

CHAPTER 16

A GAIN the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

2 Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations,

3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto Jerusalem; Thy birth and thy nativity *is* of the land of Canaan; thy father *was* an Amorite, and thy mother an Hittite.

4 And *as for* thy nativity, in the day thou wast born thy navel was not cut, neither wast thou washed in water to supple *thee*; thou wast not salted at all, nor swaddled at all.

5 None eye pitied thee, to do any of these unto thee, to have compassion upon thee; but thou wast cast out in the open field, to the lothing of thy person, in the day that thou wast born.

6 ¶ And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee *when thou wast* in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee *when thou wast* in thy blood, Live.

7 I have caused thee to multiply as the bud of the field, and thou

hast increased and waxen great, and thou art come to excellent ornaments: *thy* breasts are fashioned, and thine hair is grown, whereas thou *wast* naked and bare.

8 Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time *was* the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.

9 Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil.

10 I clothed thee also with broi-dered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk.

11 I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck.

12 And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head.

13 Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment *was of* fine linen, and silk, and broi-dered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom.

14 And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it *was* perfect through my come-liness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord GOD.

15 ¶ But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on every one that passed by; his it was.

16 And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colours, and playedst the harlot thereupon: *the like things* shall not come, neither shall it be *so*.

17 Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given thee, and madest to thyself images of men, and didst commit whoredom with them,

18 And tookest thy broi-dered garments, and coveredst them: and thou hast set mine oil and mine incense before them.

19 My meat also which I gave

thee, fine flour, and oil, and honey, *wherewith* I fed thee, thou hast even set it before them for a sweet savour: and *thus* it was, saith the Lord GOD.

20 Moreover thou hast taken thy sons and thy daughters, whom thou hast borne unto me, and these hast thou sacrificed unto them to be devoured. *Is this* of thy whoredoms a small matter,

21 That thou hast slain my children, and delivered them to cause them to pass through *the fire* for them?

22 And in all thine abomina-tions and thy whoredoms thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, when thou wast naked and bare, *and* wast polluted in thy blood.

23 And it came to pass after all thy wickedness, (woe, woe unto thee! saith the Lord GOD;)

24 *That* thou hast also built unto thee an eminent place, and hast made thee an high place in every street.

25 Thou hast built thy high place at every head of the way, and hast made thy beauty to be abhorred, and hast opened thy feet to every one that passed by, and multiplied thy whoredoms.

26 Thou hast also committed fornication with the Egyptians thy neighbours, great of flesh; and hast increased thy whoredoms, to provoke me to anger.

27 Behold, therefore I have stretched out my hand over thee, and have diminished thine ordinary *food*, and delivered thee unto the will of them that hate thee, the daughters of the Philistines, which are ashamed of thy lewd way.

28 Thou hast played the whore also with the Assyrians, because thou wast unsatiable; yea, thou hast played the harlot with them, and yet couldest not be satisfied.

29 Thou hast moreover multiplied thy fornication in the land of Canaan unto Chaldea; and yet thou wast not satisfied herewith.

30 How weak is thine heart, saith the Lord GOD, seeing thou doest all these *things*, the work of an imperious whorish woman;

31 In that thou buildest thine eminent place in the head of every way, and makest thine high place in every street; and hast not been as an harlot, in that thou scornest hire;

32 *But as* a wife that committeth adultery, *which* taketh strangers instead of her husband!

33 They give gifts to all whores: but thou givest thy gifts to all thy lovers, and hirest them, that they may come unto thee on every side for thy whoredom.

34 And the contrary is in thee from *other* women in thy whoredoms, whereas none followeth thee to commit whoredoms: and in that thou givest a reward, and no reward is given unto thee, therefore thou art contrary.

