

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

a Production of Precept Ministries International P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218 1-888-734-7707/ www.preceptsforlife.com

The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: Jeremiah, Part 2 (God's Certain Judgment)

TITLE: Program 22 - Preparing By His Word

TUESDAY

OPEN

Are you one of those people that think, yes, the Bible is God's Word, it's inspired by God, but you can't believe everything that it says? You know, "There's some things that just aren't relevant for today." You want to just reach down, pull it out of the Bible, wad it up and throw it into the fire. Why? Because that's the part of the Word of God that you don't like; you can't believe that God would do that. We're gonna talk about that today, about tearing up the Word of God.

PART ONE

God has spoken in the Word. He has had men of old sit down and write what He inspired them, words He breathed into them. They were to write it in a book. It was to be preserved, and it is called the Word of God. And yet, down through the ages even today there are people that say: That was for another time; that was for another culture; that is not for today. People have



sat in judgment on the Word of God, and they have said, "Oh yes, it says that God created the heavens and the earth, but that's not really the way it happened. It was a myth. It was a story. You see, we evolved. We've learned this." And what they want to do is they want to take portions of the Word of God and just throw it away and say it's not relevant for today. Well, it's "...the fourth year of Jehoiakim...," Jeremiah chapter 36. "...The son of Josiah, king of Judah...." In that fourth year "...this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 'Take a scroll and write on it all the words which I have spoken to you...from the [first] day [that] I...spoke to you, from the days of Josiah, even [until] this day." (Jeremiah 36:1-2) Now if you remember correctly Josiah, in the thirteenth year of his reign, Jeremiah steps on the scene as a prophet. (See Jeremiah 1:2) In the eighteenth year of his reign, Josiah finds the Word of God that's been lost in the house of God. And Josiah reads the words of this book. They read them to him and he sees that they're in great trouble because their fathers have not obeyed the word of God. Consequently he calls all the people. He reads to them the Word of God. They listen to the Word of God. (See 2 Chronicles 34:14-33) And as they listen to the Word of God then they walk in obedience, but that obedience doesn't last. And so now God is saying to Jeremiah "I want you to sit down and I want you to write on this scroll all the words that I have been speaking to these people from the days of Josiah even until now, the days of Jehoiakim. And He says write them on a scroll. (See Jeremiah 36:2) "Perhaps...," verse 3, "... the house of Judah will hear all the calamity which I plan to bring on them....'" (Jeremiah 36:3) Let's just stop and look at that. I always mark "calamity" when I see it in the Bible because Amos tells us that [calamity doesn't occur in a city but what the Lord is behind it.] (PARAPHRASE, Amos 3:6) So you can know that every calamitous event—you may not like hearing this, but it is true— 9/11, that forever changed the United States of America and forever changed the world and the way we travel and everything, God was behind that calamity.



Now why was He behind that calamity? If God's behind a calamity the purpose of that calamity is not to destroy you. The purpose of that calamity is to grab you and to get your attention. God's saying "Listen to Me. Listen to Me. I'm the One that has the words of life. I am God. You cannot live this way. Listen to Me." And so He's talking about calamity. So I always put a black circle around it and I color it red, because it's red hot. And then it says, "... 'which I plan to bring on them...." (Jeremiah 36:3) So God is the one that is going to do this. And this is what He says, in order that, in order that—why is God bringing calamity? And this is what you need to know. "... 'In order that every man will turn from his evil way....'" (Jeremiah **36:3**) You're going this way. It is evil. I want you to turn from your evil way. He says, "then...," time phrase, you can put a green clock around it or a green circle, "... 'then I will forgive their iniquity and their sin." (Jeremiah 36:3) Now I color every reference to "iniquity," every reference to "sin," every reference to "evil way," I color it brown, because it's devoid of light. And, "Then Jeremiah called Baruch [and of] the son of Neriah, and Baruch wrote on a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah all the words [which] the LORD [God] had spoken to him." (Jeremiah 36:4) So they sit down and Jeremiah begins to relate everything that He has said to the children of Israel during this time that he's been prophesying to them. Baruch is sitting there with the scroll and with his pen and with his ink and he's writing it all down. Now when is he doing it? This is important. "In the fourth year of Jehoiakim...," (Jeremiah 36:1) and I assume that you've been studying with me long enough, and I forget that God invited you to this program today because God wants to speak to you and God wants to take you deeper and God wants to teach you how to discover truth for yourself. So the fact that you found this program today, the fact that you found this Ministry, not me, but Precept Ministries International, a Ministry that is devoted to teaching people all over the world, in 150 countries, 70 languages, how to discover truth for themselves, how to study the Bible



