

God Is Speaking But...

Rev. 2:29 - He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

1. Many will not pay any attention to it!

Jeremiah 37:1-2

1. Zedekiah son of Josiah was made king of Judah by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; he reigned in place of Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim.
2. Neither he nor his attendants nor the people of the land paid any attention to the words the LORD had spoken through Jeremiah the prophet.

Isaiah 30:9-11

9. These are rebellious people, deceitful children, children unwilling to listen to the LORD's instruction.
10. They say to the seers, "See no more visions!" and to the prophets, "Give us no more visions of what is right! Tell us pleasant things, prophesy illusions.
11. Leave this way, get off this path, and stop confronting us with the Holy One of Israel!"

1 Kings 22:18 - The king of Israel (Ahab) said to Jehoshaphat, "Didn't I tell you that he never prophesies anything good about me, but only bad?"

A little earlier in 1 Kings 22:13-14 it says, - The messenger who had gone to summon Micaiah said to him, "Look, as one man the other prophets are predicting success for the king. Let your word agree with theirs, and speak favorably." But Micaiah said, "As surely as the LORD lives, I can tell him only what the LORD tells me."

2. Many will let their pride keep them from obeying it!

In Jeremiah 37:3-4 - King Zedekiah, however, sent Jehucal son of Shelemiah with the priest Zephaniah son of Maaseiah to Jeremiah the prophet with this message: "Please pray to the LORD our God for us." Now Jeremiah was free to come and go among the people, for he had not yet been put in prison.

Jeremiah 37:5 - Pharaoh's army had marched out of Egypt, and when the Babylonians who were besieging Jerusalem heard the report about them, they withdrew from Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 37:11-16

11. After the Babylonian army had withdrawn from Jerusalem because of Pharaoh's army,

12. Jeremiah started to leave the city to go to the territory of Benjamin to get his share of the property among the people there.

13. But when he reached the Benjamin Gate, the captain of the guard, whose name was Irijah son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah, arrested him and said, "You are deserting to the Babylonians!"

14. "That's not true!" Jeremiah said. "I am not deserting to the Babylonians." But Irijah would not listen to him; instead, he arrested Jeremiah and brought him to the officials.

15. They were angry with Jeremiah and had him beaten and imprisoned in the house of Jonathan the secretary, which they had made into a prison.

16. Jeremiah was put into a vaulted cell in a dungeon, where he remained a long time.

Jeremiah 37:6-10

6. Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet:

7. "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Tell the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of me, `Pharaoh's army, which has marched out to support you, will go back to its own land, to Egypt.

8. Then the Babylonians will return and attack this city; they will capture it and burn it down.'

9. "This is what the LORD says: Do not deceive yourselves, thinking, `The Babylonians will surely leave us.' They will not!

10. Even if you were to defeat the entire Babylonian army that is attacking you and only wounded men were left in their tents, they would come out and burn this city down."

Jeremiah 37:17a - Then King Zedekiah sent for him and had him brought to the palace, where he asked him privately, "Is there any word from the LORD?"

Jeremiah 37:17b - "Yes," Jeremiah replied, "you will be handed over to the king of Babylon."

Jeremiah 38:14 - Then King Zedekiah sent for Jeremiah the prophet and had him brought to the third entrance to the temple of the LORD. "I am going to ask you something," the king said to Jeremiah. "Do not hide anything from me."

3. Many will still do their own thing!

Jeremiah 42:1-6.

1. Then all the army officers, including Johanan son of Kareah and Jezaniah son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least to the greatest approached

2. Jeremiah the prophet and said to him, "Please hear our petition and pray to the LORD your God for this entire remnant. For as you now see, though we were once many, now only a few are left.

3. Pray that the LORD your God will tell us where we should go and what we should do."

4. "I have heard you," replied Jeremiah the prophet. "I will certainly pray to the LORD your God as you have requested; I will tell you everything the LORD says and will keep nothing back from you."

5. Then they said to Jeremiah, "May the LORD be a true and faithful witness against us if we do not act in accordance with everything the LORD your God sends you to tell us.

6. Whether it is favorable or unfavorable, we will obey the LORD our God, to whom we are sending you, so that it will go well with us, for we will obey the LORD our God."

Jeremiah 42:10-16

10. `If you stay in this land, I will build you up and not tear you down; I will plant you and not uproot you, for I am grieved over the disaster I have inflicted on you.

11. Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, whom you now fear. Do not be afraid of him, declares the LORD, for I am with you and will save you and deliver you from his hands.

12. I will show you compassion so that he will have compassion on you and restore you to your land.'

13. "However, if you say, `We will not stay in this land,' and so disobey the LORD your God,

14. and if you say, `No, we will go and live in Egypt, where we will not see war or hear the trumpet or be hungry for bread,'

15. then hear the word of the LORD, O remnant of Judah. This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: `If you are determined to go to Egypt and you do go to settle there,

16. then the sword you fear will overtake you there, and the famine you dread will follow you into Egypt, and there you will die.

Jeremiah 42:19-22

19. "O remnant of Judah, the LORD has told you, `Do not go to Egypt.' Be sure of this: I warn you today

20. that you made a fatal mistake when you sent me to the LORD your God and said, `Pray to the LORD our God for us; tell us everything he says and we will do it.'

21. I have told you today, but you still have not obeyed the LORD your God in all he sent me to tell you.

22. So now, be sure of this: You will die by the sword, famine and plague in the place where you want to go to settle."