

First Mount Zion Baptist Church
Wednesday Bible Study
October 23, 2024
Jeremiah 42:1-44:23

“Making the Right Decision or Not”

Presenter: Rev. Cynthia Ball - 11:00 a.m. **Presenter:** Rev. Chris Peterson- 7:30 p.m.

Background: The book of Jeremiah covered the exilic period (597-537 BCE). This was a time of immense theological disruption for Judah. Not only was the fabric of daily life in the community destroyed, but the symbolic world that supported life collapsed as well. Jeremiah’s life created a rich symbol of the nation’s demise and restoration. What happens to him will happen to the people. He remains unmarried and bears no children as a sign of the end of life in the land. He is arrested, imprisoned, and left in a cistern to die, narrowly escaping with his life. Like his compatriots, he loses everything, but he survives.

Jeremiah is divided into two parts:

1. Why the nation fell to Babylon (1:1-25:38),
2. How the nation can survive (26:1-52:34)

Outline (Chapters 42:1-44:23)

- Judah seeks God’s advice to migrate to Egypt (Chapter 42:1-3)
- Jeremiah delivers God’s advice for Judah (Chapter 42:19)
- Judah rejects God’s advice (Chapter 43:2-7)
- Consequences of Judah’s disobedience (44:12-14)

Chapter 42 Verse 2

1. Describe the approach the remnant of Judah used to petition God to show them “the way they should walk and the thing they should do?”

Chapter 42 Verse 11

2. What was the key issue driving Azaiah, Johanan, and the people?

Chapter 43 Verses 2-3, 44:15-19

3. How did the leaders and the people respond to Jeremiah's Word from God?

Chapter 43 Verses 5-7

4. What happened as a result of the leaders' response?

Chapter 44 Verses 3,8,9,10, 15, 19,23

5. What wicked thing was done to provoke God to anger?

Chapter 44 Verses 2, 6, 11-14, 22-23

6. Describe the results of the disobedience of the Jews who dwelt in Egypt?

Chapter 44:17-19

7. What was the rationale for their disobedience?

REFLECTION:

How do we respond when we seek an answer from God and the answer is not what we expect?

How should we respond?
