

JEREMIAH

Please turn in your Bibles this evening to Jeremiah chapter 46 as we continue our study through the Word of God. The next 6 chapters of Jeremiah, chapters 46 through 51 are going to deal with God's judgment upon the Gentile nations that surrounded Jerusalem. And even though these judgments occurred long ago, there are some lessons we can learn through them. We will also see that some of these judgments are still future. And then as we conclude the book of Jeremiah, chapter 52 is going to recap for us the capture and destruction of the Southern Kingdom of Judah and Jerusalem.

There are 10 nations that God is speaking against; Egypt, Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar, Hazor, Elam, and Babylon. As you look at these nations they cover an area of some one million square miles. And thus, I think that the main message of these oracles is the sovereignty of God over all the nations of the earth. He is in control and He does as He pleases!

You see, God is aware of what people are doing, what nations are doing and as they go against His Law, His standards, they will be judged and that is what we see here. And make no mistake about it, people and nations have tried to fight against God since the beginning when sin entered this world and in the end, the nations of the world will come together to fight against the Lord and His people, the Jews in the Battle of Armageddon, but they won't win just as we will see in the judgment of these nations over the next few weeks.

With that as our background, let's begin reading in Jeremiah chapter 46 beginning in verse 1 and let's see what the Lord has for us this evening as we see God pronounce judgment upon the nations and specifically here, Egypt.

JEREMIAH 46**VERSES 1-2**

1. The first of the Gentile nations that God is going to bring judgment upon is Egypt. At one point the Egyptians tried to regain their power by coming and making an alliance with the Assyrians at Carchemish. The power of the Assyrians was slipping and the power of Babylon was growing. But Pharaoh Necho's army was delayed and the Assyrians were defeated.

Then Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon came after the Egyptians who were coming to aid the Assyrians and the Egyptians were thoroughly defeated by the Babylonians. Egypt was now reduced to a second-rate power and Babylon was the new world Empire! This occurred in 605 B. C. God is going to use the Babylonians as His instrument of judgment against the Egyptians.

2. Also, just on a side note, Josiah King of Judah decided to go and fight against Pharaoh Necho, and Josiah was killed in battle in the valley of Megiddo. Josiah was killed in 609 B. C. and that means that the Egyptian forces were on their way to Carchemish but it was a long and slow journey for this army and they were not able to help the Assyrians in this battle.

VERSES 3-8

1. This was a call to prepare for battle by Pharaoh Necho. He actually thought he was going to win this battle. I guess you don't go into a battle thinking you are going to lose, right! But instead of celebrating a victory, the Egyptians were fleeing for their lives as the Babylonians defeated them in the battle of Carchemish. And remember, this was God's judgment upon them, using the Babylonians as an instrument for His work.

2. Now as you look at verses 7 and 8 here in Jeremiah chapter 46 you can see the pride of Pharaoh Necho. As the King was familiar with, every year the Nile River would overflow its banks, and that is how Pharaoh thought of himself and his Kingdom, strong, overpowering, no one could stop them. The only problem for Pharaoh Necho was that his power, his strength, like the overflowing Nile River was going to be swallowed up by the Babylonians.

How often do we let pride, arrogance puff us up and before long we pop! Pharaoh Necho was pretty secure in this battle, he thought he could win easily, but remember what Proverbs 16:18 says, "**Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.**" Pride has and will continue to destroy people's lives, even Christians as we stand tall, proud and God will deal with that! You will be struck down!

I like the way one writer illustrated this for us, applying it to our lives. He wrote,

I believe the Nile analogy has application for us. That is, we think we have something under control, that the temptation is no longer going to bother us, that the sin will no longer affect us. Then, like a river that suddenly begins to overflow, the sins we thought were under control reappear and flood all of our resolve. This word is a warning to us. Never think you have Egypt under control, that you don't need to depend on the Lord because any given sin is no longer a problem for you. We must be very careful to realize that Egypt will continually, seasonally, annually, constantly come at us and seek to overwhelm us.

- Jon Courson, Jon Courson's Application Commentary, Old Testament, Volume 22, p. 569

We need to remember that our strength comes from the Lord and once we think we can do it on our own, look out, you are going to sink! You will be swallowed up just like Pharaoh's army was!

