**Jeremiah 15:1-21**

***“Are You Disappointed With God?”***

Introduction:

1. **“*EXPECTATION” ...................................................................... “PERFORMANCE”***

 ***DISAPPOINTMENT***

2. Are you disappointed with God?

3. Jeremiah 15:1-21 Jeremiah is disappointed with God.

Are you disappointed with God?

**I. THE REASONS FOR DISAPPOINTMENT 15:1-18**

 ***A. Unanswered Prayer 1-9***

**1. The Relating Of Unanswered Prayer...***the wages of sin is death*

 *\**God refused to answer Jeremiah’s prayer or anyone else. (1) Jeremiah’s prayer

 was a failure. God promised to send judgment instead of blessing. **That’s a**

 **BIG disappointment!**

 **\***The judgment sounds like the 4 horsemen. It sums up about ½ of the book of

 Jeremiah…death…sword…starvation…captivity. (2)

 \**”I will send four kinds of destroyers”* The first will destroy the living. The

 other three will mutilate and consume the dead. This type of desecration was

 too horrendous for the Israelite to contemplate. It was the ultimate desecration

 of the dead! (3)

 \*Manasseh’s sin is named because it is the root cause of Judah’s captivity. He

 had contributed to Israel’s moral decline, but he had brazenly led Judah into

 idolatry. (4)

 \*There is no pity for Jerusalem when she is forsaken. No one will ask if there

 is peace in the city. *“Peace” “Peace”* when judgment comes, no one will

 even ask about peace!

 \*God was planning to toss Judah into the air like a pile of grain from a threshing

 floor. (7) The wheat would stay at the city gates, but the chaff would be

 scattered and blown into exile. Families would be destroyed.

 \*So many men would die that the widows would be more numerous than the sands

 of the sea! The mother of a perfect family (7 sons) would lose her children and

 she would die of shock. (8, 9)

 **2. The Reason For Unanswered Prayer...**

 **\***Neither Moses nor Samuel could pay for sin. (2) Jesus must pay for sin!

 \*God doesn’t always answer prayer by giving godly people what they request.

 Even the best prayers, offered from the purest motives may not receive an

 affirmative answer.

 ++Some prayers are hindered by sins of the intercessor. Selfish praying is

 hindered praying. *If you regard iniquity in your heart, I won’t hear you.*

++Some prayers are hindered by the sins of others…as the case here. (6) God

 will not violate your will or that of someone else.

 ++God has something else in mind to receive glory or give grace to the prayer.

 Paul asked for a thorn to be removed: *Thy grace is sufficient…when I am*

 *weak, then is He made strong.*

 ***B. Undeserved Suffering 10-13, 15***

**1. The Attacks 10a**

 **\****A man of strife…a man of contention to the whole earth…a man whom the whole*

 *earth strives and contends.*

 *\**It hurts when you do your best and are falsely accused!

 **2. The Actions 10b**

 **\****I didn’t owe anybody anything, and no one owed me!*

 \*He was accused and cast out!

 **3. The Assurance 11**

 **\***God says that He will take care of Jeremiah.

 \*God promises to take care of Jeremiah’s enemies as well as strength for his

 ministry. In times of distress even his enemies will come for intercession.

 \*Jeremiah doesn’t see it or he isn’t experiencing it. God can be silent and slow.

 **4. The Assault 15**

 **\****Know for thy sake I have suffered rebuke. Think of how I suffer reproach for*

 *your sake.*

  **\***The prophet wanted God to know that his suffering was undeserved. He almost

 feels his trials are God’s fault and he deserves better. **He blames God!**

 **\***Do you ever complain? You are falsely accused. You didn’t deserve to suffer.

 You deserve better. *“She doesn’t deserve this!”* **DISAPPOINTMENT!**

 ***C. Unrewarded Obedience 15-18***

 **1. Dejection 15**

*For your sake I suffered.* Poor Me!

 **2. Discouragement 16,17**

 ***A) Your Warrior 15*** *For your sake I suffered.* I was on the front lines for you.

 ***B) Your Word 16*** *I did this for You…I was a keen student of the Word.*

The Word brought *joy…rejoicing in my heart.* **The Word is a real delight!**

 ***C) Your Witness 17*** He was not a partier. Jeremiah didn’t waste his time on

 a bar stool laughing with the world. It pained him. It angered him.

 He lived a life of separation for God. That which hurt the heart of God hurt him.

He gave up worldly pleasure…drunkenness…greed…sexual immorality.

**3. Depression 18**

 **\*** *“After all I’ve done for you”* Jeremiah is touched by feeling sorry for himself.

 \*Jeremiah felt he deserved something better from God. *Waters that fail…*

 *A deceiving brook…failed promises (1:18, 19) He promised to strengthen him*

Are you disappointed with God?

**II. THE RESOLVING OF DISAPPOINTMENT 15:19-21**

 ***A. Repent 19a***

**1.** *If you return…****Repent!***

**2.** Jeremiah had been saying that to his people. Now God says it to Jeremiah.

 **Jeremiah, you’re wrong! God didn’t let you down!**

 **3.** *“I did this and that for you.”* God: *Whoa! Back Up! Start Over…start by*

 *confessing your sins!* Some of what he was saying was *worthless!*

**4.** Is He really letting you down or are you letting Him down? Realize your sinfulness.

 Realize your humanness. Realize your pride!

 ***B. Repeat 19bff***

**1.** He repeats nearly word for word the promise of (1:18, 19).

 **2.** He repeats the promises he made to him when he first called. This was not

 something new.

 **3.** This is a lesson for **discouragement. Repeat the Promises:** *I will never leave*

 *you nor forsake you…we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us…My*

 *God shall supply all of your needs according to His riches in glory. I can do all*

 *things through Christ who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

**4.** Spiritual renewal comes from old promises through Christ.

 ***C. Return…****Re-enlist*

**1**. I believe the reason God takes him back to the beginning is to remind him that he is

 still on assignment and he still has a job to do.

 **2.** Just because you feel like quitting is no sign God is done with you!

 **3. Get back doing what you know God wants you to do.**

 ***D. Release “I Will...”***

 **1. You can’t…He can…He will…He must!!!**

 **2.** All you can be is available. He must do the rest. It’s not up to you to carry the load!

*Bear not a single care thyself*

*One is too much for thee;*

*The work is MINE, and MINE alone;*

*Thy work...TO REST IN ME!!*