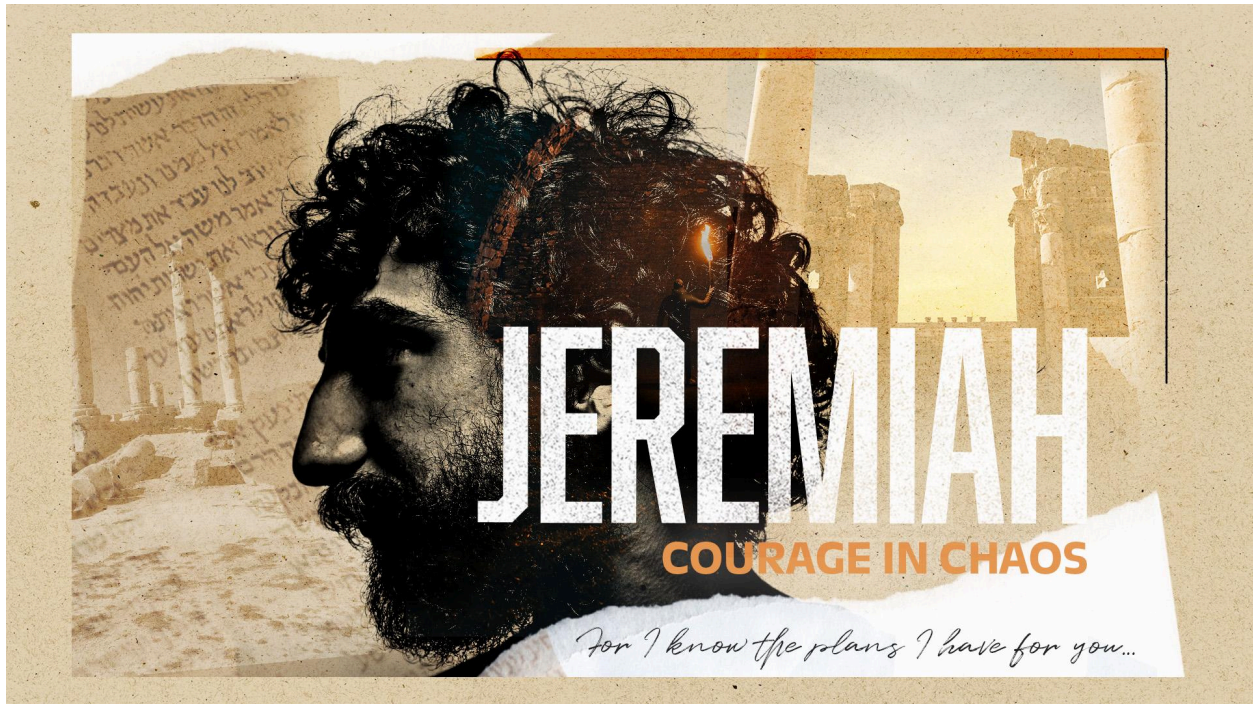


Jeremiah 11-15



Study Guide

Big Idea: Jesus Reversed the Curse!

I. Cursed (Jeremiah 11:1-13)

"The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Hear the words of this covenant,
3...Cursed be the man who does not hear the words of this covenant ...

4 ...Listen to my voice, ... a land flowing with milk and honey..."

Describe what happens to us when we don't listen to God's voice. Share some of the common "idols" in our culture that we follow. Discuss some of the "idols" you can tend to follow if you are not careful.

II. The Result of being Cursed (Jeremiah 11:14-12:17)

A. The Burning (11:14-17)

16 The Lord once called you 'a green olive tree, beautiful with good fruit.' But with the roar of a great tempest he will set fire to it, and its branches will be consumed.

John 15:6

"If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned."

When God is commanding us to “abide in Him”, what is He really asking of us?

B. The Tension of Evil on us (12:1-17)

1...Why does the way of the wicked prosper? ...4 How long ...?

5 'If you have raced with men on foot, and they have wearied you, how will you compete with horses? ...do not believe them, though they speak friendly words to you.'

Jeremiah was being conspired against to be killed. Describe how Jeremiah must have felt because people don't listen to God. How have the results of sin affected your life?

C. The Tension of Evil on God (12:1-17)

7 ... I have given the beloved of my soul into the hands of her enemies.

8 My heritage has become to me like a lion in the forest; she has lifted up her voice against me; therefore I hate her.

Describe how God must feel at the sight of people who don't follow His voice.

D. The Destruction of the Curse (Jeremiah 13:1-27)

The loincloth (13:1-11), illustrates the decay of sin. The jars of wine (13:12-14) illustrate the way idols take over and control us, just like alcohol can.

Now read about how God takes wine, and reverses what the curse has done:

Matthew 26:27-28

"And he took a cup, ... saying, 'Drink of it, all of you, 28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'"

How have you seen the blood of Jesus reverse the effects of the curse for you?

Discuss.

III. From Sorrow to Joy (Jeremiah 14-15)

A. Sorrow: Chapter 14-15:9 describes what it's like for people when it's too late. They can even confess their sin, but God won't relent. There is a similar scene in Revelation: Revelation 20:11-15

"Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. ...12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened...15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

Name some people you know right now who do not have their name in the book of life. How does it make you feel to think that there is a time when it will be too late?

Discuss.

B. Joy (Jeremiah 15:10-21)

10 Woe is me, my mother, that you bore me...

16 Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart.

How do you think Jeremiah was able to go from such sorrow over the lost, to such joy and delight? Apparently by "eating" the word of God this happened. What does it mean for you to ingest God's word? How can that lead to joy.