VERSES 9-12

1. Egypt was known for its horses and chariots. They were powerful weapons in battle. In fact, before the children of Israel even entered the Promised Land, God told them in Deuteronomy chapter 17 not to go to Egypt and obtain horses for battle. And the reason God said that was simple. He did not want them to put their trust in the arm of flesh for victory, but in the power of God.

We also see that the Egyptians had more than horses and chariots to assist them in this battle. They hired mercenaries from Libya and Ethiopia, and-so-on. It looks like the cards were stacked in their favor, but they left out one thing, ***GOD!***

I think this is a big problem today for Christians. We think that numbers, money, influence matter and thus, many Christians and Christian organizations align themselves up with unsaved people, with false religious systems because they think this will help them!

Make no mistake about it, it doesn't matter how favorable the victory may seem, it doesn't matter how you stacked the deck, God is in control and He will bring forth His plan no matter how hard you try to fight against it. And does God need numbers, money, influential people to succeed? Of course not and He only uses us because He chooses to use us, not because we are so special or so great!

2. And when judgment falls, when their men are wounded and dying, there will be no healing. You see, verse 11 of speaks of Gilead, and Gilead was known for its medicinal balm that was used to heal. And we see that God is saying that won't even help the Egyptians, judgment is coming upon them, there is no healing.

And in the end, this nation that was once so powerful will never rise up to be what they once were!

VERSES 13-17

1. As God brings judgment upon Egypt he speaks of three cities in Egypt; Migdol, Noph and Tahpanhes. Why did God signal out these three cities? Because these are the cities that were located in lower northern Egypt where the people from Judah fled to for safety sometime around 586 B. C. or later after Babylon captured the Southern Kingdom of Judah. The Jews went down to Egypt, the world for safety when God told them to remain in the land that He had given them but fear caused them to disregard the words of God and many Egyptians and Jews died when the Babylonians came into Egypt!

That means we have moved from the battle of Carchemish which was by the Euphrates River in the north, down to Egypt as the Babylonians have come down upon them.

2. Now verses 15 and 16 of Jeremiah chapter 46 are kind of comical unless you are fighting alongside these guys. Many not only died in battle but these mercenaries that Egypt hired are now fleeing. Why? Because they saw this as a losing cause and a hired soldier will never fight as hard as one who has to defend his home and family. They have no vested interest in the war.

And so much for their allegiance to Pharaoh because in verse 17 we see that these mercenaries are saying that the King of Egypt is nothing more than a bag of hot air. His words are empty now. The battle was turning against them and they turned against Pharaoh, leaving him high and dry.

VERSES 18-24

1. The Babylonians came down from the north upon Egypt and took them into captivity. And keep in mind that the Babylonians were brutal in battle. They had these battle axes that they would use to cut down their enemies like you would cut down a tree. Now you know why these mercenaries were fleeing! Kind of like what happened in Iraq as ISIS came in, the Iraqi soldiers fled for their lives leaving their weapons behind!

VERSES 25-26

1. As we have read, Jeremiah foresees another defeat of Egypt by Babylon, this one not on foreign soil but in the land of Egypt itself. And what we see here is that God is going to judge Egypt and He is also going to judge the god's they worshiped. When you study the plagues that came upon the Egyptians prior to the Exodus of the Jews, they were against the god's they worshiped. Here God speaks of Amon of No and all the god's they have trusted in, they are not going to be able to help them.

VERSES 27-28

1. Think about the power of Babylon and those Jews who were already in captivity and now they hear that the Egyptians have fallen to Babylon. Not much hope for them being free, at least not by the world!

But with God all things are possible and His promises are sure, they will come to pass. And the Lord wants His people to know that He has not forgotten about them and He will bring them back into the land once again.

Now as they looked at the situation with their physical eyes, it looked hopeless and it was for the Jews. But if they were to look at this through the eyes of faith, resting and trusting in the promises of God, there is great hope! How are you looking at things, through your physical eyes or your eyes of faith trusting in the promises of God and not this world? One will give you hope and the other only despair!

2. Now some, as they read this don't think much about it, but it is important for us to understand this because if we don't, we are going to come up with all kinds of unbiblical conclusions. What God has done with His people, the Jews in the past He is still doing with them today! Yes God chastens His children because He loves them but He does not disown them!

The everlasting covenant that He made with them is everlasting! Today there are many Christians who believe that God is done with the Jews, they killed the Messiah, or so they say, and thus, God is finished with them. Now the Church has become Israel! No we haven't!

