

ENCOURAGEMENT TO FULFILL THE APPOINTMENT

Jeremiah 1:17-19
by Anthony Scherffius

The people of Judah were living in such a way that they were worse than their sister Israel. God calls Jeremiah and commissions him to warn the people they are heading down a road leading to destruction. Jeremiah is concerned and even puts forth excuses to not do it out of fear towards the people. God reassures Jeremiah, and it is here where our lesson begins. Jeremiah is reassured by God with three different things. God reassures Jeremiah by preparing him for the work. God also offers protection, and by giving him protection, Jeremiah is able to prevail against the enemy.

Preparation (Verse 17): God gives three commands to Jeremiah, helping prepare him for the coming work: 1.) “But you, dress yourself for work...” God tells Jeremiah to equip himself and be ready for what is to come; put on the appropriate attire for the job he has been given. We need to equip ourselves for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17), and we need to equip ourselves with the right attire for the job (Ephesians 6:10-18); 2.) “Arise, and say to them everything that I command you.” God gives clear instruction to Jeremiah on what to speak. He is not to speak his mind, nor his opinions, but rather the instructions and words given by Jehovah.

God gives us clear instructions on what we are to teach men (Matthew 28:18-20). We are not to teach and preach our own opinions or traditions as law (Matthew 15:9); 3.) “Do not be dismayed by them, lest I dismay you before them.” God comforts Jeremiah by reassuring him that God is with him. We can also find comfort by knowing that God is with us when we teach the good news (Romans 8:31).

Protection (Verse 18): God says in (vs 17) He will be with Jeremiah, but He gives specifics on how He will be with Jeremiah. “And I, behold, I make you this day a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls, against the whole land; against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land.” God says He will protect Jeremiah by making him an unstoppable force for God, not allowing him to be taken from God. Although we are not literally and physically protected by God in a miraculous way, God says no man can touch us spiritually if we are with Him (Matthew 10:28).

Prevailing (Verse 19): Finally, God concludes the reassurance by reinforcing the protection, saying he will prevail over the enemy. 1.) “They will fight against you...” God tells them they will try to fight him. As Christians we too will face persecution (2 Timothy 3:12); 2.) “...but they shall not prevail against you...” Even though Jeremiah was going to face hardship, he would see victory. As Christians, we will suffer persecution, sometimes even within the church, but we will triumph in the

end (John 16:33; 1 Corinthians 15:57); 3.) “...for I am with you, declares the Lord, to deliver you.” He would be triumphant only because God was with him. We too will only gain the victory if we obey God (Colossians 2:13-15).

Jeremiah faced tribulation because he took on the work God gave him, but he would be triumphant because he was prepared, protected and he prevailed. If we take up our cross and prepare ourselves, God will protect us, and we will prevail in the end.

Remember in Prayer

Archie Underwood met with an orthopedic oncologist on 5/19 to discuss treatments. More consultations are being scheduled to determine exact plan for treatment.

Autumn Lowry has been ill with upper respiratory issues and migraines.

Sharon McMillan will begin cardio therapy after review of her angiogram results.

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Remember Also:

Archie & Nancy Underwood,
Joy Tull, Judy Mitchell,
Alan Haack, Chris Calvin,
Rex Parker, Luanne Patterson,
Roger Elam, Scott Koeler,
Larry Calvin, Louis Thomas,
John Dyer, Trinity McCarley

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IMPORTANT DATES

- May 28- NH Birthday Party/2:00
- May 31- 5th Sunday Q&A
- June 14- NH Worship Svc./2:00
- June 21- Elder/Deacon Mtg./4:00
- June 22-26- Family Bible School
- June 25- NH Birthday Party/2:00

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FAMILY BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 22-26

“God Wants You
To Know About...”



Sign-up sheets are in the
information room

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UPDATED PHONE #:
Gracie Stanley
214-906-6902

If you have a new address or telephone
number, please let the office know so
we can update your information.

