

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!
NOTES FOR THIS WEEK: 6/7-6/8/2021
THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *Jeremiah Chapter 48*

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!!

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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!!

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OPENING PRAYER – Introduction *Jeremiah Chapter 48*

THIS WEEK'S STUDY:

Chap. 48 – Judgement on Moab - (vs. 1-47).

INTRODUCTION:

- **Jeremiah, chapter 48 and his prophecy against Moab.** The area of Moab, within Jordan today, is on the high plains, east of the Jordan valley. The place in the book of Ruth, where Elimelech and Naomi moved to, resulting in the bloodline of David and the Messiah, to come through a Moabite! Generally, Moab was unfriendly to Israel. When the Israelites first came out of Egypt, it was Balak

the king of Moab that hired Balaam to curse the people, and they basically remained unfriendly to Israel. When Israel was taken captive by the Assyrians and later Judah was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, they exalted and rejoiced over the defeats. But their judgment is now certain.

- **Isaiah also prophesied, chapters 15 & 16, concerning the destruction of Moab.** If you compare the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah, you will find many similarities between the two. Isaiah prophesied around 700 B.C., Jeremiah about a 100 years later. Isaiah prophesied within three years of his prophecy, judgment on Moab would come. And it did! Moab was invaded by Shalmaneser, and the Assyrians and was defeated soundly at that time, yet it was not totally destroyed.
- **Jeremiah makes his predictions that their destruction is “near to come”.** And it did! Four years after Jerusalem was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan took the army against Moab, destroying it utterly. Both prophecies were fulfilled!

APPLICATION: HOW MUCH AM I LIKE A MOABITE?

Jeremiah 48:

Jer 48:1 Against Moab. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Woe to Nebo! For it is plundered, Kirjathaim is shamed and taken; The high stronghold (Misgab) is shamed and dismayed—

- **The LORD of hosts** is a common title for the **God of Israel**. The host of Israel, the host of angels, and the host of humanity. He is Jehovah of hosts, He is the **God of Israel**.
- **Woe to Nebo**, a mountain in **Moab**, but it was also a city in **Moab**, named after one of the gods of Moab. Mount Nebo was where Moses stood as he viewed the promised land. **Nebo is to be plundered**, ravaged, utterly laid waste!

Jer 48:2 No more praise of Moab. In Heshbon they have devised evil against her: 'Come, and let us cut her off as a nation.' You also shall be cut down, O Madmen! The sword shall pursue you; (Jos 12:2) One king was Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon and ruled half of Gilead, from Aroer, which is on the bank of the River Arnon, from the middle of that river, even as far as the River Jabbok, which is the border of the Ammonites.

- **Heshbon was the capital of Moab**, in the northern part of Moab, about halfway between the Jabbok and the **Arnon** rivers. **You also shall be cut down, O Madmen**, another city, which means silence.

Jer 48:3 A voice of crying shall be from Horonaim: 'Plundering and great destruction!'

- **The plundering and destruction will be in the whole land.** Two of the major cities are mentioned, **Heshbon** in the far north and **Horonaim** in the far south..

Jer 48:4 "Moab is destroyed; Her little ones have caused a cry to be heard;

- **The Babylonians were rather merciless**, not even sparing the children in their destruction. **Her little ones have caused a cry to be heard!**

Jer 48:5 For in the Ascent of Luhith they ascend with continual weeping; For in the descent of Horonaim the enemies have heard a cry of destruction.

Jer 48:6 "Flee, save your lives! And be like the juniper in the wilderness

- **From the Ascent of Luhith**, on the high plain in the southwest to the descent of **Horonaim**, in the low valley in the south, indicating there is not going to be any safety in any of your cities. **“Flee, save your lives! And be like the juniper in the wilderness**, all alone and defenseless.

Jer 48:7 For because you have trusted in your works and your treasures, You also shall be taken. And Chemosh shall go forth into captivity, His priests and his princes together. (Psa 52:7) "Here is the man who did not make God his strength, But trusted in the abundance of his riches, And strengthened himself in his wickedness."

