

Jeremiah: Torn Down to Build Up

A Bible Study with the Francis Asbury Society

SESSION 9

Jeremiah 15–16

1. To see what John the Revelator did with the image of the four destroyers, look up Revelation 6:1–8. What are your reflections?

2. For a picture of what Manasseh had done (that was replicated by Jehoiakim after his father Josiah had purged the mess), see the description of the Temple in Ezekiel 8. Think about what we have said about the nature of idolatry and reflect on why these practices were carried out in the temple of Yahweh.

3. Why should verses 10 and 11 appear within the poetic announcement of destruction in Jeremiah 14:5–14?

4. What could have been the circumstances that prompted Jeremiah's charge in Jeremiah 15:18b?

5. What would Jeremiah need to repent of (see Jer 15:19)?

6. What experiences is Jeremiah forbidden to participate in (Jer 16:1–9)? Why? What do we learn about prophetic ministry from this? What other prophets acted similarly?

7. If you have access to a concordance, look up how many times "bride and bridegroom" (Jer 16:9) are referred to in the book and think about the possible significance of this in light of Yahweh's relationship to Israel.

8. Note the recurrence of "following the stubbornness of your evil hearts instead of [listening to my voice] obeying me" [Jer 16:12; 3:17; 7:24; 9:13–14; 11:8; 18:12; 23:17] and think about the nature of the human problem.

9. Look at the interchange between Jeremiah 16:14–15, 16–18, and 19–21. What do you think is the purpose of this?