I am not sure what Bible they are reading but I don't see that. I think they are listening to the doctrines of men instead of the Words of God. Listen very carefully because Paul says that he does not want you to be ignorant about this issue; I didn't say that, Paul did.

In Romans 11:25-27 Paul wrote, **“For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: ‘The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.’”**

Just in these few verses, besides many other places in the Bible, you can clearly see that God is not done with the Jewish people! Yes blindness has come upon them but once the Church is taken in the Rapture, their eyes will be open and they will receive Jesus as their Messiah. How can I be so sure?

It is easy, the Lord says, **“When I take away their sins”** and the only way anyone’s sins can be taken away is by the shed blood of Jesus applied to their lives. That means that they are going to receive Jesus as their Messiah and we are told, **“all Israel will be saved.”** I believe again that this takes place during the seven year Tribulation Period but there are Jews who have come to Christ today, but as a nation, that will happen down the road. God is not done with His people, the Jews, never forget that!

3. So we have seen here God bring His judgment upon the nation of Egypt.

JEREMIAH 47

VERSE 1

1. Now God is pronouncing judgment upon the Philistines. Where did the Philistines come from and please don’t say Palestine! Many believe the Philistines came from the island of Crete. And during a time of volcanic activity on the island, in around 900 B. C., they fled to the area on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, which we call today the Gaza Strip.

We are told that the timeframe here was before Pharaoh attacked Gaza, that is when Jeremiah received this prophecy. If this is speaking of Pharaoh Necho then this probably was given to Jeremiah before 609 B. C. Pharaoh Necho and the Egyptians attacked Gaza on his way to Assyria, the same campaign in which King Josiah was killed, at Megiddo but that is not the devastating judgment that will come, this one is from the north.

And I am speaking of the Babylonians attacked this area. In the Chronicles of the Chaldean Kings, we are told that Nebuchadnezzar “marched to the city of Ashkelon and captured it. . . . He captured its kings and plundered it. . . . He turned the city into a mound of ruins.”

God really used the Babylonians as His instruments of judgment upon this nation.

VERSES 2-7

1. God paints this devastating picture of judgment as He pictures the Babylonians like flood waters that come sweeping down upon the Philistines. Their numbers will be suffocating and their strength will scare the people to such a degree that they will flee for their lives, abandoning their own families as they try to survive this invasion, their own children they were abandoning!
2. In these verses we see that any possible help from Tyre and Sidon is cut off and the cities of the Philistines will mourn their utter destruction!
3. The Lord also speaks of the Philistines being the “**remnant of the country of Caphtor.**” Keep in mind that Caphtor is a reference to Crete, where the Philistines came from as I said as we opened up this chapter!

4. Now the five main Philistine cities were Gaza, Ashkelon, Gath, Ekron, and Ashdod. And as these cities are destroyed their will be great mourning in the land. And they are so hopeless that in verse 5 the question is asked, “**How long will you cut yourself?**” What is that about? The heathen nations believed that by cutting your flesh you would get the attention of your god. Thus, they would cut themselves and scream, much like we read about with Elijah and the prophets of Baal back in I Kings chapter 18, that is what they did back then and we see it here as well. But there is no help because the gods they worshiped were not God!
5. And as much as they sought to be delivered from this judgment, God’s judgment won’t end until the nation has been fully judged. But they do want God to stop as they call for Him to put himself into His scabbard, which was a sheath for a sword or dagger to be placed in! In other words, stop the judgment! But as I said, God’s judgment will be completely poured out; they will get what they deserve!
6. So we have seen here God bring His judgment upon the Philistines!

JEREMIAH 48

VERSE 1a

1. Now God’s judgment is going to come against the Moabites and Babylon will be the instrument that God uses to bring about this judgment upon them. Keep in mind that the Moabites were relatives of the Jews.

If you remember the Moabites and the Ammonites were born out of a relationship between Lot and his two daughters. Lot was the nephew of Abraham. And for some reason the Moabites had it in for the children of Israel. They loved to see trouble come their way. And now God was judging them for the years of evil they perpetrated upon the Jews.

2. Just to give you a reference to where this area was located, Moab was east of the Dead Sea with its northern border extending to the River Arnon, and to the south, the River Zered. Today Moab would be located where modern day Jordan is!

