

CHAPTER 12

RIGHTEOUS *art* thou, O LORD, when I plead with thee: yet let me talk with thee of *thy* judgments: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? *wherefore* are all they happy that deal very treacherously?

2 Thou hast planted them, yea, they have taken root: they grow, yea, they bring forth fruit: thou *art* near in their mouth, and far from their reins.

3 But thou, O LORD, knowest me: thou hast seen me, and tried mine heart toward thee: pull them out like sheep for the slaughter, and prepare them for the day of slaughter.

4 How long shall the land mourn, and the herbs of every field wither, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein? the beasts are consumed, and the birds; because they said, He shall not see our last end.

5 ¶ If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend

with horses? and *if* in the land of peace, *wherein* thou trustedst, *they wearied thee*, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?

6 For even thy brethren, and the house of thy father, even they have dealt treacherously with thee; yea, they have called a multitude after thee: believe them not, though they speak fair words unto thee.

7 ¶ I have forsaken mine house, I have left mine heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of my soul into the hand of her enemies.

8 Mine heritage is unto me as a lion in the forest; it crieth out against me: therefore have I hated it.

9 Mine heritage *is* unto me *as* a speckled bird, the birds round about *are* against her; come ye, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour.

10 Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

11 They have made it desolate,

and being desolate it mourneth unto me; the whole land is made desolate, because no man layeth *it* to heart.

12 The spoilers are come upon all high places through the wilderness: for the sword of the LORD shall devour from the *one* end of the land even to the *other* end of the land: no flesh shall have peace.

13 They have sown wheat, but shall reap thorns: they have put themselves to pain, *but* shall not profit: and they shall be ashamed of your revenues because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

14 ¶ Thus saith the LORD against all mine evil neighbours, that touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them.

15 And it shall come to pass, after that I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land.

16 And it shall come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, The LORD liveth; as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then shall

they be built in the midst of my people.

17 But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, saith the LORD.

CHAPTER 13

THUS saith the LORD unto me, Go and get thee a linen girdle, and put it upon thy loins, and put it not in water.

2 So I got a girdle according to the word of the LORD, and put *it* on my loins.

3 And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying,

4 Take the girdle that thou hast got, which *is* upon thy loins, and arise, go to Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole of the rock.

5 So I went, and hid it by Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me.

6 And it came to pass after many days, that the LORD said unto me, Arise, go to Euphrates, and take the girdle from thence, which I commanded thee to hide there.

7 Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hid it: and, behold, the girdle was marred, it was profitable for nothing.

8 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

9 Thus saith the LORD, After this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem.

10 This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.

11 For as the girdle cleaveth to the loins of a man, so have I caused to cleave unto me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah, saith the LORD; that they might be unto me for a people, and for a name, and for a praise, and for a glory: but they would not hear.

12 ¶ Therefore thou shalt speak unto them this word; Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Every bottle shall be filled with wine: and they shall say unto thee, Do we not certainly know that every bottle shall be filled with wine?

13 Then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings that sit upon David's throne, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.

14 And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the LORD: I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them.

15 ¶ Hear ye, and give ear; be not proud: for the LORD hath spoken.

16 Give glory to the LORD your God, before he cause darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains, and, while ye look for light, he turn it into the shadow of death, *and* make *it* gross darkness.

17 But if ye will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret places for *your* pride; and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because the LORD'S flock is carried away captive.

18 Say unto the king and to the queen, Humble yourselves, sit down: for your principalities shall come down, *even* the crown of your glory.

19 The cities of the south shall be shut up, and none shall open *them*: Judah shall be carried away captive all of it, it shall be wholly carried away captive.

20 Lift up your eyes, and behold them that come from the north: where *is* the flock *that* was given thee, thy beautiful flock?

21 What wilt thou say when he shall punish thee? for thou hast taught them *to be* captains, *and* as chief over thee: shall not sorrows take thee, as a woman in travail?

22 ¶ And if thou say in thine heart, Wherefore come these things upon me? For the greatness of thine iniquity are thy skirts discovered, *and* thy heels made bare.

23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? *then* may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.

24 Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that passeth away by the wind of the wilderness.

25 This *is* thy lot, the portion of thy measures from me, saith the LORD; because thou hast forgotten me, and trusted in falsehood.

26 Therefore will I discover thy skirts upon thy face, that thy shame may appear.

27 I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings, the lewdness of thy whoredom, *and* thine abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe unto thee, O Jerusalem! wilt thou not be made clean? when *shall it* once be?

CHAPTER 14

THE word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the dearth.

2 Judah mourneth, and the gates thereof languish; they are black unto the ground; and the cry of Jerusalem is gone up.

3 And their nobles have sent their little ones to the waters: they came to the pits, *and* found no water; they returned with their vessels empty; they were ashamed and confounded, and covered their heads.

4 Because the ground is chapt, for there was no rain in the earth, the plowmen were ashamed, they covered their heads.

5 Yea, the hind also calved in the field, and forsook *it*, because there was no grass.

6 And the wild asses did stand in the high places, they snuffed up the wind like dragons; their eyes did fail, because *there was* no grass.

7 ¶ O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, do thou *it* for thy name's sake: for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against thee.

8 O the hope of Israel, the saviour thereof in time of trouble, why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land, and as a wayfaring man *that* turneth aside to tarry for a night?

