

**PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!
NOTES FOR THIS WEEK: 5/31-6/1/2021
THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *Jeremiah Chapters 46-47***

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS112,
CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).
THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM,
CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER – Introduction *Jeremiah Chapters 46-47*

INTRODUCTION: (Memorial Day, 2021)

The Gettysburg Address – Abraham Lincoln - November 19, 1863

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate -- we cannot consecrate -- we cannot hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Lincoln's message in his Gettysburg Address was that the living can honor the wartime dead not with a speech, but rather by continuing to fight for the ideas they gave their lives for. Today we want to remember the thousands that gave their life that we might have the liberty and freedom in this nation. We want to remember and be thankful for those founding fathers who gave their all that this nation would be formed by God and knew that to survive we need to honor and obey God and His word!

THIS WEEK'S STUDY:

Chap. 46 – Judgement on Egypt - (vs. 1-12); Babylonia Will Strike Egypt – (vs. 13-26); God Will Preserve Israel – (vs. 27-28) Chap. 47 – Judgment on Philistia – (vs. 1-7).

Jeremiah 46-47:

- **The final prophecies of Jeremiah are addressed to the Gentile nations, for the most part.** It begins in chapter 46 with *Egypt*; in 47 against *Philistia*; *Moab* in chapter 48; against *Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar and Hazor, Elam* in chapter 49; and against *Babylon* in 51-52.
- **The scope of the prophecy here is to show how the king of Babylon should shortly come and smite the land of Egypt**, and bring the war into their own bosoms which they had formerly carried into his borders, *Jer 46:13*. This was fulfilled by the same hand with the former, even Nebuchadnezzar's, but many years after, (likely 571-567 B.C.). This prophecy was probably quite some time after the former prediction, and perhaps much about the same time with that other prediction of the same event which we had *Jer 43:10*.
- **The fall of Jerusalem, and its destruction by Babylon, begins what is called, the times of the Gentiles.** Where God sort of set aside Israel, because of its failure, and the Gentile powers became dominant. Israel was in captivity, returned after seventy years, but never regained her strength, was finally destroyed by the Romans.
- **We are presently living in the times of the Gentiles**, but God is again going to deal with the nation of Israel. Their day is coming, their time is coming. The time of the Gentiles is limited. Jesus said that "Jerusalem will be trodden under the foot of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. Paul speaks about the blindness that has happened to the nation of Israel, in part, until the fulness of the Gentiles is come in.
- **We seem to be very close to the end of the times of the Gentiles.** The fact that Jerusalem really is not trodden under foot, by the Gentiles, is a significant sign. The prophecy of course, may be a reference more to the temple mount, which is still under Gentile power, but that remains to be seen. But these are prophecies against the Gentiles.

Jer 46:1 *The word of the LORD which came to Jeremiah the prophet against the nations. (Jer 1:9-10) Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. [10] See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant."*

Jer 46:2 *Against Egypt. Concerning the army of Pharaoh Necho, king of Egypt, which was by the River Euphrates in Carchemish, and which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of Jehoiakim (609B.C.) the son of Josiah, king of Judah:*

- **He begins with Egypt, because they were of old Israel's oppressors and of late their deceivers Pharaoh Necho, mentioned in I Kings 23 & 2 Ch 36,** first brought the Egyptian army against the Assyrians. Judah's good King Josiah decided to go out and face the Egyptian power. Although he was advised not to do that, but he did it anyhow, and he went up to Megiddo to fight against the Egyptians, and was slain by Pharaoh Necho, taken back to Jerusalem and buried.
- **Now four years later Pharaoh Necho decided to send his troops to assist Assyria in coming against Babylon.** In those days, Egypt was always one of the major powers. The glory of Egypt was world renowned. The pyramids and all those marvelous structures there in Egypt. A nation of luxury, a nation of power, a nation that was respected, and one of the leading nations of the ancient world. This is the beginning of the downfall of Egypt. Never again will Egypt experience the glory that she had prior to Pharaoh Necho's aborted attempt to conquer Babylon. This is in the time that Egyptian army had been sent against Babylon, and it was in the fourth year of Jehoiakim (605 B.C.), the son of Josiah.

Jer 46:3 *"Order the buckler and shield, And draw near to battle!"*

- **The call to battle!** We have here a picture of the confidence of Egypt going into battle against Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon in battle, who, 7 years earlier had defeated Nineveh in 612. B.C. We have the pre-excitement of a great battle.