35 ¶ Wherefore, O harlot, hear the word of the LORD:

36 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thy filthiness was poured out, and thy nakedness discovered through thy whoredoms with thy lovers, and with all the idols of thy abominations, and by the blood of thy children, which thou didst give unto them;

37 Behold, therefore I will gather all thy lovers, with whom thou hast taken pleasure, and all *them* that thou hast loved, with all *them* that thou hast hated; I will even gather them round about against thee, and will discover thy nakedness unto them, that they may see all thy nakedness.

38 And I will judge thee, as women that break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will

give thee blood in fury and jealousy.

39 And I will also give thee into their hand, and they shall throw down thine eminent place, and shall break down thy high places: they shall strip thee also of thy clothes, and shall take thy fair jewels, and leave thee naked and bare.

40 They shall also bring up a company against thee, and they shall stone thee with stones, and thrust thee through with their swords.

41 And they shall burn thine houses with fire, and execute judgments upon thee in the sight of many women: and I will cause thee to cease from playing the harlot, and thou also shalt give no hire any more.

42 So will I make my fury toward thee to rest, and my jealousy shall depart from thee, and I will be quiet, and will be no more angry.

43 Because thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, but hast fretted me in all these *things*; behold, therefore I also will recompense thy way upon *thine* head, saith the Lord GOD: and thou shalt not commit this lewdness above all thine abominations.

44 ¶ Behold, every one that

useth proverbs shall use *this* proverb against thee, saying, As is the mother, *so is* her daughter.

45 Thou *art* thy mother's daughter, that lotheth her husband and her children; and thou *art* the sister of thy sisters, which lothed their husbands and their children: your mother *was* an Hittite, and your father an Amorite.

46 And thine elder sister *is* Samaria, she and her daughters that dwell at thy left hand: and thy younger sister, that dwelleth at thy right hand, *is* Sodom and her daughters.

47 Yet hast thou not walked after their ways, nor done after their abominations: but, as *if that were* a very little *thing*, thou wast corrupted more than they in all thy ways.

48 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, Sodom thy sister hath not done, she nor her daughters, as thou hast done, thou and thy daughters.

49 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me:

therefore I took them away as I saw *good*.

51 Neither hath Samaria committed half of thy sins; but thou hast multiplied thine abominations more than they, and hast justified thy sisters in all thine abominations which thou hast done.

52 Thou also, which hast judged thy sisters, bear thine own shame for thy sins that thou hast committed more abominable than they: they are more righteous than thou: yea, be thou confounded also, and bear thy shame, in that thou hast justified thy sisters.

53 When I shall bring again their captivity, the captivity of Sodom and her daughters, and the captivity of Samaria and her daughters, then *will I bring again* the captivity of thy captives in the midst of them:

54 That thou mayest bear thine own shame, and mayest be confounded in all that thou hast done, in that thou art a comfort unto them.

55 When thy sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, and Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former estate, then thou and thy daughters shall return to your former estate.

56 For thy sister Sodom was not mentioned by thy mouth in the day of thy pride,

57 Before thy wickedness was discovered, as at the time of *thy* reproach of the daughters of Syria, and all *that are* round about her, the daughters of the Philistines, which despise thee round about.

58 Thou hast borne thy lewdness and thine abominations, saith the LORD.

59 For thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even deal with thee as thou hast done, which hast despised the oath in breaking the covenant.

60 ¶ Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant.

61 Then thou shalt remember thy ways, and be ashamed, when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger: and I will give them unto thee for daughters, but not by thy covenant.

62 And I will establish my covenant with thee; and thou shalt know that I *am* the LORD:

63 That thou mayest remember, and be confounded, and never open thy mouth any more because of thy shame, when I am pacified toward

thee for all that thou hast done, saith the Lord GOD.

CHAPTER 17

AND the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

2 Son of man, put forth a riddle, and speak a parable unto the house of Israel;

3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; A great eagle with great wings, longwinged, full of feathers, which had divers colours, came unto Lebanon, and took the highest branch of the cedar:

4 He cropped off the top of his young twigs, and carried it into a land of traffick; he set it in a city of merchants.

5 He took also of the seed of the land, and planted it in a fruitful field; he placed *it* by great waters, *and* set it *as* a willow tree.

