

**The Study on the Book of Jeremiah**  
**Week #7: The Writing of Jeremiah (Part 2)**  
**Sunday, December 1, 2024 (PM Service)**

**1. A Time of Devastation and Ruin (Jer. 4:23-31)**

- a. **Gen. 1:2** is an unsettling reminder that **sin** and **rebellion** against God lead to darkness and **chaos**.
- b. The entire picture of inescapable and total **destruction** is a solemn reminder that although God is patient, His patience has **limits**.
  - i. **2 Pt. 3:9**: When all warnings have been ignored, nothing **but judgment** awaits.
- c. Judah made the mistake of putting its **trust** in its allies and in its own cleverness rather than **depending** on God.

**2. The Sinfulness of Judah (Jer. 5:1-31)**

- a. **Jeremiah's Search for a Righteous Person (Jer. 5:1-2)**
  - i. These verses contain the first recorded **symbolic** act performed by Jeremiah.
  - ii. The symbolic acts all follow the same pattern: God told the **prophet** what to do, the prophet **performed** the act, and then the **interpretation** was given.
  - iii. God was seeking **honesty** and **"truth"** but found only superficial piety.
  - iv. **Jer. 5:3-6**: Jeremiah was sure that he would find piety and **integrity** among the **poor**, so he went to them first.
  - v. Jeremiah probably attributed their faithlessness to lack of **education** and irresponsibility in **spiritual** matters.
  - vi. Jeremiah then turned to the **"leaders"** ("The great ones").
    1. However, to his dismay he discovered they were not better than the poor (**Ps. 62:9**).
  - vii. Jeremiah compared their **rebellion** to the ox that rebels against its master and breaks its yoke.
    1. When God says something will **happen**, it is as good as **done**.

**3. God's Justification for Judah's Punishment (Jer. 5:7-13)**

- a. They gave **credit** to false gods for God's abundant provision for their needs.

- i. Affluence often results in arrogant self-sufficiency and immoral conduct rather than in humble gratitude and submission.