inductively. So go to "preceptsforlife.com" after the program. Go to "preceptsforlife.com" and find out how we can help you go deeper. No matter what language that you are able to speak, we can teach you. We have people all over the world. Now God wants you to hear His Word. God wants you to know His Word, because listen: Great calamity is coming on the world, calamity that you couldn't even dream of. The Bible says that it is calamity, it is destruction, it is a time of distress such as has never been and never will be again. (See Daniel 12:1, Joel 2:2) And you need to be prepared. So he sits down and he writes it on the scroll and "Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, 'I am restricted; I cannot go into the house of the LORD." (Jeremiah 36:5) Now remember you put a green clock over "in the fourth year of Jehoiakim" (Jeremiah 36:1) So Jeremiah's saying to Baruch now, "... 'I am restricted; I cannot go into the house of the LORD." (Jeremiah 36:5) They did not like Jeremiah. They did not like his prophecies. And so he says, "So...go and read from the scroll which you have written at my dictation...." Now listen to what he says. "...The words of the LORD...." (Jeremiah 36:6) Now when I come to any reference to the "word of God" what I do is I draw like a book in purple and then I color it green on the inside. And so I can see every reference to the "words of God". What Baruch wrote for Jeremiah was "...the words of the LORD...." The words that "...vou have written at my dictation the words of the LORD to the people in the LORD'S house on a fast day...." (Jeremiah 36:6) I want you to go and I want you to read the scroll to them. I want you to read to those that are coming to the house of the LORD. Now remember in the last program I told you I color in a dark blue every reference to "the house of the LORD". Now these people are coming on a fast day. I mark "fast" because it's important to understand fasting. And I colored that a purple and then I underline it in a brown because a fast day causes you to examine yourself and see if there's any evil way in your heart. So this is a tradition that they have of coming periodically on a fast day. He



says, "... 'And also you shall read them to all the people...who come from their cities," (Jeremiah 36:6) not just to the local people, but all the people that have come. "Perhaps their supplication will come before the **LORD....**" (Jeremiah 36:7) Now I take "supplication" and I mark it like two hands up. I just come around the word with a little half moon circle and underline every reference to "prayer" or to "supplication" that way. I do it in purple. I color it pink. You can do anything that you want to do. But I would suggest that you mark it. What he's saying is this: I'm going to have you read this. They're going to hear their awful condition and state. They're going to come to Me in supplication and perhaps they "... will turn from [their] evil way...," He says, "... for great is the anger and the wrath that the LORD has pronounced against this people." (Jeremiah 36:7) Now I mark "anger" with a little red kind of back and forth and I color it yellow because it's the anger of the Lord, and yellow is my color for God. And then "wrath" I just take a red pen and I go up and down kind of like flames. And so he's saying that God's anger and His wrath is great against this people. And maybe if they hear His word again they will turn to Him in supplication; they will turn to Him from their evil way; they will have an essence a "repentance." So "Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading from the book the words of the LORD...." (Jeremiah 36:8) These are not ordinary words. "...Reading from the book the words of the LORD in the LORD'S house. Now in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, in the ninth month, all the people in Jerusalem and all the people...from the cities of Judah [came] to Jerusalem...." (Jeremiah **36:8-9**) Why? Because it is a fast day. What is the year? It's one year later. It's the fifth year of the reign of Jehoiakim. What is the month? It's the ninth month, fifth year, ninth month. I put a green circle, or a green clock over it, so I know the time. And right now it's time for a break. But don't miss what I'm going to say afterwards. It's so crucial.



PART TWO

Welcome back, Beloved. Baruch read from the book. Let me read from the book. "Then Baruch read from the book...," Jeremiah 36:10, "...the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the upper court, at the entry of the New Gate of the LORD'S house, to all the people." (Jeremiah 36:10) You know exactly where he's standing if you know the layout of the temple. "Now when Micaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan...heard all the words...from the book, he went down to the king's house, into the scribe's chamber. And behold, all the officials were sitting there—Elishama the scribe...Delaiah the son of Shemaiah...Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and...the other officials. Micaiah declared to them all the words [which] he had heard [which] Baruch read from the book to the people." (Jeremiah 36:11-13) Now listen, he has left the Lord's house. He has come over here with all these officials and he declared to them these words. "Then all the officials sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah...To Baruch, saying, 'Take in your hand the scroll from which you have read to the people and come.' So Baruch the son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand and [he] went to them. (Jeremiah 36:14) And he said, "...Sit down, please, and read it to us.' [And] Baruch read it to them. (Jeremiah 36:15) And, "When they had heard all the words, they turned in fear one to another and [they] said to Baruch, 'We will surely report all these words to the king.'" (Jeremiah 36:16) Why? They weren't good words. "And they asked Baruch, saving, 'Tell us, please, how did you write all these words? Was it at his dictation?" (Jeremiah 36:17) Jeremiah's dictation, "Then Baruch said to them, 'He dictated all these words to me, and I wrote them in ink on the book.' Then the officials said to Baruch, 'Go, hide yourself and Jeremiah, and [don't] let anyone know where you are." (Jeremiah