Jer 46:4 *Harness the horses, And mount up, you horsemen! Stand forth with your helmets, Polish the spears, Put on the armor!*

- **Cavalry units with their helmets, their spears, and metal armor** that they wore. It is the power of Egypt. They were known for their chariots, and they were awesome and fearsome in war.

Jer 46:5 *Why have I seen them dismayed and turned back? Their mighty ones are beaten down; They have speedily fled, And did not look back, For fear was all around," says the LORD.*

- **Jeremiah is prophesying, "How is it that I see them fleeing?"** They ran fast. Fear was all around the Egyptians. They are in dismay, they have been discomfited by the enemy. The Babylonian records say that caught every man and slaughtered them!

Jer 46:6 *"Do not let the swift flee away, Nor the mighty man escape; They will stumble and fall Toward the north, by the River Euphrates.*

- **At the battle of Carchemish, Pharaoh Necho's troops were totally defeated,** and Egypt became after that in history, only a secondary power of the best.

Jer 46:7 *"Who is this coming up like a flood, Whose waters move like the rivers?"*

- **The flood being a very apt description of Egypt,** because of the annual flooding of the Nile. Now Egypt is going to try to flood out over the nations. Babylon and Egypt are the vying powers of world dominance, and they are going to seek to overflow and conquer Babylon.

Jer 46:8 *Egypt rises up like a flood, And its waters move like the rivers; And he says, 'I will go up and cover the earth, I will destroy the city and its inhabitants.'*

Jer 46:9 *Come up, O horses, and rage, O chariots! And let the mighty men come forth: The Ethiopians and the Libyans who handle the shield, And the Lydians who handle and bend the bow.*

- **Coming up like the Nile at flood-stage, the Egyptians were very wealthy. Their armies were made up of mercenaries, not Egyptians.** They hired men of Ethiopia, Libyans, and another African group, the Lydians. They would hire them, and they were the mercenary soldiers that would fight for Egypt. But the Egyptians were very weakened by their luxuries and their lives of ease.

Jer 46:10 *For this is the day of the Lord GOD of hosts, A day of vengeance, That He may avenge Himself on His adversaries. The sword shall devour; It shall be satiated and made drunk with*

their blood; For the Lord GOD of hosts has a sacrifice In the north country by the River Euphrates.

- **The Egyptians say that they shall have a day of it, but God says that it shall be His day: *The is the day of the Lord God of hosts***, the day in which He will be exalted in the overthrow of the Egyptians. They meant one thing, but God meant another; they designed it for the advancement of their dignity and the enlargement of their dominion, but God designed it for the great abasement, defeat and weakening of their kingdom. It is *a day of vengeance* for Josiah's death; it is *a day of sacrifice* to divine justice, to which multitudes of the sinners of Egypt shall fall as victims. It would be God's judgment, their defeat portrayed as a sacrifice.

Jer 46:11 "Go up to Gilead and take balm, O virgin, the daughter of Egypt; In vain you will use many medicines; You shall not be cured. (Jer 8:22) Is there no balm in Gilead, Is there no physician there? Why then is there no recovery For the health of the daughter of my people?"

- **This is referring to the young ladies, the daughters of Egypt.** Gilead was a place that was famous in scripture for this salve, this balm they had there. Jeremiah refers to it in another passage, "Is there *no balm in Gilead?*" It is this special ointment there actually known for its healing powers. *You shall not be cured.* Egypt will never rise again as a dominating world power. It is *not to be cured.*

Jer 46:12 The nations have heard of your shame, And your cry has filled the land; For the mighty man has stumbled against the mighty; They both have fallen together."

- **In their attempt to flee, they fled several ways, one mighty man stumbled upon another** and dashed against another, such confusion were they in, so that *both together* became an easy prey to the pursuers. A thousand such dreadful accidents there should be, which should fill the country with the cry of those that were overcome.

Jer 46:13 The word that the LORD spoke to Jeremiah the prophet, how Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon would come and strike the land of Egypt.

- **This is another prophecy against Egypt.** The first was the defeat there at Carchemish (605 B.C.). Now, Jeremiah is prophesying some fourteen years after this defeat at Carchemish, that Babylon would come to invade Egypt. History confirms that Nebuchadnezzar did successfully invade and completely conquer Egypt, around 571-567 B.C.!

Jer 46:14 "Declare in Egypt, and proclaim in Migdol; Proclaim in Noph and in Tahpanhes; Say, 'Stand fast and prepare yourselves, For the sword devours all around you.'

