1 Pet. 2:25).
3. When we return to the Lord, let it be with the whole heart and not with pretense (3:10; 1 Tim. 1:5; Heb. 10:22).
4. The erring child of God needs to acknowledge his or her sin and return to the Lord (3:13; Acts 8:22).
5. The Lord's shepherds feed his people (3:15; Acts 20:28).
6. The Lord wants those who are circumcised in heart to come to him (4:4; Rom. 2:28-29; Phil. 3:3; Col. 2:11). He also wants a clean heart (4:14; Jas. 4:8).
7. The Lord's wrath in the judgment day will be unquenchable (4:4; Mk. 9:43-48).

8. We must be wise unto that which is good, not that which is evil (4:22; Rom. 16:19).
9. The Lord punishes, but he does not completely remove his people (4:27; 5:7, 18; Rom. 11:1-5).
10. Always live by God's law and under God's law (5:4-5; Rom. 7:2; 8:7; 1 Cor. 9:21).
11. The Lord's word is like a fire that burns (5:14; Jer. 23:29).
12. Some people have eyes and ears, but they do not understand the Lord's word because they do not want to understand it (5:21; Mt. 13:14).
13. Let us never revolt and rebel against the great Lord God (5:23; Zeph. 3:1-7; 2 Pet. 2:4-9; Jude 5-7).
14. The Lord who is holy cannot overlook the sin among his people; he must punish it (5:29; Rev. 15:4).
15. Sometimes the Lord's people love to hear and say what is false (Jer. 5:10-31; 2 Tim. 4:3-4; Rev. 22:15).