In Jeremiah chapter 49 we will be dealing with God's judgment upon the Ammonites and they too were located on the east side of the Dead Sea. Their territory extended from the River Arnon in the south, to the Jabbok River to the north. And we will deal with God's judgment upon them next week.

3. Why was Babylon coming down so hard on Moab? Keep in mind that Moab, along with six other nations formed an alliance against Babylon. We have seen that in Jeremiah chapter 27. Make no mistake about it, Babylon was a mighty nation; no one was able to stand against it. One nation would never be able to defeat the Babylonians so these 5 Kings, along with Zedekiah, six in total, were planning to work together and fight against Babylon.

During this time, according to The Babylonian Chronicle, there is a record that Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon was having some internal trouble. A revolt was growing and maybe Zedekiah and these Kings saw this as an opportunity to defeat Babylon. The only problem was that revolt was put down and the King and the nation remained very powerful. God warned them to surrender and they refused and in the end they went into captivity just as God said! So you could see why he wanted to take Moab as well as these other nations that formed this alliance.

VERSES 1b-8

1. As we read through this chapter we are going to see that God is going to pronounce judgment upon some 20 cities in Moab and the one that sticks out is Nebo. Keep in mind that this was the city of Nebo not the mountain from which Moses climbed to get a look at the Promised Land and the place where God buried him, even though it was the same general area. (Deuteronomy 32:49-50)

2. Now when the Lord calls them “**Madmen**” He is not speaking of how they were acting but that was the name of a city in Moab. And as this judgment comes forth the cry goes out to flee, to run for your lives, to hide yourself from the enemy. That is not going to work when the enemy is coming in like a flood; there is no place to hide!

3. Also keep in mind that one of the gods they worshiped was Chemosh. This was a god of fertility and storm. And in verse 7 the Lord tells the people of Moab that “**Chemosh shall go forth into captivity, His priests and his princes together.**”

They believed that by taking the enemies god into captivity they could no longer protect its people, so they would take these statues of the gods the people worshiped. Kind of like my god is stronger than your god mentality!

And God wants the people of Moab to understand that their god is not going to be able to help them, he is going into captivity along with the priests and princes that worship him!

VERSES 9-11

1. Here God is calling for the enemy to wipe Moab out to the fullest or they will be cursed. No half-hearted effort is to be done in this judgment. I find that interesting that even the unsaved nations that God was using to pour out His judgment were to follow His direction and when they didn't He held them accountable as we will see with Babylon, they went too far with God's people in their judgment against them.

2. I think we can apply this to our own lives today, not that we are to bring judgment upon people but we are to do the work of God whole-heartedly. We are not to do it "**deceitfully**" and this word can also be translated as "slack" or "slothful."

Paul, in Colossians 3:23-24 said, "**And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.**"

When we serve the Lord it should be done with joy in our hearts and to the fullest. We are serving the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, He deserves our best! We may not be perfect in all that we do but may we be faithful in what we do and not lazy or slothful in the work but we give it our all and God can use that mightily!

3. Now verse 11 is interesting because it speaks of Moab having it easy. Moab never really had any hardships or conquests they needed to worry about. And God illustrates this by using the example of making wine.

First the grapes are stomped and the juice is placed in bottles or skins so they can ferment. It is during this time that the sediment or dregs settle out to the bottom. At the end of 40 days the wine is fermented and carefully poured out so that it can be separated from the dregs. If the dregs were not removed it would ruin the wine.

And what God is saying is difficult times are like a refining process. Without them our lives would tend to rot, spoil. You need that cleansing which is done through persecution, trials, judgment, which Moab had not really encountered at this point.

Peter put it like this in I Peter 1:6-9, **“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith - the salvation of your souls.”**

Peter is saying that various trials that we encounter in our lives tests our faith, it is refining us. And yes life can be tough, it can be difficult, it can be overwhelming but here is the glorious thing, look at all that God has done for us.

Think about this. Our salvation is secure. Our inheritance is incorruptible, undefiled, it does not fade away. Our salvation is reserved for us in heaven. And lastly, our salvation is kept by the power of God.

What does that mean? It means that no one can rob you of your salvation and thus, no one should rob you of your joy in the Lord. You see, Christian joy is independent of the circumstances we face because our joy is based in the Lord!

May we not allow trials to make us bitter but may they make us better in the Lord!

VERSES 12-13

1. God is saying that when this judgment comes they will tip them over; it will be a refining process as we shall see as we come to the end of this chapter.