- **Here is the alarm of war sounded in Egypt, to their great amazement.** Notice is given to the country that the enemy is approaching, *the sword devours all around you* in the neighboring countries, and therefore it is time for the Egyptians to put themselves in a posture of defense, to prepare for war, that they may give the enemy a warm reception. This must be proclaimed in all parts of *Egypt*, particularly *in Migdol, Noph, and Tahpanhes*, because in these places especially the Jewish refugees or fugitives, had planted themselves, in contempt of God's command. Let them hear what a sorry shelter Egypt is likely to be to them. The retreat of the mercenary forces of other nations which the Egyptians had in their pay is here foretold. A considerable number of those troops were likely posted upon the frontiers to guard them, where they were beaten off by the invaders and put to flight.
- **This is the beginning of what is called "The Times of the Gentiles".** Once Nebuchadnezzar takes the city of Jerusalem and destroys the temple, a process of Gentile rule begins. It begins with Nebuchadnezzar (Babylon), then the flow of civilizations goes from the Babylonians to the Medes and the Persians, to the Greeks, to the Romans to a situation in the last days where there is some revival of the Roman Empire, weakened with iron and miry clay. That's the flow of civilizations. Now we see Israel back in the land in 1948. Two things set us aside from any generation that's ever lived. One is Israel that is back in the land. Secondly, nuclear proliferation. We are the first generation that has the capacity to eliminate ourselves.

Jer 46:15 Why are your valiant men swept away? They did not stand Because the LORD drove them away.

- **Why? If the LORD is against you, who can be for you?** God is prophesying against Egypt. *Your valiant men swept away.* They could not stand because the LORD did drive them. It is not possible that those should fix whom the wrath of God chases.

Jer 46:16 He made many fall; Yes, one fell upon another. And they said, 'Arise! Let us go back to our own people And to the land of our nativity From the oppressing sword.'

- **The mercenaries were saying.** Why should we take a beating for Egypt? Let us go home.” So, the mercenaries that the Egyptians had trusted in, their great army, they fled on back to Ethiopia and Libya, the places from where they had come.

Jer 46:17 They cried there, 'Pharaoh, king of Egypt, is but a noise. He has passed by the appointed time!'

- **No doubt, the Pharaoh was making all these powerful pronouncements** of what they were going to do. Monarchs talk how big and strong they were and here how they would handle these Babylonians, But when it came right down to it, they said, “That guy’s *just a noise*. There is nothing behind it. There is no substance there. *The time has passed* of that appointed for him.

Jer 46:18 "As I live," says the King, Whose name is the LORD of hosts, "Surely as Tabor is among the mountains And as Carmel by the sea, so he shall come.

- **It is a sure thing! Pharaoh in not the king! Nebuchadnezzar in not the king! The King is the LORD of hosts!** All things will go as the *LORD* commands! **Just as surely as Tabor is there and Carmel is there,** you can be sure, that *Nebuchadnezzar shall come*, rising up with the Babylonian army, being clearly seen all over *Egypt* even as *Tabor* and *Carmel* can be seen.

Jer 46:19 O you daughter dwelling in Egypt, Prepare yourself to go into captivity! For Noph shall be waste and desolate, without inhabitant.

- **The Egyptians must prepare to flee; for their cities shall be evacuated.** Noph particularly *shall be desolate, without an inhabitant*, so general shall the slaughter and the captivity be. They shall not escape; nor can any think to go off in the crowd.

Jer 46:20 "Egypt is a very pretty heifer (one of the Egyptian gods was Apis), But destruction comes, it comes from the north.

- **This pretty heifer is to be destroyed.** We see many easily understood illustrations in God’s prophecies: Here we have illustrations using floods, rivers, noise, mountains, heifers, fat bulls, serpents, axes, forests! Get ready to go into captivity. Don’t take your fancy evening gowns, you are not going to need them. Wear some warm clothing. Don’t take your dancing slippers, take some heavy boots. It is going to be tough! You are going to be taken into captivity. Egypt had not been invaded. They were sort of out of the general area of conflict, which was more in Assyria and Babylon, but now they are to be invaded, and they are to be taken.



Jer 46:21 Also her mercenaries are in her midst like fat bulls, For they also are turned back, They have fled away together. They did not stand, For the day of their calamity had come upon them, The time of their punishment.

- **There is no way they could stand.** For God had ordained their defeat.

Jer 46:22 Her noise shall go like a serpent, For they shall march with an army And come against her with axes, Like those who chop wood.

