Jeremiah 44

King James Version (KJV)

- **44** The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews which dwell in the land of Egypt, which dwell at Migdol, and at Tahpanhes, and at Noph, and in the country of Pathros, saying, (God told them not to go to Egypt, but they disobeyed him, again)
- ²Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Ye have seen all the <u>evil</u> that I have brought upon Jerusalem, and upon all the cities of Judah; and, behold, this day they are a desolation, and no man dwelleth therein, (evil = tumult, trouble better translation)
- ³ Because of their wickedness which they have committed to provoke me to anger, in that they went to burn incense, and <u>to serve other</u> gods, whom they knew not, neither they, ye, nor your fathers. (These gods were pagan idols from surrounding heathen nations)
- ⁴Howbeit I sent unto you all my servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, saying, Oh, do not this abominable thing that I hate. (God hates idol worship)
- ⁵ But <u>they hearkened not</u>, nor inclined their ear to turn from their wickedness, to burn no incense unto other gods. (They refused to obey Him)
- ⁶ Wherefore my fury and mine anger was poured forth, and was kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and <u>they are wasted and desolate</u>, as at this day. (They were spiritually dead. They brought that on themselves)

(God destroyed the nation of Judah; not the people. Those who obeyed Him and went into captivity to Babylon did just fine. Daniel and his companions were among those who obeyed God)

- Therefore now thus saith the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel; Wherefore commit ye this great evil against your souls, to cut off from you man and woman, child and suckling, out of Judah, to leave you none to remain; (They were dooming their own souls by continually defying God and worshipping idols) Chapter-17:5
- In that ye provoke me unto wrath with the works of your hands, burning incense unto other gods in the land of Egypt, whither ye be gone to dwell, that ye might cut yourselves off, and that ye might be a

curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth? (And now, in Egypt, they continued the same evil practices that offended God when they were in Judah. They didn't learn anything)

- ⁹ Have ye forgotten the wickedness of your fathers, and the wickedness of the kings of Judah, and the wickedness of their wives, and your own wickedness, and the wickedness of your wives, which they have committed in the land of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem? (There have been plenty of examples, and still they refused to learn from them)
- ¹⁰ They are not humbled even unto this day, neither have they feared, nor walked in my law, nor in my statutes, that I set before you and before your fathers. (Even today, Christians will tell you that we're not under the law. We are. The Ten Commandments are still the law of God. Only the blood rituals and ordinances were fulfilled by Jesus at the crucifixion. The law remains)
- ¹¹ Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will set my face against you for evil, and to cut off all Judah. (God is talking to the remnant that deserted Judah when they were attacked by Babylon. They returned afterwards, only to defy God once again by going into Egypt, against His command)
- ¹² And I will take the remnant of Judah, that have set their faces to go into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, and they shall all be consumed, and fall in the land of Egypt; they shall even be consumed by the sword and by the famine: they shall die, from the least even unto the greatest, by the sword and by the famine: and they shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach. (This is judgment for defying God's Word. Jeremiah and the daughters of Zedekiah were forced to go to Egypt by this remnant; and so they did not face this judgment)
- ¹³ For I will punish them that dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: (They could have avoided all of this by just obeying God and staying put in that land that was Judah. God told them that He would see to it that they prospered there; but they refused)
- ¹⁴ So that none of the remnant of Judah, which are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall escape or remain, that they should return into the land of Judah, to the which they have a desire to return to dwell there: for none shall return but such as shall escape. (Those

that would escape this judgment were those people that were forced to go into Egypt against their will – Jeremiah, et al)

- ¹⁵ Then all the men which knew that their wives had burned incense unto other gods, and all the women that stood by, a great multitude, even all the people that dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying,
- ¹⁶ As for the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the LORD, we will not hearken unto thee. (You can't fix stupid. They made their decision)
- ¹⁷ But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto <u>the queen of heaven</u>, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil. (They think that it was Ishtar that was providing their food and prosperity in Judah. It was God Yahoveh who was doing all of that for them)

(The queen of heaven is Ishtar – this is where Easter comes from. It was a pagan fertility sexual orgy in the woods at sunrise; bunny <mating> symbols; decorating and rolling Ishtar eggs; giving each other candy, and cakes. The date of this Ishtar celebration was based on the phases of the moon. Even today, Christians celebrate Easter instead of passover – and offend God even more)

NOTES: (The word Easter, in Acts-12:4 is a mistranslation. The word in the Greek manuscripts is Pasca = Passover – to be celebrated on the 15^{th} day after the spring Equinox. The early Christian church combined this Ishtar festival with Passover, so that they could increase the membership & the tithes)

(Christians of today still celebrate Easter instead of Passover. That is an insult to God) see 1Corinthians-5:6-7

- ¹⁸ 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. (They thought that Ishtar was giving them all of those blessings, and not God)
- ¹⁹ 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? (No they didn't. The men were complicit, along with their wives)
- ²⁰ Then Jeremiah said unto all the people, to the men, and to the women, and to all the people which had given him that answer, saying, (To the Ishtar worshippers; not to the innocent people that were forced to go to Egypt)
- ²¹ The incense that ye burned in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, ye, and your fathers, your kings, and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and came it not into his mind? (God knows everything that they did)
- ²² So that the LORD could no longer bear, because of the evil of your doings, and because of the abominations which ye have committed; therefore is your land a desolation, and an astonishment, and a curse, without an inhabitant, as at this day. (It wasn't Ishtar that was blessing them. It was God. But because they continually defied Him, they lost their country and are now homeless)
- ²³ 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. (God removed His protection from them because they turned their backs to Him)
- ²⁴ Moreover Jeremiah said unto all the people, and to all the women, Hear the word of the LORD, <u>all Judah that are in the land of Egypt</u>: (Not those in Babylon, who obeyed God's judgment)
- ²⁵ Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying; Ye and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and fulfilled with your hand, saying, We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her: ye will surely accomplish your vows, and surely perform your vows.
- ²⁶Therefore hear ye the word of the LORD, <u>all Judah that dwell in the land of Egypt</u>; Behold, I have sworn by my great name, saith the LORD, that my name shall no more be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, The Lord God liveth. (God will turn His back to them. He won't hear them anymore)

²⁷ Behold, I will watch over them for evil, and not for good: and all the men of Judah that are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until there be an end of them. (Ishtar can't save them. She doesn't exist. The world will consume them)

²⁸ Yet a small number that escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah, and all the remnant of Judah, that are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall know whose words shall stand, mine, or their's. (There were a small number of them that obeyed. They left Egypt and returned to Judah to live there. They escaped this judgment because they finally obeyed God)

(When all of this happens to those who remained in Egypt, they will know that Jeremiah was speaking the truth; and that Yahoveh is the one and only God in heaven)

²⁹ And this shall be a sign unto you, saith the LORD, that I will punish you in this place, that ye may know that my words shall surely stand against you for evil: (Learn from it. There is a God in Heaven. HIS name is Yahoveh and His prophet is Jeremiah)

³⁰ Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give Pharaohhophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies, and into the hand of them that seek his life; as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, his enemy, and that sought his life. (God will see to it that Egypt falls, just like Judah did)