

First Mount Zion Baptist Church
Wednesday Bible Study
October 9, 2024
Jeremiah 12:1-14:10

“Listening to Everything Else and Everybody Else but NOT Listening to God”

Presenter: Rev. Josephine Cherry - - 11:00 a.m. **Presenter:** Rev. Tarra Taylor - - 7:30 p.m.

Background: Jeremiah, known as “*The Weeping Prophet*,” penned this book near the end of his ministry. Jeremiah saw the downfall of Judah, the destruction of Jerusalem, and the exile of God’s people. Because of the tremendous sorrow this caused him, he was referred to as “*The Weeping Prophet*.” God commanded Jeremiah not to marry as an illustration of the isolation God was feeling from His sinful people. Jeremiah’s ministry began when he was still in his teens. He began prophesying “in the 13th year of the reign of” Judah’s King Josiah and continued into Judah’s exile in Babylon. He prophesied for over forty years and died in Egypt. God has a plan for each one of our lives; even before Jeremiah was born, God set him apart to prophesy to His people. Jeremiah’s calling was not an easy one. He brought bad news to the people because of their sins, and the people rejected his message. He issued a call to the people to repent so that their situation might be reversed, and another call to them before they were taken into captivity. Although he wanted to quit several times, Jeremiah was determined to stay faithful to God’s task for his life. Our calling may mean some hardships in our own lives, but we must determine to stay true to God—even through the difficult assignments.

Outline:

- I. The Broken Covenant (Chapters 12 -13)
- II. The Drought (14:1-10)

Objective: Repent and return to the Lord before it’s too late. For, 100 times, the Prophet calls upon them “to repent,” which literally means “to turn around” or “to change.” Such change can only come when they seek the Lord.

Chapter 12: Verse 1

1. Why **wicked** people **prosper** is an age-old question? (Psalm 73:25-28) **God doesn’t have to explain Himself or defend His righteousness or the wisdom of His ways. He’s God.**
Verses 5 -12 What’s the point of the rhetorical questions? How do you handle difficulty?

Chapter 13: Verses 1-14

2. Imagine you are Jeremiah in this passage. What is your reaction to God asking you to place your undergarment by the river where you know it’ll be ruined? What are some methods God uses to catch people’s attention today?

Chapter 13: Verses 15-23

3. Based on what you read, do you think the people of Judah were aware of their problem of pride? Was it too late for them to avoid the consequences of ignoring God?

Chapter 13: Verses 24-27

4. God described the people of Judah's disobedience and their breaking of the covenant with Him as spiritual adultery. How was God just in His punishment of Judah?

5. When have you forgotten God and trusted in false gods? (see v. 25)? What consequences did you face? What did you learn from God's discipline in your life?

Chapter 14: Verses 1-9

6. How would you describe the tone of Jeremiah's prayer in the midst of the drought? Do you see any metaphoric symbolism? (vs. 5)

Chapter 14: Verses 7-10

7. As a result of the drought, the people began to cry out to God in their suffering and expressed what sounded like genuine repentance. Did God receive what sounded like repentance?

Application:

1. Do you believe the times in which Jeremiah lived could be compared to our times today? If not, why not? If so, what consequences might that have on our nation?
2. What are some examples of wickedness or treachery that are tolerated (or even celebrated) in today's culture?
3. Do you ever feel as though God doesn't hear you? Remind Him that He's promised to, then tell Him your burdens. (Jeremiah 33:3)

Summary:

Take heed to God's voice through whatever means of communication He speaks when His spoken word resonates with you. For HE STILL Speaks!

