**Jeremiah 11:18-12:6**

***“When You’re Wronged for Doing Right”***

Introduction:

1. Have you been wronged, and you were doing right?

2. That was the case in Jeremiah 11:18-12:6:

Have you been wronged, and you were doing right?

**I. HIS PROBLEM WHEN WRONGED 11:18-20**

 ***A. Insight From The Lord 18***

**1.** God knows all about it...even before you do!

**2.** God knows who...God knows where...God knows what…*you showed me.*

***B. Ignorance In Spite Of The Lord 19a***

 *“I knew not...”*

1. *“I was like an innocent, gentle sheep. I was like an ox to slaughter”*
2. Jeremiah was clueless. That is often the case when we are wronged.

 ***C. Insidiousness Before The Lord 19b***

**1. Destruction***…let us destroy him.*

 **2. Death…***let us cut him off from the land of the living.*

 **3. Denunciation…***that his name be remembered no more*

 *Anathoth*these were his neighbors. These were people he had known all his life!

 That hurts! It comes out of the blue from the most unexpected sources.

 ***D. Involvement Of The Lord 20***

**1. Pray** *O, Lord of hosts* This is the God of the armies of heaven. This God is

 BIG. He is bigger than any foe.

1. **Personalize** Recognize who He is. *Who judgest righteously…*What He does is

 right!

1. **Placement** *Let me see thy vengeance.* Jeremiah is not praying on his own.

 Jeremiah is utterly open to the Lord. His enemies were God’s enemies. He was God’s prophet.

 *For to you I have committed my cause. NASV* Jeremiah didn’t get mad.

 He committed his cause to the Lord. He asked the Lord to take up his case.

Have you been wronged, and you were doing right?

**II. HIS PROMISE WHEN WRONGED 11:21-23**

God will take care of it!

***A. The Reason For His Promise 21***

**1.** Anathoth is a city of many priests. Jeremiah has been tough on this crowd.

 **2.** *Who see your life…*God knows all about your situation.

 **3.** *Prophesy not…*He knows what they say. God is the unseen visitor in meeting.

 God is the guest in every conversation.

 ***B. The Result Of His Promise 22,23***

God will take up your cause and if any payback is required, He will do it!

1. *“I will take care of the men of Anathoth.”*
2. God will judge every sin. Even the ‘secret’ sins will be exposed to the judgment of God.
3. Jesus took our judgment. “It’s not fair that Jeremiah suffered.” “It’s not fair that I am

 suffering.”

1. Jesus suffered in your place. He came as the message (Word) from God. He was despised,

 rejected and ultimately crucified…the innocent for the guilty.

1. **It’s either mercy or judgment!** God says, *“I’ll take care of it.”*

Have you been wronged, and you were doing right?

**III. HIS PATIENCE WHEN WRONGED 12:1-4**

Should I say the lack of patience. We say, *“Lord, give me patience, and make it by Friday.”*

1. ***His Conversation 1a***
2. Anathoth is still there. Jeremiah wants His promise…NOW!
3. God’s promise is “I’ll take care of it.” That should be the last word. He knew that God was a righteous judge, BUT…Jeremiah wants the last word. He prays: “Could I have a word with you Lord? I just want to make a few comments about how you are handling this situation. I hope you don’t mind if I offer some constructive criticism.”

***B. His Concern 1b-2***

**1.** Jeremiah wants to knowwhy good things happen to bad people. *Why do the*

 *wicked prosper? Why do those who deal treacherously live in ease?*

**2.** If God were not in control it would be easy…**It’s their own efforts.**

1. **God is in control.** God must be to blame. *You planted them. They have taken root. They bear fruit. 2a*
2. *You are near their mouth and far from their heart.*

 ***C. His Consecration 3a***

**1.** They are bad. I am good.

 **2.** *You know me. You have seen me. You have tested me.*

**3. I don’t deserve this!**

 ***D. His Consternation 4***

How long?

1. There are negative effects because of them…*land, herbs, beast, birds.*
2. “God doesn’t care.” “He doesn’t’ see.” “He won’t do anything.”
3. When we have to wait, we can get like that. **It’s easy to feel sorry for ourselves.**

Have you been wronged, and you were doing right?

**IV. HIS PERSPECTIVE WHEN WRONGED 12:5,6**

 His perspective isn’t God’s*.* What is the answer: Why do the wicked prosper? Why do

 good things happen to bad people? Why do the wheels of justice roll so slowly? No doubt

 Jeremiah expected a positive answer. God would surely defend Himself. God doesn’t

 always answer our questions. He usually doesn’t. God asks some questions.

***You are too small, so let God run His business...you can’t handle the small everyday stuff!***

 ***A. His Race 5a***

**1.** Jeremiah is taken to a college track. He runs a few foot-races. Then as Jeremiah

 stands on the infield gasping for air and reaching for the Gatorade, God said, “Now Jeremiah,

 get ready for the Kentucky Derby. You are in lane six, next to that bay. Sorry, all the nags ran

 earlier. If you have raced with men but you can’t keep up with Usain Bolt…how can you beat

 Secretariat?

 ***B. His Route 5b***

*If you stumble on flat land, how will you manage in the thickets of Jordan?*

1. If you can’t make it through Kansas, how are you going to make it over the Rockies?
2. We stumble over the easy stuff. How are we going to make it when it’s really tough?
3. ***Life is too BIG...God has to do it!***

 ***C. His Relatives 6***

**1.** Let me give you a peek at horse races and thickets.

 **2.** Your brothers…your family…they are out to get you. You can’t handle it!

***Life is not designed for my ease, BUT HIS GLORY!!***

***He receives the most glory when life is too big for us...THEN HE MUST DO IT!!!***