And the god they trusted in Chemosh, will be ashamed like Israel was with the god they had erected in Bethel. Remember when the Kingdom was divided during the reign of Solomon's son Rehoboam. Rehoboam was the King in the Southern Kingdom of Judah, overseeing the tribes of Judah and Benjamin.

Jeroboam was the King to the Northern Kingdom of Israel, overseeing the other 10 tribes. Now with the Temple being located in Jerusalem Jeroboam was worried that his people might defect to the south and his Kingdom would be taken away. So he erected two places of worship, one in Dan to the north, and one in Bethel to the south.

And he made two golden calves, one placed in Dan and the other in Bethel to worship. And when the Assyrians came these gods could not help Israel, and the nation was taken into captivity. Like the god that was erected in Bethel, the god of the Moabites, Chemosh, won't be able to help them either! (I Kings 12:26-30)

We see this spoken of also in Amos 3:14, which says, **“That in the day I punish Israel for their transgressions, I will also visit destruction on the altars of Bethel; And the horns of the altar shall be cut off And fall to the ground.”** This was an object lesson for them to learn from, don’t trust in that which can’t save you, these false gods, trust in the Lord!

VERSES 14-20

1. Like most people and nations, pride blinds them of what is happening. They saw themselves as strong, as invincible and yet, their enemy was plundering them and when there was no hope, they ran for their lives!

We saw the Kings and the people in the Southern Kingdom of Judah do this very thing. They were warned of the judgment of God that was coming because of their sin and they refused to listen. They instead listened to the false prophets who were proclaiming a health, wealth and prosperity message, no captivity, no judgment, just good times because God wants us to be happy even though they were immersed in sin!

And when judgment came and they went into captivity they could not believe it! That is what we are seeing here with Moab, they did not want to see the judgment until it was too late!

2. I think America is blinded to the judgment that is coming upon this nation. Listen to this article; it will give you some insight into where America is at in relationship to God. We are told,

Evangelical preacher John MacArthur spoke at the 2011 Resolved Conference in Palm Springs, Calif., Saturday evening, saying America’s sins were akin to that of Israel’s and the nation was under divine judgment.

“Materialism, drunkard pleasure seeking, arrogant conceit, defiant sinfulness, moral perversion, and corrupt leadership... Do you not see [them] in America?” MacArthur asked a roughly 3,000-strong Christian audience . . .

“I look at America... people say what is wrong with this country. That is what’s wrong with this country. Right there. They have rejected the Word, the law of the Lord, the Holy One Himself.”

Talking about the sin of arrogant conceit, he said America was guilty, too. It is “when a society does not want to hear from God, but wants to be its own authority where every man does that which is right in his own eyes and feels that he is the ultimate authority, he is the ultimate source of truth,” he explained. . . .

The speaker reminded, “We are not a covenant people in America, but we have been a privileged people.” He said while America did not have a “divine promise as a unique nation called out,” it had been given “exposure to the divine promises of the Gospel in Jesus Christ.”

“No other nation has literally been born out of a desire to be faithful and obedient to the living and abiding Word of God. America is the first nation that separated Church and State.” . . .

“There were some things that settled into my heart very early into my life and ministry. . . . The two most dominant realities that captivated my heart very early in my Christian experience were the authority of Scripture and the necessity of holiness. . . . How do I get deeper than I am, far deeper than I am. I asked the Lord to show me,” he said in the beginning of the sermon. He added that initially he read books by mystics to find out if there was a secret to living a Godly life, but he was soon directed to the Scriptures. . . .

- <http://www.christianpost.com/news/john-macarthur-says-america-is-under-divine-judgment-51584/>

May we heed the warning in America and open our eyes and turn back to the One who loves us so much, Jesus and obey the Word of God, live a life of holiness or judgment will come, not might!

3. And look at the picture here. The people are fleeing; they are running for their lives trying to escape from the Babylonians. They have come down from the fertile lands to the desert to make their escape and as they are fleeing the people they are passing are asking them “What is going on?” And their response is “Moab is fallen!” You can imagine the despair, the hopelessness they now felt!

VERSES 21-25

1. Here we see that these Moabite cities are named individually and I think the idea here is that God’s judgment was not only going to be swift but it was going to be complete!