6 And it grew, and became a spreading vine of low stature, whose branches turned toward him, and the roots thereof were under him: so it became a vine, and brought forth branches, and shot forth sprigs.

7 There was also another great eagle with great wings and many feathers: and, behold, this vine did bend her roots toward him, and shot forth her branches toward

him, that he might water it by the furrows of her plantation.

8 It was planted in a good soil by great waters, that it might bring forth branches, and that it might bear fruit, that it might be a goodly vine.

9 Say thou, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Shall it prosper? shall he not pull up the roots thereof, and cut off the fruit thereof, that it wither? it shall wither in all the leaves of her spring, even without great power or many people to pluck it up by the roots thereof.

10 Yea, behold, *being* planted, shall it prosper? shall it not utterly wither, when the east wind toucheth it? it shall wither in the furrows where it grew.

11 ¶ Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

12 Say now to the rebellious house, Know ye not what these *things mean?* tell *them*, Behold, the king of Babylon is come to Jerusalem, and hath taken the king thereof, and the princes thereof, and led them with him to Babylon;

13 And hath taken of the king's seed, and made a covenant with him, and hath taken an oath of him: he hath also taken the mighty of the land:

14 That the kingdom might be base, that it might not lift itself up, *but* that by keeping of his covenant it might stand.

15 But he rebelled against him in sending his ambassadors into Egypt, that they might give him horses and much people. Shall he prosper? shall he escape that doeth such *things*? or shall he break the covenant, and be delivered?

16 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely in the place *where* the king *delleth* that made him king, whose oath he despised, and whose covenant he brake, *even* with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die.

17 Neither shall Pharaoh with *his* mighty army and great company make for him in the war, by casting up mounts, and building forts, to cut off many persons:

18 Seeing he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, when, lo, he had given his hand, and hath done all these *things*, he shall not escape.

19 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; As I live, surely mine oath that he hath despised, and my covenant that he hath broken, even it will I recompense upon his own head.

20 And I will spread my net upon him, and he shall be taken in my snare, and I will bring him to Babylon, and will plead with him there for his trespass that he hath trespassed against me.

21 And all his fugitives with all his bands shall fall by the sword, and they that remain shall be scattered toward all winds: and ye shall know that I the LORD have spoken *it*.

22 ¶ Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set *it*; I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant *it* upon an high mountain and eminent:

23 In the mountain of the height of Israel will I plant *it*: and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a goodly cedar: and under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing; in the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell.

24 And all the trees of the field shall know that I the LORD have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish: I the LORD have spoken and have done *it*.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

The idolatry of Jerusalem is seen in chapter 16. The allegory here is that of the faithless wife. She had turned away from God and committed adultery with other gods. This is a very graphic and vivid portrayal of Israel's idolatry. Israel is pictured here as a bride who had a beloved husband who made her a queen and lavished many precious gifts upon her. She then made herself a prostitute to every man that passed by, shaming even Sodom and Samaria.

Chapter 17 is a parable of the two eagles. The "great eagle" (verse 3) was the king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar. The "top of the cedar" (verse 3) was the house of David; the "young twig" (verse 4) was Jehoiachin; the "land of traffick" was Babylonia; the "seed of the land" was Zedekiah. "Another great eagle" (verse 7) was Psammethichus II (594 B.C. to 588 B.C.), who enrolled Zedekiah and other western powers in a coalition against Babylon. "The east wind" (verse 10) was Nebuchadnezzar, before whom Zedekiah was doomed to fall.