- **The Babylonians, will march with an army, making a noise like the hissing of a serpent** (also a put down of the worship of snakes and their insignias by the Egyptians). The Egyptians shall be no more able to resist them than the tree is to resist the man that comes with an axe, so that Egypt shall be chopped down like a forest by an army with axes. Egypt be defenseless before the Babylonians, being like trees chopped and cut to the ground.



Jer 46:23 "They shall cut down her forest," says the LORD, "Though it cannot be searched, Because they are innumerable, And more numerous than grasshoppers.

- **That is the cities themselves, which were as forests.** There were over a thousand cities in Egypt. Egypt had had many plagues of locusts, but these were going to be men, numbering as the locusts, just covering the earth in their invasion of Egypt.

Jer 46:24 The daughter of Egypt shall be ashamed; She shall be delivered into the hand Of the people of the north."

- **At this point in time, no one knew who the ultimate super power of the world be,** but here the *LORD* is giving a definite prophecy that Egypt is to decisively fall to Babylon. All of it came to pass.

exactly as God said it would, as all of His prophecies will!

Jer 46:25 The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, says: "Behold, I will bring punishment on Amon of No, and Pharaoh and Egypt, with their gods and their kings—Pharaoh and those who trust in him. (Each of the ten plagues was a judgment of one of the gods of Egypt!)

Jer 46:26 And I will deliver them into the hand of those who seek their lives, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and the hand of his servants. Afterward it shall be inhabited as in the days of old," says the LORD. (Exo 7:5) And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the children of Israel from among them."

- **Each of the ten plagues brought again Egypt was a judgment against one of the Egyptian deities.** It wasn't just in the natural, but with each plague, one of the Egyptian gods was cast down!
- **Egypt will not be permanently destroyed.** Babylon did not displace the people of Egypt as they often did. It was destroyed for a period, but it will arise, but never to the same glory.
- **God was using the Babylonian army as His instrument of judgement against the nations.** But though it was used as an instrument of judgement, Babylon too, will be judged, which we will find in chapters 51-52. But now, as God has predicted, the fall of this powerful nation of Egypt, one that Israel always held in great respect and awe, prompting Israel to say, "If Egypt is destroyed by Babylon, then how shall we stand?"
- **Ezekiel foretells (Eze 29:12-14) I will make the land of Egypt desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate; and among the cities that are laid waste, her cities shall be desolate forty years; and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries." [13] 'Yet, thus says the Lord GOD: "At the end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the peoples among whom they were scattered. [14] I will bring back the captives of Egypt and cause them to return to the land of Pathros, to the land of their origin, and there they shall be a lowly kingdom. We see what changes the nations of the earth are subject to, how they are emptied and increased again; and let not nations that prosper be secure, nor those that for the present are in enslaved.**
- **Afterward it shall be inhabited as in the days of old.** As Jeremiah comes to the end of this prophecy, it seems to flip to the Millenium in the end times. How often do we see our merciful and gracious God reach out giving a future promise at the end of great calamities, brought about by their own sin?

Jer 46:27 "But do not fear, O My servant Jacob, And do not be dismayed, O Israel!

For behold, I will save you from afar, And your offspring from the land of their captivity; Jacob shall return, have rest and be at ease; No one shall make him afraid.

- **But do not fear!** Now God in these last two verses, addressing Himself to His *servant Jacob* who is fearful, because of these calamitous world events. The nations are at war. It is a period of warfare, it is a period of destruction. The Babylonian army has already taken its toll. The city of Jerusalem has been sacked. The remnant that is there is quite weak.
- **And do not be dismayed, O Israel! For behold, I will save you from afar!** This prophecy really transcends the years and comes into the latter days. Or it is a prophecy of the present time, and of time yet future, as God promises that He would save them from afar off, where they had been scattered.
- **And your offspring from the land of their captivity; Jacob shall return, have rest and be at ease; No one shall make him afraid.** Your children and all, your descendants, "I will save them from their captivity"! Now that is yet future. They are surely not in that condition yet. But when the Lord shall come and establish His kingdom, then this will be fulfilled.
- **The Jews have been scattered throughout the whole world, but they are being gathered again likely, in preparation for the Lord's return.** Most of the Jews that are living in the world, will again be living in Israel, in the future, as this immigration is happening over there right now.

Jer 46:28 Do not fear, O Jacob My servant," says the LORD, "For I am with you; For I will make a complete end of all the nations To which I have driven you, But I will not make a complete end of you. I will rightly correct you, For I will not leave you wholly unpunished."

