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

**TITLE: Program 38 – Turmoil Destroyed, The Earth Rests!**

**WEDNESDAY**

**OPEN**

Are you weary? Are you weary with what's going on in our country? Are you weary with our government? Are you weary of hearing about wars? Are you weary of hearing about earthquakes and famines? Are you weary about hearing about all the people that are suffering? I understand, but I've got good news for you. There is a day coming when God is going to bring rest to all the earth. (See Jeremiah 50:34) We'll talk about it today.

**PART ONE**

I know, Beloved, that it is so frustrating when you feel oppressed by the government, when you feel oppressed by people because you look at what's happening and you think, "I don't want to live under their dictates. I don't want to live under men of corruption and people that are just building their own kingdom." And I understand. Listen, this week, we're looking at two cities—at Babylon and Jerusalem. Jerusalem will be the last day of this

week. But we're looking at Babylon. We're looking at God's Word regarding Babylon. We've looked at Genesis, the beginning of Babylon in Genesis 10 and 11. We've looked at Revelation 17 and 18 at the end of Babylon, at the final destruction of Babylon. We're going to look at Jerusalem, because Jerusalem is the city of God. We're going to talk about that later. But what we see in Jeremiah chapter 50, and we're starting at verse 33, is we're seeing that God has a purpose. And you and I, because God has a purpose, you and I can rest. We can rest. It's not gonna be easy; it's gonna be difficult. We're going to suffer hardship. God told us that. (See 2 Timothy 2:3) We're going to suffer as believers, but there is an end. There is a rest coming. And that rest comes when God brings rest to the earth. Until then, we live in the rest of faith. And that means, we take the truth of the Word of God and we take our faith and we marry the two together. And we say, "God, this is what you said," "God, this is what I'm going to do," "For today in this moment, I'm going to live by faith." That's the rest of faith that you see in Hebrews 3 and 4. (See Hebrews 3:18-4:3) Now watch what He says, verse 33, Jeremiah 50: **"Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'The sons of Israel are oppressed, and the sons of Judah as well...all who took them captive have held them fast, they have refused to let them go.'"** (Jeremiah 50:33) In other words, they had been taken captive into Babylon. They had been taken captive. Well they went down to Egypt, as we studied, and, and they're in trouble down there. And it says, **"Their Redeemer is strong...."** (Jeremiah 50:34) Your Redeemer's strong. Who is He? **"...The LORD of hosts is His name...."** "Jehovah-Sabaoth." (Jeremiah 50:34) That means "He rules." He rules in the army of heaven. He rules among the inhabitants of the earth. It says, **"Their redeemer is strong, the LORD of hosts is His name; He will vigorously plead their case so that He may bring rest to the earth, but turmoil to the inhabitants of Babylon."** It says, **"A sword against the Chaldeans," declares the LORD, '[A sword] against the inhabitants of**

**Babylon...against her officials...[against] her wise men! A sword against the oracle priests, and they will become fools...!” (Jeremiah 50:34-36)**

These are priests that would stand and say, “I have the oracles of Marduke” or whatever their god was, or Bel. And they would stand and they would deliver these oracles. It says, “**...A sword against her mighty men, and they will be shattered! A sword against their horses and against their chariots...against all the foreigners who are in the midst of her [in Babylon]....” (Jeremiah 50:36-37)** And this is why he says, “Get out of Babylon.” We’re going to see that. It says, “**...And they will become women...!” (Jeremiah 50:37)** In other words, they won’t be able to stand.