2. In verse 20 it speaks of “**The horn of Moab is cut off, And his arm is broken**” and the idea here is that the horn and the arm are symbols of strength and God is saying that the strength of Moab is cut down and broken off!

VERSES 26-28

1. Because of their relationship with Israel they should have known better, they should have known God and they should have honored Him. But they didn't and God is judging them because of it. Not only did they reject the Lord but the Moabites loved to mock and laugh at the Jews as difficult times came upon them. They refused to help even though they were related. They hated the Jews and God is holding them accountable for what they did or really didn't do for them.

2. Now as secure as they thought that they were, the call here is for them to run and hide in the caves of the mountains. In that area by the Dead Sea there are numerous caves to hide in. Not a great place to live unless you are a bear!

VERSE 29

1. God is bringing the Moabites down because of their pride, their arrogance, their self-reliance. And pride is nothing more than a person who is self-indulging, self-honoring haughtiness by which one thinks of oneself as greater than others.

And as we can see here, this goes beyond individuals, it is speaking of a nation and what a wake-up call for America. We are very prideful and it is this pride, this self-reliance, this arrogance that will bring us down. Proverbs 6:16 says, "**These six things the LORD hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him. . . .**" And as you read through verses 17-19 of Proverbs chapter 6 you can see what God hates. But on the top of that list is ***PRIDE!*** God hates it and so should we.

VERSES 30-33

1. We just talked about the pride of Moab and we see it here in the boasting of Moab, but that is all going to end.

2. Now in verses 31 and 32 of Jeremiah chapter 48 this could be Jeremiah speaking here.

Jeremiah had every right to call for the destruction of Moab, but as a representative of God he had the heart of God. Thus, instead of rejoicing their destruction, he is mourning what is coming upon them.

That should be the heart of a Christian, that kind of love for the unlovely, those who hate you and spitefully use you. We should be mourning over the death and destruction of those that have rejected the Lord and desire for them to know the Lord as their Savior! You see, the heart of man calls for revenge but the heart of God reaches out in love. Now this can also be the Lord speaking, but either way that should be what is manifested in our hearts.

3. As we get to verse 33 of Jeremiah chapter 48 we see that there is no joy, no celebrations. You see, harvest time was always a time of great celebrations. You worked hard all year and now you would take in the fruits of your labor. But no longer will there be celebrations for the people will be killed or taken into captivity.

VERSES 34-37

1. Their pride, their idolatry and-so-on were the reason for this judgment against them, and they should have known better but they chose to turn from the true and living God and serve these false gods.

And we see the Lord speak of their bald heads, their clipped beards, the sackcloth they were wearing and this is all signs of mourning as the judgment of God came upon them! And the Lord grieves over the judgment, His desire is all would be saved, but it is each individual's choice to make!

VERSES 38-42

1. Again we see the completeness of God's judgment upon Moab. This judgment will come so quick that it will shock them; they will be surprised by it.

In regards to this destruction of Moab, one writer had this to say,

It was in its state of highest prosperity that the prophets foretold that the cities of Moab should become desolate, without any to dwell in them; and accordingly we find, that although the sites, ruins and names of many ancient cities of Moab can be traced, not one of them exists at the present day as tenanted [occupied] by man. . . . Cyril Graham, who explored this region, found cities with buildings in a good state of preservation, yet everywhere uninhabited. "In the whole of these vast plains, north and south, east and west, desolation reigns supreme." The long-predicted doom of Moab is now fulfilled, and forty-eighth chapter of Jeremiah is verified on the spot by the traveler.

- Samuel Fallows, The Popular and Critical Bible Encyclopedia and Scriptural Dictionary, 3 vols., Vol. 2, p. 1173

VERSES 43-46

1. They can try all they want to escape from this judgment, but they won't be able to. There is no escape! The last view of Moab is that of fire destroying her cities as she flees in terror.

Chemosh has fallen to defeat.

2. But our God is so gracious and merciful. Look at what He said in Jeremiah 48:47.

VERSE 47

1. Yes God brought judgment upon Moab but He was not going to completely wipe them out as a nation and in the Kingdom Age they will be saved and worship the Lord. Who are the

Moabites today? We don't know but God does! Let me leave you with this thought this evening.

We see the fierceness of God's wrath but it is always tempered with grace and mercy. The grace of God is awesome! May we never forget that!

2. And we will close this evening with God bringing His judgment upon the nation of Moab and their restoration in the Kingdom Age!