- **Twice now God is exhorting them not to fear "For I am with you!** Surely that is the cure for fear. The consciousness of God's presence. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me!" The presence of the **LORD** dispels fear! God uses that very thought as the thing that would dispel fear.
- **Know that God is with you, and if you become conscious of the presence of God with you, there is nothing then to fear.** You only fear when you lose the sense of God's presence.

- **For I will make a complete end of all the nations To which I have driven you.** God's going to make a full end of the nations of the world where the Jews have been driven,
- **But I will not make a complete end of you. I will rightly correct you, For I will not leave you wholly unpunished." I will correct you** in proportion to your sin. Notice how God being all just and righteous, being filled with grace, mercy and truth does not relieve us, but does require of us, personal responsibility of our actions! (**Jer 30:11**) *For I am with you,' says the LORD, 'to save you; Though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, Yet I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, And will not let you go altogether unpunished. (Exo 32:31-33) Then Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! [32] Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written." [33] And the LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book. (Exo 21:12, 14, 15, 16, 29, 36) "He who strikes a man so that he dies shall surely be put to death. [14] "But if a man acts with premeditation against his neighbor, to kill him by treachery, you shall take him from My altar, that he may die. [15] "And he who strikes his father, or his mother shall surely be put to death. [16] "He who kidnaps a man and sells him, or if he is found in his hand, shall surely be put to death. [29] But if the ox tended to thrust with its horn in times past, and it has been made known to his owner, and he has not kept it confined, so that it has killed a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned, and its owner also shall be put to death. [36] Or if it was known that the ox tended to thrust in time past, and its owner has not kept it confined, he shall surely pay ox for ox, and the dead animal shall be his own.*
- **In reading these last two verses, we must believe that God is not through with the nation of Israel.** God tells them He must punish them but that He will not make a full end of them. Here is one of the many answers to the question "... (**Rom 11:1a**) *I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not!* If we believe the Word of God, we must let this Word stand and accept it at face value.
- **For I will make a complete end of all the nations** that oppressed God's Israel, as Egypt and Babylon; but mercy shall be kept in store for the Israel of God! They shall be corrected, but not cast off; the correction shall be in measure, in respect of degree and continuance. God corrects it, He will **not make a complete end of you.**
- **Now the wonderful thing for us is that though God does punish sin and must punish sin to be just.** The punishment for our sin was laid upon Jesus Christ! He bore the punishment for your sin! Now God will correct you, and that is good. We are told in (**Heb 12:6**) **FOR WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE CHASTENS, AND SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES.**" If you can do evil and get by with it, then you better be worried. The indication is that you may not be a child of God. If you are a child of God, He is not going to let you get by with things that are hurtful or destructive to you. He is going to correct you for that.
- **The punishment for your sins was laid on Jesus Christ. He took what I deserved!** The punishment that I deserve for my sins, He bore for me. Israel rejecting Christ is to be punished and corrected in measure, but not wholly unpunished. There will be punishment to Israel, because they rejected God's provisions for their sins.

Judgment on the Philistines

Jer 47:1 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Philistines, before Pharaoh attacked Gaza.

- **In chapter 47, Jeremiah speaks about the land of the Philistines.** Now the Egyptian army moved up into the land of the Philistines. One of their major cities was the city of Gaza. That is where Samson had visited, met his fate.

Jer 47:2 Thus says the LORD: "Behold, waters rise out of the north, And shall be an overflowing flood; They shall overflow the land and all that is in it, The city and those who dwell within; Then the men shall cry, And all the inhabitants of the land shall wail.

- **The Philistines were still sort of basking in their strength. They were strong and powerful people.** Still, to date the prophecy, it was before Pharaoh smote Gaza. After the Pharaoh had smitten Gaza, four years later is when the Babylonian invasion came. The prophecy is of the Babylonian invasion.

Jer 47:3 At the noise of the stamping hooves of his strong horses, At the rushing of his chariots, At the rumbling of his wheels, The fathers will not look back for their children, Lacking courage,

- **The power of the Babylonians is going to be an awesome thing!** A terrifying thing! Their chariots,

their horses, and the thundering of the hoofs, and the rattling of the chariots and all, is going to strike terror in the hearts of the Philistine people. So much so, that the men will forsake their own children! Fleeing for their own safety, they will become unnatural in their love. They will not consider their own children, but just leave them and flee, for the tremendous fear that has been inspired. We cannot imagine that. I cannot imagine not standing to defend my children, to death. But such will be the case when the Philistines are conquered.