- **The first reason for God’s judgment!** Moab had **put their trust in their works, in their wealth, and in their false gods, instead of in the Lord, thus they were to fall.** Also, they were totally into idolatry, worshiping **Chemosh**, the chief god of the Moabites of many, indicating their widespread idolatry. It is only the worship and service of the one true God, that will stand with us in a day of trouble



- **Chemosh shall go forth into captivity.** In the ancient world, when one nation would conquer another, the victor would carry away the gold images of their gods. Thus, he speaks of “**Chemosh**” to be carried away. Like Laban in the Genesis account, it’s sad and rather amusing to think that you worship a god that can be carried away as a captive.

Jer 48:8 *And the plunderer shall come against every city; No one shall escape. The valley also shall perish, And the plain shall be destroyed, As the LORD has spoken.*

- **This is the judgement of God** that He has spoken against Moab, which will be its utter destruction.

Jer 48:9 *"Give wings to Moab, That she may flee and get away; For her cities shall be desolate, Without any to dwell in them.*

- **Now God has called on the Babylonian army, and upon Nebuchadnezzar to be His instrument of judgement.** They are fulfilling God’s purposes of judgement. Babylon was God’s instrument of judgement upon His own people, Judah. God is going to judge Moab, and God is again going to use the Babylonian army as His instrument of judgement.

Jer 48:10 *Cursed is he who does the work of the LORD deceitfully (negligently), And cursed is he who keeps back his sword from blood.*

- **God has ordered the destruction of Moab, by Babylon, and thus the curse pronounced upon those who would do the work of the Lord deceitfully.** Of course, that goes beyond just the Babylonian army. That goes for you and me today. It’s applicable to many people who sin in the church today. They are doing the work of the Lord, but doing it deceitfully! Jesus said to the Laodicean church, (**Rev 3:15-16**) *"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. [16] So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.*
- **You’re not really zealous for the Lord, you’re not really pressing, as Paul, towards the mark.** Christ has a place in your life, your devotion to Him is established, but He isn’t everything! Our attitude towards the Lord is just sort of, “Well, that’s nice, and if it’s convenient, I’ll be glad to be obedient, if something else doesn’t come up”. The Lord so often is getting sort of the leftovers of time, of energy, of devotion, but the Lord really wants all of us!

Jer 48:11 *"Moab has been at ease from his youth; He has settled on his dregs, And has not been emptied from vessel to vessel, Nor has he gone into captivity. Therefore his taste remained in him, And his scent has not changed.*

- **At ease! Now Moab has been at ease, from his youth.** Moab never really had much trouble, protected by that great African rift, on one side and the vast Arabian deserts on the other. It was an easy life. A lot of rain, good soil, good climate. Agriculture was the chief, of course, occupation in the ancient world, and thus because it was easy to grow things and have a surplus of food. They had abundance of idle time. They had never been taken captive and exiled by another nation. How closely does this fit us, thinking about the recent years of our walk with Him?
- **Settled on his dregs!** Now we are looking at wine making processes. Moab was wine country. Both Isaiah and Jeremiah speaks of the wine. In verse 32, he speaks about the *vine of Sibmah*. The wine grapes of Sibmah were known and were taken all over the ancient world. The people were very familiar with the wine making processes, thus, he uses those processes as an analogy for them. They’ve **settled on their dregs** (lees). The dregs were the sediment. When they would pour the juice into the large jugs, it begins to settle, the dregs would need to be filtered out. The finer dregs would be left in to enable the proper fermenting of the wine. If these larger dregs were not removed, they would begin to sour and ruin the taste of the wine. Often additional pouring was required to keep any rotteness from turning wine sour. Gradually by this process, you get a pure, clear wine that takes on a lovely fragrance or bouquet.
- **He has not been emptied!** Because Moab had been at ease from his youth, and he had settled on the dregs, they had never had many disruptions. They didn’t face many enemies. Their life was an easy life without many problems, in abundance with their prosperity, as a result of their weakness, they had settled in the dregs, They had become rotten. His scent had not changed. It had that rotten smell, rather than the bouquet of the good wine.
- **As Christians, we need to be aware of the danger of settling on our dregs,** becoming spiritually stale or lazy, just wanting to be comfortable and resting. If this occurs, God often send disruptions into our lives

to wake us up, causing to be alert, to keep moving and growing spiritually! Has this occurred to you recently?

