

Jeremiah 43

King James Version (KJV)

43 And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking unto all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words,

²Then spake Azariah the son of Hoshai, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, Thou speakest falsely: the LORD our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there: (They don't believe Jeremiah. They are accusing him of lying)

(So, why did they ask him in the first place? Maybe they expected Jeremiah to just tell them what they wanted to hear, instead of telling them the truth)

³But Baruch the son of Neriah setteth thee on against us, for to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans, that they might put us to death, and carry us away captives into Babylon. (They're saying that Baruch put Jeremiah up to this "lie")

⁴So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, obeyed not the voice of the LORD, to dwell in the land of Judah. (They never learned. They continued to disobey God right up to their end)

⁵But Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, took all the remnant of Judah, that were returned from all nations, whither they had been driven, to dwell in the land of Judah;

⁶Even men, and women, and children, and the king's daughters, and every person that Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch the son of Neriah. (Johanan and his men didn't give anyone a choice. They took them all by force into Egypt; even Baruch and Jeremiah)

(They were still reacting to what Ishmael did. They feared that Nebuchadnezzar would blame them for what happened to Gedaliah)

NOTE: (Fear can drive people to do stupid things. Obey God and enjoy peace of mind. HE just told these people that He will protect them if they just stop, think, and obey Him) see Leviticus-26:27-39

⁷ So they came into the land of Egypt: for they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: thus came they even to Tahpanhes.

⁸ Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,

⁹ Take great stones in thine hand, and hide them in the clay in the brick kiln, which is at the entry of Pharaoh's house in Tahpanhes, in the sight of the men of Judah;

¹⁰ And say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will set his throne upon these stones that I have hid; and he shall spread his royal pavilion over them. (They didn't escape Babylon by running to Egypt. Babylon was coming to take Egypt next)

(God will see to it that Nebuchadnezzar is victorious. He was doing God's work in correcting these nations)

¹¹ And when he cometh, he shall smite the land of Egypt, and deliver such as are for death to death; and such as are for captivity to captivity; and such as are for the sword to the sword. (God already told them that they will die if they go to Egypt. They went, regardless)

¹² And I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt; and he shall burn them, and carry them away captives: and he shall array himself with the land of Egypt, as a shepherd putteth on his garment; and he shall go forth from thence in peace. (He = Nebuchadnezzar)

¹³ He shall break also the images of Bethshemesh, that is in the land of Egypt; and the houses of the gods of the Egyptians shall he burn with fire. (Bethshemesh = the house of the sun – these people were sun worshippers, as well as other false gods)

NOTE: (There comes a time when God's patience reaches an end. We are seeing the demise of Christian nations today because they have all abandoned God. They call themselves "secular" instead of Christian nations. We will be judged for that, just as Israel and Judah were judged)

NOTE: (See Josephus Antiquities Book 10 as a second witness to these verses)