

# HOPE IN GOD

PSALM  
43:5

Sunday Morning, August 25, 2024 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

**Message Title: Who is Your Hope?**

**Message Text:** Jeremiah 17:1-11

## Introduction

Jeremiah was ordained by God to be a prophet to the people of Judah (*southern kingdom*) while he was in his mother's womb. His calling would not be easy and in the eyes of man, not successful. He has been called the '*weeping prophet*' because he often broke down in tears as he observed God's people reject the Word of God and continue in their own rebellious ways. He served as a prophet beginning around 627 BC. This was several years before the revival of Josiah and about 40 years before Judah was destroyed in 586 BC and much of the population carried away by Nebuchadnezzar into captivity in Babylon. Our passage today offers a particularly potent call to God's people to individually make the LORD their hope. May we respond appropriately to this same call.

## 1. A \_\_\_\_\_ Country (1-4)

### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Their Sin (1-2)

*Jeremiah 17:1-2 The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars; 2 Whilst their children remember their altars and their groves by the green trees upon the high hills.*

#### ENGRAVED ON THEIR HEARTS AND WORSHIP (1)

*Pen of iron...point of diamond...graven* — "...embedded in Judah's national character." —Mentor

*Horns of your altars* — Blood from the sin offering was to be smeared with the finger on the horns of the altar. (Leviticus 4:18) The priest would do this as he presented the offering before the LORD on behalf of an Israelite seeking the forgiveness of their sin.

scan for  
sermon notes



## INVOLVED THE NEXT GENERATION (2)

QUOTE: Idolatry was so pervasive that even...children participated in worship at the altars and Asherah poles. Asherah was the Canaanite goddess of fertility. A carved image of Asherah had been placed in God's temple by Manasseh. (2 Kings 21:7) —BKC

*Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*

*Ephesians 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.*

### B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of their Sin (4)

*Jeremiah 17:3–4 O my mountain in the field, I will give thy substance and all thy treasures to the spoil, and thy high places for sin, throughout all thy borders. 4 And thou, even thyself, shalt discontinue from thine heritage that I gave thee; and I will cause thee to serve thine enemies in the land which thou knowest not: for ye have kindled a fire in mine anger, which shall burn for ever.*

THE LOSS OF \_\_\_\_\_ (3)

*Jeremiah 20:5 Moreover I will deliver all the strength of this city, and all the labours thereof, and all the precious things thereof, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah will I give into the hand of their enemies, which shall spoil them, and take them, and carry them to Babylon.*

THE LOSS OF \_\_\_\_\_ (4a)

*Jeremiah 16:13 Therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that ye know not, neither ye nor your fathers; and there shall ye serve other gods day and night; where I will not shew you favour.*

THE LOSS OF \_\_\_\_\_ (4b)

*“...I will cause thee to serve thine enemies in the land which thou knowest not...”*

## 2. A \_\_\_\_\_ Choice (5-8)

*Jeremiah 17:5 Thus saith the LORD...*

### A. \_\_\_\_\_ in Man (5-6)

*Jeremiah 17:5–6 Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.*

DEFINITION—CURSE: to have divine harm or evil invoked upon.

DEFINITION—TRUST: to believe (trust); to have faith; put one's trust in something, to rely, to depend upon

DEFINITION—DEPARTETH: to reject; turn away; to reject, conceived of as turning away from something; to disbelieve, to disown

A HEATH IN THE DESERT — blooms brightly and then dries up

QUOTE: Instead of prospering, he will wither away like a desert bush. God would make him as unfruitful as the barren salt land around the Dead Sea, unable to support life. —BKC

*Psalm 146:3 Put not your trust in princes, Nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.*

## **B. \_\_\_\_\_ in the LORD (7-8)**

*Jeremiah 17:7-8 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. 8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river; and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.*

DEFINITION—BLESSED: to have divine favor invoked or enacted upon.

DEFINITION—TRUST: to believe; to have faith; put one's trust in something, to rely, to depend upon

DEFINITION—HOPE: trusted object; someone that is the object of a person's trust.

TREE BY PLANTED BY THE WATERS — rooted and constantly nourished  
(see *Psalm 1*)

*Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: But whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.*

*Psalm 118:8-9 It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in man. 9 It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in princes.*

QUOTE: The direction of a man's trust determines the whole cast of his life, because it determines, as it were, the soil in which he grows. —Alexander MacLaren

## **3. The \_\_\_\_\_ Condition (9-11)**

### **A. A \_\_\_\_\_ Problem (9-10)**

*Jeremiah 17:9-10 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? 10 I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.*

HEART — mind, will and emotions

DEFINITION—DECEITFUL: duplicitous; marked by deliberate deceptiveness.

DEFINITION—DESPERATELY WICKED: incurable; incapable of being cured.

QUOTE: The heart of the problem is always the problem of the heart.

WHO CAN KNOW IT? (10)

*Psalm 139:23–24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: Try me, and know my thoughts: 24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting*

*2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

## B. A \_\_\_\_\_ Perspective (11)

*Jeremiah 17:11 As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool.*

PARTRIDGE — The eggs of the partridge were delicious food, and any brooding bird whose nest was discovered after only a few days of incubation did not hatch, because she lost her eggs. Also the eggs frequently fall prey to other birds or small animals. —Biblehub.com

QUOTE: He will find that his wealth can vanish, taken away by others, just as predators steal the partridge's eggs.

*Matthew 6:19–21 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

Conclusion—\_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ Hope?

## Questions to Consider

How have you trusted in man or yourself this past week?

Will you asked the Lord to search your heart and expose any misplaced hopes?

Describe a time when you made the Lord your hope and experienced blessing.

Describe a time with you trusted in man and experienced loss of blessing.



**Grace Baptist Church** • 2901 Galewood St. • Kettering, OH. 45420  
gracebaptistofkettering.org • 937.293.7500 • Pastor Josiah Kagin