Jer 48:12 "Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I shall send him wine-workers Who will tip him over And empty his vessels And break the bottles.

- ***The LORD... shall send him wine-workers...tip him over...empty his vessels...break the bottles.***
The Babylonian army is going to come, and they are going to be driven from their place of security. They are going to wander in the wilderness. Their vintage, this wine is going to be destroyed, the thing that they used for their economy.

Jer 48:13 Moab shall be ashamed of Chemosh, As the house of Israel was ashamed of Bethel, their confidence.

- ***Even as was Israel of Bethel, the place of worship and the place of the golden calf,*** who had failed to deliver them from being conquered by Assyria! In fact, it was the worship of the golden calf, which typified Israel's idolatry.

Jer 48:14 "How can you say, 'We are mighty And strong men for the war'?"

Jer 48:15 Moab is plundered and gone up from her cities; Her chosen young men have gone down to the slaughter," says the King, Whose name is the LORD of hosts.

- ***The LORD of hosts, identified as the God of Israel in verse one, is now identified as the King.*** Moab boasted of their mighty and strong men for the war, yet they're going to be totally destroyed and driven out of their cities by Babylon, as the instrument of God's judgment!

Jer 48:16 "The calamity of Moab is near at hand, And his affliction comes quickly.

- ***It's not going to be long before this prophecy is fulfilled.*** We don't know the exact date when Jeremiah made the prophecy. Possibly in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, going back to the previous dated prophecy in chapter 45. It was sometime after that, which would have been about twenty-three years (605-23=582) from Jehoiakim's fourth year to the destruction of Moab in 582 B.C by Babylon. ***The affliction came quickly!***

Jer 48:17 Bemoan him, all you who are around him; And all you who know his name, Say, 'How the strong staff is broken, The beautiful rod!'

- ***Bemoan him!*** Let him see himself pitied by the adjoining countries, taking notice of his fall, who ***say, How is the strong staff broken,*** whose strength was the terror of its enemies, and ***the beautiful rod,*** whose beauty was the pride of its friends! Let the nations take notice of this and receive instruction. Let none be puffed up with or put confidence in their strength or beauty, for neither will be a help against the judgments of God.

Jer 48:18 "O daughter inhabiting Dibon, Come down from your glory, And sit in thirst; For the plunderer of Moab has come against you, He has destroyed your strongholds.

Jer 48:19 O inhabitant of Aroer, Stand by the way and watch; Ask him who flees And her who escapes; Say, 'What has happened?'

- ***Dibon and Aroer*** normally had plenty of water, being near the ***Arnon*** river (***a roaring stream***), here they are sitting in thirst!
- ***Now, they were to flee to the wilderness and many of them did.*** In going to the wilderness, they had to go south, through and across the Arnon River, and by this city of ***Aroer***. When you see the refugees coming, ***Say, What has happened?*** The flight from the destruction of Moab.

Jer 48:20 Moab is shamed, for he is broken down. Wail and cry! Tell it in Arnon, that Moab is plundered.

- ***It will be the greatest mortification and grief imaginable*** to the Moabites. Those that sat in glory, in the midst of wealth, and mirth, and all manner of pleasure, shall sit in thirst, in a dry and thirsty land, where now there is no water, no comfort!

Jer 48:21 "And judgment has come on the plain country: On Holon and Jahzah and Mephaath,

Jer 48:22 On Dibon and Nebo and Beth Diblathaim,

Jer 48:23 On Kirjathaim and Beth Gamul and Beth Meon,

Jer 48:24 On Kerioth and Bozrah, On all the cities of the land of Moab, Far or near.

- **Their cities are laid in ashes or seized by the enemy!** Many cities are mentioned here, upon which judgment has come, and the list concludes with "**Far or near**" There is no need to mention more city names when it is known that all the cities of Moab were destroyed or taken captive. Country-wide iniquity results in country-wide calamity! Moab is deprived of its dignity and authority!