**“...A sword against her treasures, and they will be plundered! A drought on her waters, and they will be dried up! For it is a land of idols, and they are mad over fearsome idols.” (Jeremiah 50:37-38)** God destroys idols. **“Therefore the desert [creature] will live *there* along with the jackals....” (Jeremiah 50:39)** Now in verse 33 to 38, I put: “The destruction of Babylon.” And then next to verse 39, I put “Never inhabited.” And this is how you know that it is not referring to the time when the Medes and the Persian captured Babylon. Rather, it is referring to yet this future time that we saw in Revelation 17 and 18. **“Therefore the desert creatures will live *there* along with the jackals; the ostriches will also live in it...it will never again be inhabited....” (Jeremiah 50:39)** I put a green time clock around “again.” **“...It will never be again inhabited or [dwelled] in from generation to generation. As when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah with its neighbors,’ declares the LORD, ‘No man will live there, nor will *any* son...reside in it. “Behold, a people...,” verse 41 “...is coming from the north, and a great nation and many kings will be aroused from the remote parts of the earth.” It says: “They seize *their* bow and javelin; they are cruel and have no mercy....” (Jeremiah 50:41-42)** And next to that I have “Revelation chapter 17.”; and you might just want to footnote it in pencil and see what you think. In Revelation 17, in

verse 15-18 you have the kingdom of the beast coming against her. Now you've got the kings coming together. If you study Revelation, you find that the "kings of the earth" are coming against God. (See Revelation 19:19) And yet you see also Babylon being destroyed. (See Revelation 19:2-3) It's all put in there. It's very, very interesting. It says: **"They seize *their* bow and javelin; they are cruel and have no mercy. Their voice roars like the sea...they ride on horses, marshalled [as] a man [from] the battle against you, O daughter of Babylon. The king of Babylon has heard [a] report about them...his hands hang limp; [and] distress has gripped him, agony [agony] like...woman in childbirth [bending him over]. Behold, one will come up like a lion from the thicket of the Jordan to a perennially watered pasture; for in an instant I will make them run away...and whoever is chosen I will appoint over...."** (Jeremiah 50:42-44) What do you see? God has purposed and He will perform. (See Jeremiah 51:12) **"...For who is like Me...?"** I colored this yellow 'cause God is speaking. **"...Who will summon me *into court*...who then is the shepherd who can stand before Me?"** (Jeremiah 50:44) Listen, God puts up kings. He puts them down. He puts up presidents of countries. He puts them down. Sometimes He puts them up as a judgment on a people that will not listen to Him. Other times He puts up a righteous man as a blessing. You can almost look at a nation and know its status by its ruler. **"Therefore....,"** now here it's key. **"...hear the plan of the LORD which He has planned against Babylon...."** (Jeremiah 50:45) Remember I said, "God has a day, God has an hour, God has a time, what God has purposed He will perform." (See Jeremiah 51:12) **"Therefore hear the plan of the LORD which He has planned against Babylon, and His purposes which He has purposed against the land of the Chaldeans: surely they will drag them off, *even* the little ones of the flock; surely He will make their pasture desolate because of them."** (Jeremiah 50:45) Even "the little ones of the flock." He will not spare even the children. **"At the shout, 'Babylon has been seized!'**

**the earth is shaken, and an outcry is heard among the nations.”**

**(Jeremiah 50:46)** Go to Revelation chapter 18, and let's look at it. It's verse 8 and 9. And this is what it says, **“For in this reason in one day her plagues...,”** speaking of Babylon, **“...will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord...who judges her is strong. And the kings of the earth, who committed *acts of immorality* and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning, standing at a distance because of the fear of [their] torment, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’”**

**(Revelation 18:8-10)** Babylon has been seized and an outcry is heard among the nations. You might want to write “Revelation 18: 9 and 10” there.

Chapter 51: “[For] **thus says the LORD: ‘Behold....’**” He’s not finished talking about Babylon. “[Behold, I’m] **going to arouse against Babylon and against the inhabitants of Leb-kamai the spirit of a destroyer. I will dispatch foreigners to Babylon that they may winnow her and [that they] may devastate her land....**” It says, **“...On every side they will be**

**opposed to her in the day of *her* calamity.”** **(Jeremiah 51:1-2)** Now you want to mark “calamity” and you want to remember Amos has “calamity”: [A calamity does not occur in a city, but what the Lord has done it.]