36:18-19) Why? They knew how upset the king would be when he heard these words, because what are these words about? These words are about wrath. These words are about the anger of the LORD. These words are about the judgment of God because they didn't listen to the word. So now watch what it says. "So they went [in] to the king in the court, but they deposited the scroll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and they reported all the words to the king. Then the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and he took it out of the chamber and [he] read it to the king as well as to all the officials who stood [by] the king. Now the king was sitting in the winter house in the ninth month...," Mark the time, "...with a fire burning in the brazier before him." (Jeremiah 36:20-22) It was like a little grill or something, like a little furnace that keeps them warm, and there was a fire burning. And it says, "[And] when Jehudi had read three or four columns, the king cut it with a scribe's knife...," which was a very sharp knife for dealing with paper, "...and [he] threw it into the fire that was in the brazier...." (Jeremiah 36:23) He just took the Word of God. He didn't like what he read, and arrogantly he cut it and he threw it into the fire. Listen to me very carefully. When you take away part of the Word of God because you don't like it, or you don't agree with it, you are setting yourself above God. And listen, no one can set themselves above God and get away with it. And so this is what it says. It says "When Jehudi...read three or four columns, the king cut it with a scribe's knife...threw it into the fire that was in the brazier, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier." (Jeremiah 36:23) There was not one word that he wanted to hear. And this I have a big red cloud around in my Bible. "Yet the king and all [of] his servants who heard all these words were not afraid, nor did they rend their garments." (Jeremiah 36:24) Now listen, when Josiah listened to the words of God that were found in the house of God, the first five books, the Torah, he tore his clothes. He wept before God. He humbled himself. And because



of that God spared Josiah and spared the people until Josiah died, because he responded correctly. (See 2 Chronicles 34:27-28) But they "...were not afraid....they [did not] rend their garments. Even though Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah pleaded with the king [don't] burn the scroll, he would not listen to them." (Jeremiah 36:24-25) He just wouldn't listen. Don't burn the scroll. He would not listen. So it's like "Okay, I tore it out. I threw it away. I've burned it up. It no longer exists. It is not true." I want to tell you something. You can't do that to God's Word. It says, "And the king commanded Jerahmeel the king's son, Seraiah the son of Azriel, [anyway] and Shelemiah...to seize Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet, but the LORD hid them." (Jeremiah 36:26) Now they had a heads up from the other guys. They knew what could happen and so God is hiding them. God is protecting them. But know this: What did God say to Jeremiah in Jeremiah chapter 1 when He called him to be a prophet? He said "I want you to know, "... 'I [watch] over My word to perform it."" (Jeremiah 1:12) You can tear it up. You can burn it. You can throw it away, but it does not alter that it will come to pass. "Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah after the king...burned the scroll and the words which Baruch had written at the dictation of Jeremiah, saying, 'Take [yet] another scroll and write on it all the former words that were on the first scroll which Jehoiakim the [son] of Judah burned.' And concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah you shall say, '... You have burned [this] scroll, saying, "Why have you written on it that the king of Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land, and will make man and beast to cease from it?"" (Jeremiah 36:27-29) He says, "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah, 'He shall have no one to sit on the throne of David, and his dead body shall be cast out [into] the heat of the day and the frost of...night." (Jeremiah 36:30) In other words, his son may come to the throne, but he's not going to stay there. His son was Coniah. And he's also called Jeconiah, and he comes to the throne



and in three months he's deposed to Babylon. He says, "'I will also punish him and his descendants and his servants for their iniquity... I will bring on them all the inhabitants of Jerusalem and [on] the men of Judah all the calamity...," you want to mark it again, "...that I have declared to them—but they did not listen." (Jeremiah 36:31) God has spoken. He expects you to listen. If you don't listen, "[you] sow to the wind and [you] reap the whirlwind...." (Hosea 8:7) It says, "Then Jeremiah took another scroll...gave it to Baruch the son of Neriah, the scribe, and he wrote on it at the dictation of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had [been] burned in the fire; and many similar words were added to them." (Jeremiah 36:32) Similar words of wrath and judgment and the righteous anger of God, because they did not listen. Down through the ages there had been mass bonfires when the church has burned the Word of God in the language of the people, when they have burned at the stake those that have given their lives so that others could know the Word of God. But you know what? The Word of God lives and they've perished. If you don't live by every word that comes out of the mouth of God, Precious One, you're in danger. Just remember that.