

# Three Things Isaiah And Jeremiah Show Us About God

## Sunday AM 08/16/20

### Introduction:

We often speak of the attributes of God – omnipresent, omniscience, all powerful, eternal, sinless. Recently while reading through the Bible I got to thinking about three things Isaiah and Jeremiah shows us about God.

#### I) Why Isaiah and Jeremiah?

##### A) Isaiah a prophet of God

***Isaiah 6:5*** So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

1. Lived about 780 to 700 BC Overlapped Hosea and Micah
2. Spoke to Judah but also addressed the issues of Northern Israel.
3. Northern Israel conquered and taken captive 722. B.C.

##### B) Jeremiah also a prophet of God.

***Jeremiah 1:9*** Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. 10 See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant."

1. Lived around 670 to 570? BC overlapped Nahum, Habakkuk, Obadiah, Daniel, Ezekiel.
2. Spoke to Judah about their sins.

3. Judah conquered, Jerusalem destroyed 586 BC.

## II) What Isaiah and Jeremiah Says About God

### A) God's awareness of man's sins

1. Idolatry in both books.

- a. ***Isaiah 44:9-17*** *Those who make an image, all of them are useless, And their precious things shall not profit; They are their own witnesses; They neither see nor know, that they may be ashamed. 10 Who would form a god or mold an image That profits him nothing? 11 Surely all his companions would be ashamed; And the workmen, they are mere men. Let them all be gathered together, Let them stand up; Yet they shall fear, They shall be ashamed together. 12 The blacksmith with the tongs works one in the coals, Fashions it with hammers, And works it with the strength of his arms. Even so, he is hungry, and his strength fails; He drinks no water and is faint. 13 The craftsman stretches out his rule, He marks one out with chalk; He fashions it with a plane, He marks it out with the compass, And makes it like the figure of a man, According to the beauty of a man, that it may remain in the house. 14 He cuts down cedars for himself, And takes the cypress and the oak; He secures it for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a pine, and the rain nourishes it. 15 Then it shall be for a man to burn, For he will take some of it and warm himself; Yes, he kindles it and bakes bread; Indeed he makes a god and worships it; He makes it a carved image,*

*and falls down to it. 16 He burns half of it in the fire; With this half he eats meat; He roasts a roast, and is satisfied. He even warms himself and says, "Ah! I am warm, I have seen the fire." 17 And the rest of it he makes into a god, His carved image. He falls down before it and worships it, Prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god!"*

- b. **Jeremiah 10.2-5** - pretty much the same description
2. Moral corruption—perversion of justice, taking bribes, sexual immorality, lying tongue, etc.
- a. **Isaiah 3:8** *For Jerusalem stumbled, And Judah is fallen, Because their tongue and their doings Are against the LORD, To provoke the eyes of His glory. 9 The look on their countenance witnesses against them, And they declare their sin as Sodom; They do not hide it. Woe to their soul! For they have brought evil upon themselves.*
  - b. **Jeremiah 5:1** *"Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem; See now and know; And seek in her open places If you can find a man, If there is anyone who executes judgment, Who seeks the truth, And I will pardon her. 2 Though they say, 'As the LORD lives,' Surely they swear falsely." 3 O LORD, are not Your eyes on the truth? You have stricken them, But they have not grieved; You have consumed them, But they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; They have refused to return.*
3. False teaching of the prophets

- a. **Isaiah 30:8** Now go, write it before them on a tablet, And note it on a scroll, That it may be for time to come, Forever and ever: 9 That this is a rebellious people, Lying children, Children who will not hear the law of the LORD; 10 Who say to the seers, "Do not see," And to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; Speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits.
  - b. **Jeremiah 23:21** "I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.
4. The general idea is God was aware of all of their sins.
- a. **Isaiah 40:27** Why do you say, O Jacob, And speak, O Israel: "My way is hidden from the LORD, And my just claim is passed over by my God"? 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.
  - b. **Jeremiah 23:23** "Am I a God near at hand," says the LORD, "And not a God afar off? 24 Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

## B) God's judgement

- 1. His punishment of the wicked.
  - a. Isaiah speaks of various nations being judged by God including Israel.

b. **Jeremiah 19:15** *"Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will bring on this city and on all her towns all the doom that I have pronounced against it, because they have stiffened their necks that they might not hear My words.'"*

**Jeremiah 21:9** *"He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; but he who goes out and defects to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be as a prize to him. 10 "For I have set My face against this city for adversity and not for good," says the LORD. "It shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.'"*

2. God protecting the good, the obedient.

a. **Isaiah 40:29** *He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, 31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.*

b. **Jeremiah 24:4** *Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 5 "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: 'Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge those who are carried away captive from Judah, whom I have sent out of this place for their own good, into the land of the Chaldeans. 6 'For I will*

*set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land; I will build them and not pull them down, and I will plant them and not pluck them up. 7 'Then I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the LORD; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God, for they shall return to Me with their whole heart.*

### C) Restoration

1. A bringing back of the captives
  - a. Six times the word restore is used in Isaiah.
  - b. **Jeremiah 27:22** *'They shall be carried to Babylon, and there they shall be until the day that I visit them,' says the LORD. 'Then I will bring them up and restore them to this place.'*  
  
**Jeremiah 30:3** *'For behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will bring back from captivity My people Israel and Judah,' says the LORD. 'And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.'*
2. Some of the other nations would never be restored but Israel would be.

### III) God Today

#### A) Is aware of what man is doing.

1. Seen in **Romans 1 & 2** and all those passages which list the various sins of people.
  - a. God is not far from us today.

- b. Amazing the people who seem to think they can hide things from God. Drunkenness, immoral conduct, lying, etc.
2. Like the day of Jeremiah, some are heaping up for themselves teachers to speak sweet little lies.

## **B) God's judgement**

1. Separation of the righteous from the wicked.

***Matthew 25:32*** "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

2. The Lord knows how to deliver the Godly and how to punish the wicked.

## **C) God's restoration of mankind (atonement)**

1. Unlike Old Testament Israel this restoration is not physical but spiritual.
2. Accomplished through Jesus Christ.

a. ***Luke 4:17*** And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: **18** "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; **19** To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." **20** Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the

*eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."*

- b. It is through Christ we have the New Covenant Jeremiah refers to in *Jeremiah 31*.
- c. **Hebrews 8:8** *Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah-- 9 "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. 10 "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 11 "None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. 12 "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."*

### **Conclusion:**

God's awareness is real. God's punishment and deliverance is real. Man's ability to be restored back to God is real. But we must act accordingly in order to be made one with God.