Jer 48:25 *The horn of Moab is cut off, And his arm is broken," says the LORD.*

Jer 48:26 *"Make him drunk, Because he exalted himself against the LORD. Moab shall wallow in his vomit, And he shall also be in derision*

- **The horn of Moab is cut off, the horn of its strength and power**, both offensive and defensive; **his arm is broken**, that he can neither give a blow nor prevent a blow.
- **Make him drunk!** Not with wine, but with the cup of divine wrath and vengeance of God; with sore judgments, afflictions, and calamities; give him his fill of them, till he is brought to madness and distraction, and falls to the ground, like a drunken man; and the whole nation ruined!
- **Because he exalted himself against the LORD!** The **first reason** for their destruction is that **they were trusting in their works and in their treasures**. The **second reason** now, **is that he exalted himself against Jehovah**.
- **He also shall be in derision**; as drunken men are! He shall be derided by others, as others have been derided by him; now it will be his turn.

Jer 48:27 *For was not Israel a derision to you? Was he found among thieves? For whenever you speak of him, You shake your head in scorn.*

- **When Israel fell Moab was rejoicing**. They were speaking of it derisively, and thus they are going to be in derision. (*Gal 6:7*) *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap*. When Assyria conquered Israel, about 140 years earlier, the Moabites rejoiced in the defeat of Israel. When Babylon conquered Judah, they joined in, taking advantage of the situation. He speaks of it here. "You **were found among thieves**. You came over and thieved, so elated over the fall of Judah, that they were rejoicing, skipping for joy.

Jer 48:28 *You who dwell in Moab, Leave the cities and dwell in the rock, And be like the dove which makes her nest In the sides of the cave's mouth.*

- **You're going to have to flee and find refuge in the wilderness area**. They will **leave the cities** that used to be full of mirth, **and dwell in the rock** where they may have their full of sadness. They shall no more be singing birds but mourning **like the dove**.

Jer 48:29 *"We have heard the pride of Moab (He is exceedingly proud), Of his loftiness and arrogance and pride, And of the haughtiness of his heart." (Isa 16:6) We have heard of the pride of Moab—He is very proud—Of his haughtiness and his pride and his wrath; But his lies shall not be so (Pro 6:16-19) These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: [17] A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, [18] A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, [19] A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.*

- **Of the seven things that are hated by God and an abomination to Him, pride tops the list!** "Pride goeth before destruction", the scripture says, "A haughty spirit before the fall". How **God hates pride and**



arrogancy. Make note of that. **God hates pride and arrogance.** Moab was exceedingly proud. He was arrogant, haughty; hence the judgement of God. Pride goes before destruction, that haughty spirit before the fall.

Jer 48:30 "I know his wrath," says the LORD, "But it is not right; His lies have made nothing right.

- **The wrath of Moab against the Jews,** that they're going to fall. **But it is not right; His lies have made nothing right.** The LORD is saying I know, his arrogancy, and the emptiness of his boastings; they have worked emptiness, just nothing.

Jer 48:31 Therefore I will wail for Moab, And I will cry out for all Moab; I will mourn for the men of Kir Heres. (Isa 15:5a) "My heart will cry out for Moab; (2Pe 3:9) The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

- **Though the destruction of Moab would prove him a true prophet, yet Jeremiah could not think of it without wailing and crying out!** These passages, and others in this chapter, are much the same with what Isaiah had used in his prophecies against Moab in chapters 15 & 16. Although there was a hundred years between that prophecy and this, they were both dictated by one and the same Spirit. It is fitting and becomes God's prophets to speak the language of those that went before them.
- **We need to remember! God has no pleasure in the judgment of man. (Eze 33:11) Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?' The ruin of sinners is no pleasure to God, and therefore should be a pain to us; even those that give warning of it should take heed in their heart!**

Jer 48:32 O vine of Sibmah! I will weep for you with the weeping of Jazer. Your plants have gone over the sea, They reach to the sea of Jazer. The plunderer has fallen on your summer fruit and your vintage.

- **Jeremiah, prophesizing for the LORD, continues with the same weeping of Jazer,** now conquered, wept for the destruction of its vines. The same calamity shall befall the **Sibmah** area and its prized vines, as befell **Jazer**. **Your plants have gone over the sea,** may refer to the **Sibmah** vines or to Moab's citizens being transported beyond the sea to Cyprus and distant lands, so that worse shall befall them than befalls Jazer.

Jer 48:33 Joy and gladness are taken From the plentiful field And from the land of Moab; I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses; No one will tread with joyous shouting—Not joyous shouting!

- **If the wine fail from the wine-presses, that used to be trodden with acclamations of joy, all their gladness is cut off.** Take away that **shouting**, and there shall be no **shouting**. Those who make the delights of sense their chief joy, their exceeding joy, since these are things they may easily be deprived of, whereas those who rejoice in God even, **(Hab 3:17-19) Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls—[18] Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. [19] The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.**

Jer 48:34 "From the cry of Heshbon (north) to Elealeh (northeast) and to Jahaz (south), They have uttered their voice, From Zoar to Horonaim (both far south), Like a three-year-old heifer; For the waters of Nimrim (far north) also shall be desolate.



- **From the cry of Heshbon even to Elealeh and to Jahaz, they have uttered their voice, from Zoar even unto Horonaim.** The expressions here are borrowed from (*Isa 15:5, 6*) "My heart will cry out for Moab; His fugitives shall flee to Zoar, Like a three-year-old heifer (like the cry of a fugitive, very loud and clamorous, a heifer in its full strength, which is heard a great way). For by the Ascent of Luhith They will go up with weeping; For in the way of Horonaim They will raise up a cry of destruction, [6] For the waters of Nimrim will be desolate., For the green grass has withered away; The grass fails, there is nothing green. All their neighbors are called to mourn with them, and to console with them on their destruction.

Jer 48:35 "Moreover," says the LORD, "I will cause to cease in Moab The one who offers sacrifices in the high places And burns incense to his gods.

- **The priesthood, the religious leaders will be gone.** The high places shall be destroyed, and the fields of offerings shall be laid waste, and the priests themselves, *who burnt incense to his gods*, shall be slain or carried into captivity. It is only the worship and service of the true God, that will stand in a day of trouble.

Jer 48:36 Therefore My heart shall wail like flutes for Moab, And like flutes My heart shall wail For the men of Kir Heres. Therefore the riches they have acquired have perished. (Mat 9:23) When Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd wailing,

- **Jeremiah, showing God's heart, is crying out like the little flutes they played at the funerals** that gave out this mournful sound. The wealth of the land has been stripped. Their riches, which they valued highly, have perished! We're not to trust in material riches.

Jer 48:37 "For every head shall be bald, and every beard clipped; On all the hands shall be cuts, and on the loins sackcloth—

- **They would cut themselves for the dead,** which were expressions of a desperate grief. Shaving their heads, through sorrow and distress as a token of mourning, their beards, and cutting their bodies. Because of the large number of dead, as the cities were destroyed, there would be mourning throughout the whole land.

Jer 48:38 A general lamentation On all the housetops of Moab, And in its streets; For I have broken Moab like a vessel in which is no pleasure," says the LORD.

- **A general lamentation on all the housetops of Moab;** where they worshipped their idols, to whom they shall in vain bemoan themselves, **And in its streets,** where they conversed with one another, for they shall be free in communicating their grief and fears and in propagating them; for they see everyone lost.
- **The Bible speaks about us as vessels.** God has many *vessels*, some of honor and some of dishonor. As a *vessel*, my capacity of purpose is to contain God. What a marvelous thing! We have this treasure in earthen *vessels*, in clay pots, that the glory may be to God instead of us. God does things that seem ludicrous. He puts the treasure in an earthen *vessel*. He invests Himself in men. He works through men. But He desires to work through unlikely men, in order that the glory might be to God, and not to man. That's why God uses people like us! Why? That the glory might be to God and not to man. Here are *vessels* in which God finds **no pleasure**. It's speaking of a person's life and how tragic, when God would say of an individual, "**I have no pleasure** in them. They're useless *vessels*."
- **I have broken Moab like a vessel wherein is no pleasure,** which shall not be regarded and cannot be pieced again. That which Moab used to rejoice in was their pleasant fruits and the abundance of their rich wines. The delights of sense were all the matter of their joy. Take away these, destroy their gardens and vineyards, and you make *their pleasure to cease*.

Jer 48:39 "They shall wail: 'How she is broken down! How Moab has turned her back with shame!' So Moab shall be a derision And a dismay to all those about her."

- **Everybody will stand in dismay** as they see what's happened to Moab.
- **Moab shall be a derision and a dismay to all those about her."** They shall look down and laugh at the fall of the pomp and power Moab was so proud of. We need to note that those that are haughty and derisive are preparing reproach and shame for themselves.

Jer 48:40 For thus says the LORD: "Behold, one shall fly like an eagle, And spread his wings over Moab.

- **Nebuchadnezzar, shall fly like an eagle**, so swiftly, so strongly shall he come as an eagle flies upon his prey, and **he shall spread his wings**, the wings of his army, **over Moab**; he shall surround it, that none may escape.

Jer 48:41 Kerioth is taken, And the strongholds are surprised; The mighty men's hearts in Moab on that day shall be Like the heart of a woman in birth pangs.

- **The strong-holds of Moab are taken by surprise**, so that all their strength was to no avail. This made **the hearts** even of **their mighty men to fail**, for they had not time to recollect all that was happening. It was the considerations that might have animated them. It was **Like the heart of a woman in birth pangs** requiring very much courage not to be **afraid of sudden fear**.

Jer 48:42 And Moab shall be destroyed as a people, Because he exalted himself against the LORD. (Jer 48:26) Make him drunk, Because he exalted himself against the LORD. Moab shall wallow in his vomit, And he shall also be in derision.

- **Again, the same charge in verse 26. Because he exalted himself against the LORD**, they will cease from being a people - Moab shall be destroyed as a people. How many Moabites do you know? Those that are enemies to God's people will soon be made no people.

Jer 48:43 Fear and the pit and the snare shall be upon you, O inhabitant of Moab," says the LORD.

Jer 48:44 "He who flees from the fear shall fall into the pit, And he who gets out of the pit shall be caught in the snare. For upon Moab, upon it I will bring The year of their punishment," says the LORD. (Isa 24:18) And it shall be That he who flees from the noise of the fear Shall fall into the pit, And he who comes up from the midst of the pit Shall be caught in the snare; For the windows from on high are open, And the foundations of the earth are shaken- (judgment on the whole earth.)

- **There shall be fear to drive them into the pit, and a snare to hold them fast** in it when they are in it; so that they shall neither escape from the destruction nor escape out of it. It is a complicated destruction, and by one instance after another will at length be completed; for those that make their escape from one judgment shall perish by another. There is no escape from God's will!
- **What was said of sinners in general, that those who flee from the fear shall fall into the pit** and those **who gets out of the pit shall be caught in the snare**, is here particularly foretold concerning the sinners of Moab. It is **the year of their punishment**, when God comes to reckon with them. He is not only **the King** who has authority to give judgment, but He is **the Lord of hosts**, who is able to do what He has determined.

Jer 48:45 "Those who fled stood under the shadow of Heshbon Because of exhaustion. But a fire shall come out of Heshbon, A flame from the midst of Sihon, And shall devour the brow of Moab, The crown of the head of the sons of tumult.