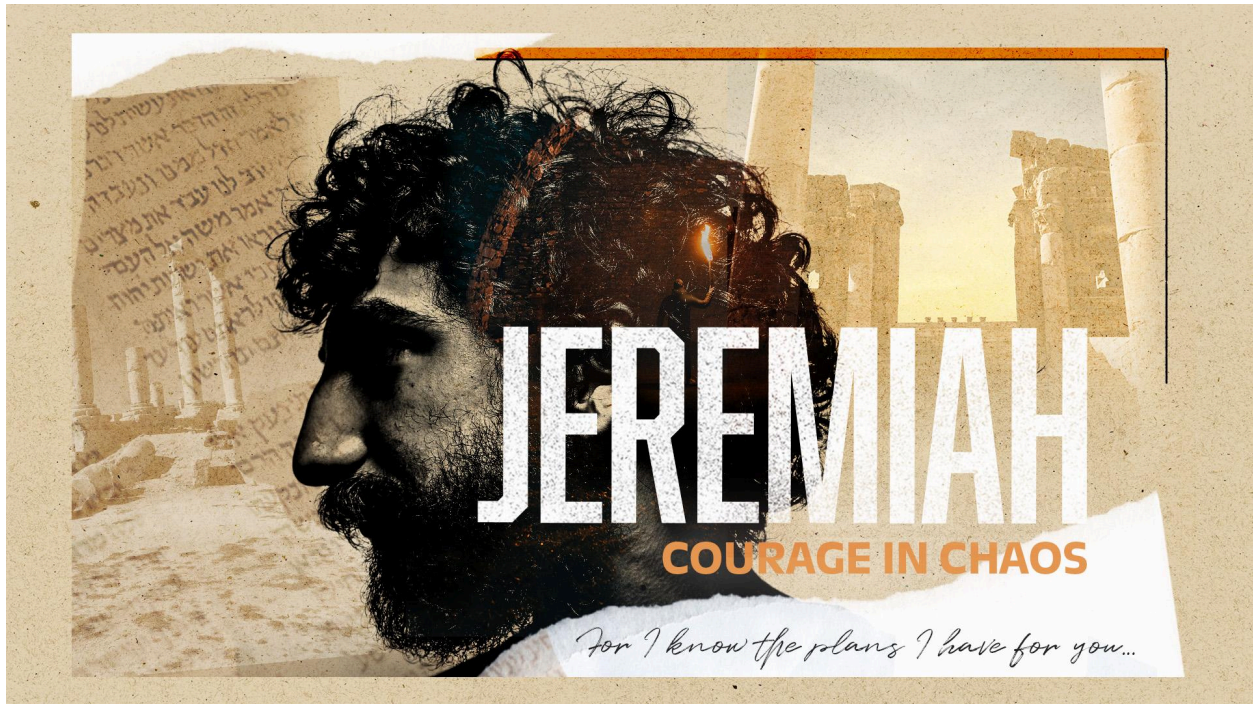
Read Galatians 3:13-14 and discuss the impact of the reverse of the curse.

"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us... 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles."

Application

Take a few minutes to pray and thank Jesus for reversing the curse. Ask Him for help to listen well to His voice.

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Sermon Notes

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4 ...Listen to my voice, ... a land flowing with milk and honey..."

II. The Result of being Cursed (Jeremiah 11:14-12:17)

A. The Burning (11:14-17)

14'Therefore do not pray for this people, ...for I will not listen when they call ...15
What right has my beloved in my house, when she has done many vile deeds?'

16 The Lord once called you 'a green olive tree, beautiful with good fruit.' But with the
roar of a great tempest he will set fire to it, and its branches will be consumed.

John 15:6

"If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the
branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned."

B. The Scheming (11:18-19)

18 The Lord made it known to me and I knew. ... they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,..."

C. The Vengeance of God (11:20-23)

20 But, O Lord of hosts, who judges righteously,...let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause.

22...Behold, I will punish them. ... none of them shall be left.

D. The Tension of Evil (12:1-17)

1...Why does the way of the wicked prosper? ...4 How long ...?

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7 ... I have given the beloved of my soul into the hands of her enemies.

8 My heritage has become to me like a lion in the forest; she has lifted up her voice against me; therefore I hate her.

15 After I have plucked them up, I will again have compassion on them...

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E. The Curse Illustrated (Jeremiah 13:1-14)

1. The Loincloth (13:1-11)

1...Go and buy a linen loincloth ...4...go to the Euphrates and hide it there in a cleft of the rock.

2. Jars of Wine (Jeremiah 13:12-14)

12...Filled with wine...13...I will fill with drunkenness...

Matthew 26:27-28

"And he took a cup, ... saying, 'Drink of it, all of you, 28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'"

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III. How Can I Change? (Jeremiah 13:15-27)

A. Give Glory to God

15 Hear and give ear... Give glory to the Lord your God before he brings darkness,...

22... it is for the greatness of your iniquity that your skirts are lifted up...

26...I have seen your adulteries and neighings, and lewd whorings...

B. You Can't Change Yourself

23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots?

1 John 1:7

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."

IV. When it's Too Late (Jeremiah 14-15:9)

19 Have you utterly rejected Judah?

20 We acknowledge our wickedness...we have sinned against you...21 Do not spurn us...we set our hope on you...

15:1 "Then the Lord said to me, "Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my heart would not turn toward this people. Send them out of my sight, and let them go!

Revelation 20:11-15

"Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. ...12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened...15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

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