**(PARAPHRASE, Amos 3:6) “Let not him who bends his bow bend *it*, [not] let him rise up in his scale-armor...do not spare [your] young men; devote all her army to destruction. They will fall down slain in the land of the Chaldeans, and pierced through in their streets.”** **(Jeremiah 51:3-**

**4)** I mean, you’ve seen the movies. You’ve see the spears go through the bodies. He says, **“For neither Israel nor Judah has been forsaken....”**

**(Jeremiah 51:5)** Yes, they’ve sinned. Yes, God’s dealt with them, but they have not been forsaken. **“...By his God, the LORD of hosts, although their land is full of guilt....”** **(Jeremiah 51:5)** And it’s full of guilt right now because they’re not walking according to His precepts, because they’re

not obeying His commandments. Because they're trying to get the nations to live at peace with them and give away land, and negotiate instead of repenting and turning to God. But he says, **"...Although their land is full of guilt before the Holy One of Israel."** (Jeremiah 51:5) And then what does he tell them to do? He says, **"Flee from the midst of Babylon, and each of you save his life...!"** (Jeremiah 51:6) Get out of there. **"...Do not be destroyed in her punishment, for this is the LORD'S time of vengeance; He is going to render recompense to her. Babylon has been a golden cup in the hand of the LORD, intoxicating all the earth...."** (Jeremiah 51:6-7)

## **PART TWO**

Welcome back, Beloved. Isn't this awesome? Isn't this awesome? Do you realize? Do you realize what God is doing? God is telling you the future. God is telling you the future so that you can know, "Hey, there's turmoil now, but there is a day of rest coming to all the earth." Because God is purposed and He will perform it. (See Jeremiah 51:12) ["No one can thwart what God is doing."] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 14:27, NIV) But what is He doing? He is giving 'em warning, so that in the last days Israel can open up this Bible and they can see what they are to do in regard to Babylon. Let's look at it: Verse 6 of 51: **"Flee from the midst of Babylon, and each of you save his life...!"** (Jeremiah 51:6) Now watch. In Jeremiah 50 verse 8, he says, **"Wander away from the midst of Babylon...."** (Jeremiah 50:8) In other words, you don't need to flee, but: **"Wander away from the midst of Babylon...."** (Jeremiah 50:8) Now let's just stop and think. What did Jeremiah tell the children of Israel to do when Babylon was coming against them? He said (in the days of Jeremiah), he said, "Okay, you go into exile. You are the good figs. You settle down. You have homes you pray for that city." (See Jeremiah 24:5 & 29:7) But then he tells 'em later: ["Wander away from Babylon"]. (PARAPHRASE, Jeremiah 50:8) Well, you

remember, or if you don't remember we're going to see it, but the Medes and the Persians when they conquered Babylon, then Cyrus, the king of the Medo-Persian empire gave the Jews the right to leave Babylon. He said that they could go home, they could return to Israel. (See 2 Chronicles 36:23) So he's saying, in a sense, I think, ["Wander away from Babylon"]. (PARAPHRASE, Jeremiah 50:8) But here he's telling 'em, ["Hey! Flee! Run get out of there!"] (PARAPHRASE, Jeremiah 51:6) So it's a more urgent thing. Why? Because God is about to destroy Babylon, and He's about to give recompense. It says, **"Babylon has been a golden cup in the hand of the LORD..."**, now listen, **"...intoxicating all the earth. [They] drunk of [the] wine [of Babylon]..."** (Jeremiah 51:7) And because they've drunk of the wine Babylon they don't have their senses about 'em and they don't know what's going on. And so He's saying: **"...Intoxicating all the earth. The nations have drunk of her wine; Therefore..."**, it says, **"...the nations are going mad."** (Jeremiah 51:7) I want you to look at Revelation chapter 18, verse 3. Do you see how helpful it is to be living at this time and to be able to read the end of the book? Revelation 18:3: **"For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed *acts of* immorality with her, and...merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."** [And] I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **"Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues."** (Revelation 18:3-4) "Flee, get out of there! She is seducing you." And if you look at our nation, we have been seduced away from God, away from the Word of God. We have re-interpreted the Word of God and said, "I can live in immorality, anyway I want to. My country sanctions this." And, "My country warned you; 'Don't talk to me about immorality. That's hate crimes.'" And so we think we are protected. And you know what? We have just drunk of the cup of unfaithfulness. We've turned away from God. Now watch what he says, **"Suddenly Babylon has**