Jer 47:4 Because of the day that comes to plunder all the Philistines, To cut off from Tyre and Sidon every helper who remains; For the LORD shall plunder the Philistines, The remnant of the country of Caphtor.

- **When Babylon went to conquer Tyre, the Philistines helped the people of Tyre.** They were the ones who helped supply them by these sea waters. Possibly this is a vindictive thing by Nebuchadnezzar against the Philistines, for helping Tyre and Sidon in his attempt to conquer the city of Tyre
- **It is a day to plunder the Philistines, for the LORD will plunder them.** Those whom God will *plunder* must indeed be *plundered*; for, *if God be against them, who can be for them?* Tyre and Sidon were strong and wealthy cities. They helped the Philistines when needed, but now they shall themselves be involved in the common ruin, and God will cut off from them *every helper who remains.*

Jer 47:5 Baldness has come upon Gaza, Ashkelon is cut off With the remnant of their valley. How long will you cut yourself?

- ***Baldness has come upon Gaza;*** the invaders have stripped them of all their ornaments, or they have made themselves bald in token of extreme grief, and they are *cut off*, with the other cities that were in the plain or valley about them. The products of their fruitful valley shall be plundered, and taken by the conquerors.
- ***How long will you cut yourself?*** These calamities will continue on for some time. Jeremiah, understanding this, with his usual tenderness, asks them first, O how long and tedious will the calamity be! But he turns from the effect to the cause: **They cut themselves**, for the sword of the **LORD** cuts them.

Jer 47:6 "O you sword of the LORD, How long until you are quiet? Put yourself up into your scabbard, Rest and be still!

- **How long will these wars go on?** How long will these nations be troubled, and how long is this fighting and this warfare back and forth to continue? How long before you command them *to put up their scabbards and rest, and be still?*

Jer 47:7 How can it be quiet, Seeing the LORD has given it a charge Against Ashkelon and against the seashore? There He has appointed it."

- **The prophecies against these Gentile powers, as God judges the nations.** It is interesting when you can take the prophecies and lay them beside history, and you see how accurately God predicted the events that were going to come. So much so, that the Bible critics, men who do not want to acknowledge that the Bible is the word of God, always declare, "Well it was written after the fact. You know you could not have written, before the fact, these things. That's an impossibility!" Thus, the only other conclusion is that they were written after the fact, and then dated before the fact. Such men will perish, and the word of God will stand, and it's an exciting book.
- ***How can it be quiet, Seeing the LORD has given it a charge?*** Yet He gives a satisfactory account of the continuance of the war and stops the mouth of His own complaint. *How can it be quiet, seeing the LORD has given it a charge* against such and such places, particularly specified in its commission? ***There He has appointed it.***
- **The sword of war of the LORD has its charge from the LORD of hosts.** Every bullet has its charge; you call them blind bullets, but they are directed by an all-seeing God. The war itself has its charge; He says to it, *Go, and it goes - Come, and it comes - Do this, and it does it;* for He is Commander in Chief!
- **When the sword is drawn we cannot expect it should be sheathed till it has fulfilled its charge.** As the word of God, so His rod and His sword, shall accomplish that for which He sends them.

Application:

- **May we be so aware the God uses prophecy in the Bible to show who He is.** He is the only One who tells us in advance of what is going to happen, so when it happens exactly as He prophesized, we know it's Him! when you can take the prophecies and lay them beside history, and you see how accurately God predicted the events that were going to come. Bible critics will perish, and the word of God will stand!
- **God's Word has stood the test of time.** Though the critics, and the agnostics have hammered against it for years. It still stands, they have fallen. May His Word indeed, be a guide to our lives, that we might live by its truth. That we might enjoy the favors and the blessings of the Lord, as we serve Him
- **We know that His Word is sure, and shall stand and what His word says, shall surely come to pass.** That surely gives us an edge up on the world around us! All we have to do is to look at His map, and know exactly where we are in history, as Lord, we see Your Word coming to pass, before our eyes!

Closing Song:

Battle Hymn of the Republic (4:51)

1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored, He has loosed the fateful lightening of His terrible swift sword. His truth is marching on.

(Chorus) Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

2 I have seen him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps. They have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps. I have read his righteous sentence in the dim and flaring lamps. His day is marching on. (Chorus)

3 In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me: As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, While God is marching on. (Chorus) (2 x) Amen. Amen.

Closing Prayer: