# The Coming Collapse of the United States: What the Prophet Jeremiah said about Judah is Frighteningly True of America Today

by Jeremy James



"The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world, would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem." (Lamentations 4:12)

America is not afraid, but she ought to be. Her Satanic enemies, both inside and outside the US, have been working hard to undermine and destroy her for more than a century. Their progress has been rapid in recent years and the evidence is plainly visible to all who care to look.

The American people have long assumed that God was on their side. As a largely Christian nation, with a strong commitment to Biblical values, she was once justified in this assumption, but not anymore.

If we examine the writings of the prophet Jeremiah, we will find that the spiritual condition of America today is virtually identical to that of Judah when the LORD destroyed Jerusalem in 586 BC. The prophet was not speaking about America, but he revealed in dramatic and terrifying terms the awful retribution that the LORD exacts upon a nation that wantonly and flagrantly betrays Him and turns to other gods.

God is not a respecter of persons. No nation is exempt from His judgment if it persists in rebelling against the simple laws and precepts that He has given them. This in turn can be traced to a barefaced neglect of His very existence:

Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? yet my people have forgotten me days without number. (2:32)

# **The Pastors**

In America, as in ancient Judah, the rot began among the religious leaders:

For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the LORD. (10:21)

Instead of nurturing the Word of God and preaching it to their congregations in all its purity, they have failed in their stewardship and allowed the vine to wither:

Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard (12:10)

Instead of preaching the Word truly, they caused confusion and unbelief by speaking from their own hearts – albeit sincerely in many cases – and caused the flock to trust in man instead of God:

Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD. (23:1)

Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD. (23:16)

They looked into their own hearts and preached from their own opinions about truth. Their dreams and visions took precedence over the Word of God:

Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness [recklessness and boasting] (23:32)

Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart. (14:14)

Far too many were concerned mainly with material things, and had no real conviction in how they served the LORD. They had style without substance, and lacked any genuine desire to engage the Enemy:

...for every one from the least even unto the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely. (8:10)

Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully, and cursed be he that keepeth back his sword from blood. (48:10)



### The People

Sadly, as in Judah of old, the people of America have the pastors they deserve:

The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own power; and my people love to have it so. (5:31)

Neither do they care much for the Word of God:

Every man is brutish in his knowledge (10:14)

...behold, the word of the LORD is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it. (6:10)

What is worse, they have turned away from the LORD and refused to know Him. As a result

...they have no understanding: they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge. (4:22)

They have lied about the LORD, and said, It is not He; neither will evil come upon us, nor shall we see sword or famine. (5:12)

And though they say, 'The LORD lives'; surely they swear falsely. (5:2)

Lacking the ability to distinguish clearly between good and evil, their unholy actions produce no sense of guilt or shame:

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush (6:15)

This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God, nor receive correction: truth has perished, and has been cut off from their mouth. (7:28)

Even though they were given many warnings and were asked again and again to be obedient to the precepts and statutes of the LORD, they would not listen:

Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart (11:8)

# **Widespread Adultery**

The imagination of the average American today is devoted in the main to adulterous fantasies. The people of Judah also spent much of their waking hours on sexual reverie and lascivious thoughts:

They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbour's wife. (5:8)

They also turned their fantasies into reality:

Because they have...committed adultery with their neighbours' wives ...even I know, and am a witness, saith the LORD. (29:23)

I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings, the lewdness of thy whoredom, and thine abominations on the hills in the fields. (13:27)

...they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. (5:7)

For the land is full of adulterers;... they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah. (23:10 and 14)

#### Widespread Idolatry

Having turned away from God, they began worshipping false gods and indulging in what we today call New Age practices:

Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit. Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD. (2:11-12)

Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not... (7:9)

Baal is Satan, the prince of this world. He is also the sun god known by various names in different cultures. The fallen angels who serve him are described many times in the Bible as "the host of heaven". When judgment comes, the bones of those who have served the fallen angels will be strewn like waste across the face of the earth:

At that time, saith the LORD, they shall bring out the bones of the kings of Judah, and the bones of his princes, and the bones of the priests, and the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, out of their graves: And they shall spread them before the sun, and the moon, and all the host of heaven, whom they have loved, and whom they have served, and after whom they have walked, and whom they have sought, and whom they have worshipped: they shall not be gathered, nor be buried; they shall be for dung upon the face of the earth. (8:1-2)

Those who are not destroyed will be taken captive to Babylon:

Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon: For they prophesy a lie unto you, to remove you far from your land; and that I should drive you out, and ye should perish. (27:9-10)



Their idolatry had two elements that were particularly offensive to the LORD. The first was goddess worship, which is found today in the New Age movement and the Marian worship practised by the Roman Catholic church:

The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the <u>queen of heaven</u>, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. (7:18)

Howbeit I sent unto you all my servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, saying, Oh, do not this abominable thing that I hate... But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine...And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings unto her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings unto her, without our men?..Because ye have burned incense, and because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil is happened unto you, as at this day. (44:4.18.19.23)

The other form of idolatry that was extremely offensive to the LORD was child sacrifice. In those days a newborn child was taken to the great bronze statue of Moloch – another face of Satan – in the valley of Hinnom and cast alive into a blazing furnace. The modern equivalent of this is abortion, where the unborn child (as opposed to newborn) is first killed and then burned:

Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents: I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these. (2:34)

And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart. (7:31)

Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents; they have built also the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings unto Baal, which I commanded not, nor spake it, neither came it into my mind: (19:4-5)

It is necessary to study the Word of God in its totality to appreciate the intensely offensive nature of idolatry in the eyes of the LORD. In Jeremiah 44 it is described as "this abominable thing that I hate". Chapter 3 highlights the awful betrayal that it involves:

Surely as a wife treacherously departs from her husband, so have ye dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel, saith the LORD. (3:20)

#### The LORD calls for Repentance

Through the mouth of His servant Jeremiah the LORD called the children of Israel to repentance, but they would not listen. On one occasion he even instructed Jeremiah to summon the leaders and elders to the Valley of Hinnom and give them a powerful sermon on their backslidden condition and the terrible consequences for the entire nation if they did not repent and return to the LORD. As a visual aid the LORD asked Jeremiah to bring a ceramic vessel with him and, at the end of his discourse, to smash it in pieces as a demonstration of how suddenly, fiercely and decisively the blow would fall:

Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again (19:11)

Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. (6:16)

Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers. (7:26)

...no man repented of his wickedness, saying, 'What have I done?'

A great many professing Christians in America today are just like this, pleading their innocence with the words: "But what have I done?"



Jeremiah issued these warnings over many years, but no one wanted to hear. He was reviled for his efforts and accused of unpatriotic pessimism, of undermining the morale of the people, and even of inciting them to treason. He was beaten and abused and thrown into prison. His treatment reflected the general attitude among the people, a perverse and obstinate refusal to recognize and acknowledge their wretchedness and depravity.

# **The LORD warns of the Consequences**

As He called upon them to repent, the LORD warned them that their continued sinfulness and disobedience would have terrible consequences:

...lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings. (4:4)

...shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? (5:9)

Behold, my anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place  $^{(7:20)}$ 

...a leopard shall watch over their cities: every one that goes out thence shall be torn in pieces: because their transgressions are many, and their backslidings are increased. (5:6)

# The LORD forbids Jeremiah to pray for Judah

Such was the backsliding, apostasy and idolatry that it was hardly possible to find even one person in Jerusalem who was still true to the faith. The LORD asked Jeremiah to confirm this for himself by going through the streets of the city and trying if he could to locate even one person who sought the truth:

Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it. (5:1)

The spiritual condition of the people is so alarming, their backsliding and apostasy so severe, that the LORD orders Jeremiah to no longer pray for them:

Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me: for I will not hear thee. (7:16)

It is truly a mark of their wretchedness and depravity that the LORD would not allow the prophet to intercede on their behalf. He set aside any suggestion that this might be a slight on Jeremiah himself when He said:

Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth. (15:1)

What is more, when His judgment falls, as it will, He will not heed the cries of the people when they finally turn to Him for protection:

Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up a cry or prayer for them: for I will not hear them in the time that they cry unto me for their trouble. (11:14)

And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the LORD: I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them. (13:14)

# The People depend on their Own Strength

The coming tragedy will appear all the more awful when it strikes because it could so easily have been averted. But the people believed only in their own strength:

Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. (17:5)

Through the mouth of His servant Jeremiah, the LORD exhorted His people to examine themselves and ask what their so-called strength has really done for them:

If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan? (12:5)

In a time of peace, when their so-called strength should be achieving great things, they can barely do what needs to be done – they have to run hard just to stay where they are. How then will they fare when war erupts, when their peace is shattered and they must contend directly with their enemies? – how canst thou contend with horses? … then how wilt thou do in the swelling of [the river] Jordan?

Their plight is pitiful, and yet they act as though they are invincible. The great tragedy is that a complete and perfect remedy is at hand, if only they would recognize their sickness and acknowledge their need for a physician (doctor):

Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? (8:22)

These are among the most moving words in the Bible. The region of Gilead was well known for her healing ointments and liniments, as well as healers skilled in their application. This restorative mercy was readily available to all who required it. Alas, the children of Israel, who were suffering from a corresponding spiritual sickness, persisted in refusing the healing balm of the LORD:

Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding? they hold fast deceit, they refuse to return. (8:5)

#### The Message to America Today

There are few Americans today, even professing Christians, who would accept that this deeply distressing assessment by Jeremiah of the spiritual condition of Judah is just as applicable to their own nation. And fewer still would conclude that exactly the same terrifying judgment is both warranted and pending. Indeed, to most it would hardly seem possible:

The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world, would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem. (Lamentations 4:12)

Let's conduct an audit of where America stands today:

#### **Pastors:**

Only a tiny percentage of professing Christian churches in the US preach the full Word of God. Most have abandoned the King James Bible in favour of sloppy and misleading modern translations. Most of them are 501(c)(3) tax exempt, meaning they have accepted money from the government in turn for their silence on political matters, even where that silence conflicts with their Biblical mandate to rebuke evil.

Many of the pastors are homosexual or adulterous or divorced or Freemasons or regular viewers of online pornography. A very large number preach a prosperity gospel (which has no power to save anyone) or a social gospel (which also has no power to save). Many also teach a positive self-esteem, non-judgmental, no hell, motivational philosophy instead of the gospel.

Virtually none of them condemn sin, roundly and vehemently, on a regular basis. This failure is particularly acute where abortion and sexual perversion are concerned. The fear of God is seldom if ever mentioned. Most teach evolution in one form or another and most reject the inerrancy and literal truth of the Bible. Furthermore, most teach that the church has replaced Israel in God's covenant promises and, as a result, they have little or no understanding of Biblical prophecy.

Many support the teaching of yoga, spiritual contemplation and a range of mystical, New Age practices. Most are ecumenical in outlook, which means they are deliberately emphasizing certain elements of God's Word at the expense of others and reducing the gospel to fit an inter-denominational, inter-faith formula.

They refuse to acknowledge, or even recognize, their true spiritual condition. And when challenged they react just like the people of Judah – "What have I done?"

#### **Professing Christians:**

Few professing Christians in America describe themselves as 'born again', where that term has the same meaning that it had for their grandparents. A great many admit to <u>not</u> having a personal relationship with Jesus. Few read or study the Bible regularly. A great many are unable to give a scripturally accurate description of the gospel. The memorization of scripture is virtually unknown. And many are profoundly ignorant of the Old Testament.

Most believe in evolution and reject the unchanging moral values of the Bible in favour of culturally determined norms of behaviour. A very sizeable percentage of their time outside of work is spent on pursuits that not only fail to honour God, but actually conflict with Biblical standards, such as viewing violent and sexually charged television programs or listening to rock music.

Most believe that a just and holy God would never condemn anyone to hell and that almost everyone will be saved, even people who have never heard the gospel. For most of them, it is far more important to be nice than to be godly.

And still they say, "What have I done?"

#### **Christian Society:**

America was once a Christian society, but not any longer. What is more, the proportion who are Christian (or who profess to be Christian) no longer strive to project Biblical values into their community. They have allowed prayer to be taken out of their schools. They have allowed the Ten Commandments and other evidence of Christian values to be banned from public places. And they both tolerate and practice abortion.

They have allowed the main institutions of state to be controlled or taken over completely by Freemasons, Roman Catholics, atheists, Marxists, and members of the New Age movement. They allow greater protection for the spiritual traditions of Moslems than for Christians. They make every effort to accommodate the demands of other groups, to the serious detriment of their own. Increasingly, the term 'Christian' is taken to include Roman Catholics and Mormons. They have long ignored the terrible threat posed to their society by witchcraft and Satanism. And they do nothing when Christians are penalised by the state for professing and proclaiming Biblical values.

And still they say, "What have I done?"

#### **Idolatry and Adultery:**

While America from her foundation has been heavily influenced by Freemasonry, the greater part of her early population remained true to the Bible. But this commitment weakened over time and underwent a radical change in the 1950s and 1960s, until it was finally abandoned in 1973 when the Christians of America accepted the legalisation of abortion – the murder of unborn children – by a Masonically controlled Supreme Court. As a result about a million American children are being murdered every year for the social and economic convenience of their mothers, many of whom are professing Christians. The god Baal is the god of Washington DC and the values of the nation are those of Baal.

The average American Christian has come to think of Christ as a prophet rather than the second Person of the Holy Trinity. His imminent return has been largely forgotten, and the churches have taken upon themselves the task of bringing in the kingdom.

The nation is controlled by the Luciferian cult of Freemasonry, which in turn has co-opted many other anti-Christian groups to assist them in the subversion of the American people – Marxists, eugenicists, environmentalists, feminists, humanists, New Agers, and so forth. The Roman Catholic church, mainly through the Jesuit Order, has been very successful over the past century in infiltrating and undermining true Christian churches in America and in subverting and corrupting the political process, to the point where today she controls the Supreme Court.

Sexual promiscuity and perversion are rampant throughout American society. Child rape is common. Sodomy is regarded as a right and the Christian institution of marriage is defiled by legal re-definitions that include same-sex partnerships. The pornography and prostitution industries are booming and the underground circulation of snuff movies (which depict real-life rape, torture and murder) is well established.

#### **Conclusion**

There is hardly any need to extend this audit of latter-day America to include the corruption of the government, state and federal officials, big business, or the banking system, not to mention drug cartels, crime syndicates, and other illicit and immoral groups. The situation at grassroots level is more than sufficient to show that the United States today is just as decadent and depraved as Judah was in the time of Jeremiah.

Is it possible that a mere 1% of Americans today are true God-fearing Christians? Only the LORD knows the answer to that. But if it were so, then surely we would be witnessing 2-3 million people protesting loudly and vigorously, month after month, against the abortion and pornography industries alone.

Can you hear them? No?

Neither can I.

Will the LORD spare America if less then 1% of her citizens are true believers? He has to date, but for how much longer? Jeremiah preached his warning of impending catastrophe for 40 years. So far nearly 40 years have elapsed since the judgment Roe v Wade, which legalised abortion in America. Unless the American people repent and humble themselves in significant numbers and turn once again to the LORD, it looks as though their time has almost run out.

And still they say, "What have I done?"

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For more information about the organized Satanic assault on true Christianity visit www.zephaniah.eu

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