

JEREMIAH PART II
“THE BATTLE OF OBEDIENCE”
HEBREWS 12; JEREMIAH 3, 7, 11, 31
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INTRODUCTION

- For 40 years Jeremiah told Israel to turn back to God or they would be conquered.
- Jeremiah was obedient and said yes to God. His obedience landed him a lot of prison time.
- Temptation is to see ourselves as Jeremiah, not Israel.

I. THE DISCIPLINE OF GOD

- If we want to be disciples of Jesus, we have to live a disciplined life.
- In the spiritual life, the word discipline means “the effort to create some space in which God can act.”
- Hebrews 12:5-6 NLT, “My child, don’t make light of the Lord’s discipline, and don’t give up when He corrects you. ⁶For the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes each one He accepts as His child.”
- His discipline involves training us to live right.
- Will we say yes to God when He asks?
- Saying Yes to God means saying NO to something else.
- Discipline is always a gateway to growth.

II. THE DANGER OF COLD HEARTS

- Micah 6:8, “...the Lord has told you...what He requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.”

- Humility can be measured. It is measured by the presence of a passion to do what is just and right.
- Jeremiah 7:8-10, “...⁹Do you really think you can steal, murder, commit adultery, lie, and burn incense to Baal...¹⁰and then come here and stand before me in my Temple...only to go right back to all those evils again?”
- Saying yes to God means saying no to something else.
- And the something else that we have said yes to has probably become an idol.

III. THE BATTLE TO OBEY

- It’s hard to say yes to God and no to other things!
- Jeremiah 3:4-5 NLT, “Yet you say to me, ‘Father, you have been my guide since my youth’...but you keep on doing all the evil you can.”
- The potential for you to say yes to God was made possible because of what Jesus did!!
- Romans 6:17-18 NLT, “...¹⁸Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living.”
- Jesus - “If you love Me you will do what I have already asked and what the Spirit will ask of you.”

CLOSE

- Hebrews 12:1-2 NLT, “...let us strip off every weight...especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us...”
- Will we say yes to God when He asks?
- Saying yes to what He has asked and will ask is obedience.
- Discipleship requires discipline, and discipline means creating space.
- What has filled up space in our lives?