**fallen and [has] been broken; wail over her! Bring balm for her pain; perhaps she [will] be healed.” (Jeremiah 51:8)** Now next to that write: “Isaiah 21:9;” write “Revelation 14:8.” **“...Fallen, fallen...Babylon the great [has fallen]....” (Revelation 14:8)** Write “Revelation 18:2” so that you can cross-reference this. It says, **“...Bring balm for her pain; perhaps she [will] be healed. We applied healing to Babylon, but she was not healed; Forsake her [forsake her]...let us each go to his own country, for her judgment has reached to [the] heaven[s]....” (Jeremiah 51:8-9)** In Babel in Genesis, their gonna build a tower that reaches from earth to the heavens so they can do what they want. (See Genesis 11:4) Oh God, says **“...[Oh no! Your] judgment has reached to [the heavens] and towers...to the very skies. The LORD has brought about our vindication; come and let us recount in Zion the work of the LORD our God!” (Jeremiah 51:9-10)** “Let’s talk about this. Let’s rejoice over what God has done. Let’s go to Zion. Let’s go to Jerusalem!” Remember all week—two cities—Babylon or Jerusalem. Jerusalem is where God’s name is. (See 1 Kings 11:36) Jerusalem is a city of peace, “shalom.” Je-ru-shalom, it is a place to be of righteousness. (See Jeremiah 33:16) And someday it will. **“Sharpen the arrows, fill the quivers! The LORD has aroused the spirit of the [king] of the Medes [the spirit of the king of the Medes], because His purpose is against Babylon to destroy it....” (Jeremiah 51:11)** Once again what I would do is I would underline “purpose,” because God wants us to see and to remember that His “purpose” is going to be accomplished. And it says, **“...The LORD has aroused the spirit of the kings of the Medes, because His purpose...against Babylon is to destroy it...it is the vengeance of the LORD...,”** now listen, **“...vengeance for His temple.” (Jeremiah 51:11)** “Vengeance for His temple.” Because who destroyed the temple of God? You’re gonna read about it in Isaiah 52. It was Babylon. It says, **“Lift up a signal against the walls of Babylon; post a strong guard, station sentries, place men in ambush! For the LORD has both purposed and performed**



**what He spoke concerning the inhabitants of Babylon.” (Jeremiah 51:12)** Now what did he speak? Well, look at “Isaiah 13 and 14.” Just write it down and you can see it. He said it through Isaiah the prophet who lived before. (See Isaiah 13:1-14:22) “[O you who dwell by many waters], **abundant in treasures, your end [will] come, the measure of your end. The LORD of hosts has sworn by Himself: ‘Surely I will fill you [Babylon] with a population like locusts...they will cry out with shouts of victory over you.’” (Jeremiah 51:13-14)** Now who is doing this? Who is doing this? Look. “*It is He who made the earth by His power, who established the world by His wisdom, and by His understanding He stretched out the heavens. When He utters His voice, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens...He causes the clouds to ascend from the end of the earth; He makes lightning for the rain...[He] brings forth the wind from His storehouses.*” (Jeremiah 51:15-16) He’s the Creator. “**All mankind is stupid, devoid of knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, for his molten images are deceitful, and there[’s] no breath in them.**” (Jeremiah 51:17) He’s talking about the stupidity of man who worships someone other than God. He says, “**They are worthless, a work of mockery; in the time of their punishment they will perish.**” (Jeremiah 51:18) O Beloved, O Beloved, rest is coming to the earth. (See Jeremiah 50:34)