9 Why shouldest thou be as a

man astonished, as a mighty man *that* cannot save? yet thou, O LORD, *art* in the midst of us, and we are called by thy name; leave us not.

10 ¶ Thus saith the LORD unto this people, Thus have they loved to wander, they have not refrained their feet, therefore the LORD doth not accept them; he will now remember their iniquity, and visit their sins.

11 Then said the LORD unto me, Pray not for this people for *their* good.

12 When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and an oblation, I will not accept them: but I will consume them by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence.

13 ¶ Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.

14 Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

15 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land; By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.

16 And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them, them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters: for I will pour their wickedness upon them.

17 ¶ Therefore thou shalt say this word unto them; Let mine eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease: for the virgin daughter of my people is broken with a great breach, with a very grievous blow.

18 If I go forth into the field, then behold the slain with the sword! and if I enter into the city, then behold them that are sick with famine! yea, both the prophet and the priest go about into a land that they know not.

19 Hast thou utterly rejected Judah? hath thy soul lothed Zion? why hast thou smitten us, and *there is* no healing for us? we looked for peace, and *there is* no

good; and for the time of healing, and behold trouble!

20 We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness, *and* the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against thee.

21 Do not abhor *us*, for thy name's sake, do not disgrace the throne of thy glory: remember,

break not thy covenant with us.

22 Are there *any* among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain? or can the heavens give showers? *art* not thou he, O LORD our God? therefore we will wait upon thee: for thou hast made all these *things*.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

In chapter 12 Jeremiah pleads with God about His judgments. His pleading is in a humble and submissive manner, which God accepts by making him feel the evil of the people more deeply. At the same time, God sustains the prophet's faith by the personal interest He shows in him. God helps him understand that He has not forsaken His inheritance. The state of things was therefore no longer in doubt. God also revealed His purposes and blessings to His people, and even to the nations among whom they will be disbursed, if these nations would learn the ways of the Lord.

In chapter 13 Jeremiah calls the people to repentance because of the coming judgment. Chapter 14 records Sermon 5, presented as "The Drought" and the nation's doom. In this chapter we read of the terrible calamity (verses 1-6); the empty ritualistic prayers of the nation (verses 7-9); and their rejection by the Lord (verses 10-12). The false prophets, who had no divine credentials, were to blame (verses 14-16) and finally, in the latter part of the chapter, we see Jeremiah again lamenting for the nation he loved so well.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them" (Proverbs 11:3).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons. For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 26 (found on page 8).

BIRTHDAY TODAY

GARY McCRUTER

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1875

MOODY AND SANKEY RETURNED FROM THE GREAT ENGLAND REVIVAL.

This was called the greatest revival since Pentecost. Oh, how good it would be to have it done again, to feel the breath of Heaven, and to see God's power once again.

1935

THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT WAS SIGNED.

One wonders if the increase in Social Security and government benefits does not depict a losing of our faith in Christ to supply our needs. Does not the Bible say, "*But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 4:19)? He is sufficient. Let us trust Him for our provisions. Remember His promise, "*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you*" (Matthew 6:33). Could it be that dependence upon the flesh is needed because we are not seeking first the kingdom of God? Trust Him in simple childlike faith today.

1941

THE DATE OF THE ATLANTIC CHARTER.

1945

JAPAN SURRENDERED.

Those of you who are old enough to remember this day will remember it as one of the great days in the history of the world. Jack Hyles recalls that he was on a rifle range during maneuvers when the message came. There was dancing in the streets. There was rejoicing and shouting. World War II was over. The war to end all wars had ended, and yet, we find men fighting and dying today on foreign battlefields. Pray for peace.

1962

THE LARGEST CASH ROBBERY IN HISTORY WAS COMMITTED.

The U.S. mail truck was robbed of \$1,551,277.00 near Boston, Massachusetts.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1862

PRESIDENT LINCOLN RECEIVED FIRST GROUP OF BLACKS TO CONFER WITH A U.S. PRESIDENT

on a matter of public policy. He urged blacks to emigrate to Africa or Central America and was bitterly criticized by Northern blacks.

1876

PRAIRIE VIEW STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDED.

1883

ERNEST E JUST, BIOLOGIST AND PIONEER OF CELL DIVISION, BORN (death in 1941)

1906

BLACK SOLDIERS RAIDED BROWNSVILLE,

TEXAS, in retaliation for racial insults. One white man killed, two wounded.

1908

RACE RIOT, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS. Rioting erupted in Springfield, Ill., as a white mob, enraged that two black criminal suspects (one later convicted of murder, the other exonerated of rape) had been spirited away from the city jail by authorities, began setting black-owned homes and businesses on fire. At least two blacks and five whites were killed in the violence. (The riot helped inspire the creation of the NAACP the following year, 8/14-09).

1953

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENT CONTRACT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE to supervise antidiscrimination regulations in government contracts.

1970

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK INAUGURATED OPEN ADMISSIONS POLICY designed to increase the number of poor and minority students.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

QUALIFICATION FOR ANSWERED PRAYER

(Assignment 26)

Please review these pages. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

Delight

() Psalm 37:4

Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Abide

() John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Receive

() 1 John 3:22

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Succeed

() 1 John 5:14-15

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.