- **The figurative expressions used in verse 44 are explained in one instance.** Sihon was the king of the Amorites, living in Heshbon. Heshbon became the capital of Moab, and they that fled for it, fled to it for refuge, but the city will be set on fire.
- **Those who fled stood under the shadow of Heshbon Because of exhaustion**, stood there, and supposed they stood safely, as now armies sometimes retire under the cannon of a fortified city, and it is their protection; but here they should be disappointed, for, when **he who gets out of the pit shall be caught in the snare**. Heshbon, which they thought would shelter them, devours them as Moses had foretold long since (**Num 21:28**) **"For fire went out from Heshbon, A flame from the city of Sihon; It consumed Ar of Moab, The lords of the heights of the Arnon,** and fastens upon **the crown of the head of the sons of tumult.** or children of noise, not meant of the rude clamorous multitude, but of the great men, who bluster, and make a noise; the judgments of God shall light on them.

Jer 48:46 Woe to you, O Moab! The people of Chemosh perish; For your sons have been taken captive, And your daughters captive.

- **The conclusion of this whole matter: Woe to you, O Moab!** You are undone! **The people** that worship **Chemosh perish**, and are gone; farewell, **Moab**. **Your sons and daughters**, the hopes of the next generation, have gone into captivity after the Jews, whose calamities they rejoiced in."

Jer 48:47 "Yet I will bring back the captives of Moab In the latter days," says the LORD. Thus far is the judgment of Moab.

- **Yet it is not a perpetual destruction.** The chapter concludes with a short promise of their return out

of *captivity in the latter days*. God, who brings them into captivity, *Yet I will bring back the captives of Moab In the latter days*. Thus tenderly does God deal with Moabites, but even more so with His own people! When Israel returned, Moab did; and perhaps the prophecy was intended chiefly for the encouragement of God's people to hope for that salvation which even Moabites shall share in. Yet it looks further, to gospel times; the Jews themselves refer it to the days of the Messiah; then the captivity of the Gentiles, under the yoke of sin and Satan, shall be brought back by divine grace, which shall make them free, free indeed. This prophecy concerning Moab is long, but here it ends; it ends comfortably: *Thus far is the judgment of Moab*.

- **The promise of God in the latter days, or in the last days, that He would bring back the captivity of Moab.** Probably as representative of the Gentiles, as God in these last days, is working among the Gentiles, and will draw from among the Gentiles, a bride for Jesus Christ.

Lessons to Be Learned: How much am I like a Moabite?

- **PRIDE** – God hates pride, arrogancy, and haughtiness, and that will be judged! Moab, “*exceedingly proud*” was judged in large part for their pride, trusting in themselves, their works, their wealth, *exalting themselves* instead of trusting in the LORD! How much are we trusting in ourselves, instead of trusting in Him?
- **EASE** is a dangerous thing. Settling down, and just taking it easy. “*Settling on the dregs*” can result in laziness and laxity in your Spiritual life. We can become negligent and half-hearted in our relationship with God. *Cursed is he who does the work of the LORD deceitfully, (negligently)*. Am I really zealous for the LORD!
- **DO NOT DESPISE GOD’S DISTURBANCES**; God uses the disturbances, the being *emptied from vessel to vessel*’ process to refine us, to purify us. Don’t despise those disturbances. We get upset at disturbances, but they are often God’s tools. When we are at ease and are never “*poured*” from vessel to vessel, we “*settle on the dregs*” and are never refined. “*Don’t despise the chastening of the Lord, for whom the Lord loves, He chastens*”. He may be bringing disturbances into your life in order to keep you from getting rotten and spoiled. He’s looking for the purifying and the refining that results.
- **PREPARING THE VESSEL** - May the LORD work in your heart and life as He draws you unto Himself, creating in you a “*vessel of honor*” to be used for His glory, one that is fit for the Master’s use. Be encouraged to surrender yourself and yield yourself to that work of God’s Spirit in your life, as He pours you from vessel to vessel, creating of you, an instrument for His work.

Closing Song:

***Humble Thyself In the Sight of the Lord* – Maranatha Music (3:02)**

*Humble Thyself In the Sight of the Lord; Humble Thyself In the Sight of the Lord;
And He shall Lift You Up, Higher and Higher And He shall Lift You Up (3x)
Up into Heaven And He shall Lift You Up; And He shall Lift You Up, Higher and Higher
And He shall Lift You Up, Up into Heaven And He shall Lift You Up
And He shall Lift You Up (8X)*