In the allegory of the cedar, as given to us in verses 22-24, Israel's hope for the future once again comes into view. The Lord will take a "sprig" (Messiah) from "the lofty top of the cedar" (David's house), and "one of its young tender twigs" (the Messiah), and "plant it upon a high and lofty mountain." "The high tree" brought low and "the green tree" dried up (verse 24) symbolize Gentile world power. "The low tree" exalted and "the dry tree" revived portray the restoration of the kingdom to Israel when the Son of David returns. Gentile world power will be broken and Israel will be restored to governmental and spiritual glory under Messiah.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy" (Proverbs 29:1).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 27: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 11.

BIRTHDAY TODAY

TULA JONES

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1889

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WAS ORGANIZED.

1946

MIDWESTERN BAPTIST SEMINARY IN PONTIAC, MICHIGAN, WAS FOUNDED.

Dr. Tom Malone is President of Midwestern Baptist Seminary. Why not pause today and thank God for faithful Bible colleges, Christian universities and schools, and fundamental seminaries. Thank God for such schools as Midwestern Baptist Seminary. In these days, when many schools who bear the name "Christian" are casting doubts and reflections upon the Word of God, we ought to thank God for those who still contend for the faith "once for all delivered to the saints." In these days when institutions that are liberal and that deny the old-fashioned Gospel of Christ are dotting our nation and our world, let us pause to thank God for those institutions that train our young people to be faithful to Christ and loyal to His Word and to His work.

1945

V-J DAY, OR VICTORY OVER JAPAN.

This is a day that many thousands will forever remember. The message came by jeep and by foot, "The war is over!" People hugged and kissed each other and shouted the praises of victory. Streets were jammed with people shouting and rejoicing because the war was over. People thought it was the war to end all wars; an yet, we find ourselves even today with war and rumors of war.

As we remember V-J Day, let us pray, "Thy Kingdom come," for only when the Kingdom of Christ comes on the earth will this world know peace and will we have a world without war. The Bible says someday Jesus will come, and when He comes again, He will establish His Kingdom on earth. For one thousand years, Jesus Christ will rule the world from David's throne. Jerusalem shall be the world capital and all the nations shall flow into it. Men will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nations shall not know war any more, neither shall nation lift up sword against nation or kingdom against kingdom. "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does his successive journeys run; His kingdom spread from shore to shore till moon shall wax and wane no more." Let us pray today the prayer we were admonished to pray, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven."

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1864

WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN OCCUPIED ATLANTA.

1945

JAPANESE SURRENDERED ON V-J DAY, ending World War II. A total of 1,154, 720 blacks were inducted or drafted into the armed services. Official records listed 7,768 black commissioned officers on August 31, 1945. At the height of the conflict 3,902 black women (115 officers) were enrolled in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WACS) and 68 were in the Navy auxiliary, the WAVES. The highest ranking black women were Major Harriet M. West and Major Charity E. Adams. Distinguished Unit Citations were awarded the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, the

614th Tank Destroyer Battalion and the 332nd Fighter Group.

1956

TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD SENT TO CLINTON, TENN., to quell mobs demonstrating against school integration.

1975

JOSEPH W. HATCHETT SWORN IN AS FIRST BLACK SUPREME COURT JUSTICE in the South in the twentieth century.

The Story of the Psalms

PSALMS 74

AUTHOR: Asaph

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

Asaph was discouraged because of an invasion by Shishak, who was the third Pharaoh. This invasion came after the dividing of the kingdom under Rehoboam. In fact, the story of this invasion is to this day on the walls of the temple ruins at Karnak in Egypt. During this invasion Shishak took away treasures of gold. Asaph was very discouraged and wrote this Psalm.

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD'S PEOPLE:

This was one of the Psalms that the Jews used when they were discouraged. They realized the conditions under which Asaph wrote it and, no doubt, realized that God gave it to them to be used in their discouragement.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION: THE SCRIPTURES CLAIM

(Assignment 27)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

() II Timothy 3:16

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

() II Timothy 3:17

That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

() I Peter 1:10

Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you:

() I Peter 1:11

Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

() II Peter 1:21

For the Prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.