

Jeremiah 12:1-6

Grace and Purpose

Jeremiah 12:1-6

¹ Righteous are You, O Lord, that I would plead my case with You; Indeed I would discuss matters of justice with You: Why has the way of the wicked prospered? Why are all those who deal in treachery at ease?

² You have planted them, they have also taken root; They grow, they have even produced fruit. You are near to their lips but far from their mind.

Jeremiah 12:1-6

³ But You know me, O Lord; You see me; And You examine my heart's attitude toward You. Drag them off like sheep for the slaughter and set them apart for a day of carnage!

⁴ How long is the land to mourn And the vegetation of the countryside to wither? For the wickedness of those who dwell in it, Animals and birds have been snatched away, because men have said, "He will not see our latter ending."

Jeremiah 12:1-6

⁵ “If you have run with footmen and they have tired you out, then how can you compete with horses? If you fall down in a land of peace, how will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?”

⁶ “For even your brothers and the household of your father, even they have dealt treacherously with you, even they have cried aloud after you. Do not believe them, although they may say nice things to you.”

Grace and Purpose

- I. Fulfilling God's call on your life is not always easy

Jeremiah 11:19-20

¹⁹ But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter; and I did not know that they had devised plots against me, saying, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name be remembered no more.”

²⁰ But, O Lord of hosts, who judges righteously, who tries the feelings and the heart, let me see Your vengeance on them, for to You have I committed my cause.

Jeremiah 5:31

³¹ The prophets prophesy falsely,
And the priests rule on their own authority;
And My people love it so!
But what will you do at the end of it?

Jeremiah 6:13

¹³ “For from the least of them even to the greatest of them,
Everyone is greedy for gain,
And from the prophet even to the priest
Everyone deals falsely.

Galatians 5:19-21

¹⁹ Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:22-24

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

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- II. When challenged we have to decide whether we will trust God or abandon him

Jeremiah 11:21-23

²¹ Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the men of Anathoth, who seek your life, saying, “Do not prophesy in the name of the Lord, so that you will not die at our hand”; ²² therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts, “Behold, I am about to punish them! The young men will die by the sword, their sons and daughters will die by famine; ²³ and a remnant will not be left to them, for I will bring disaster on the men of Anathoth—the year of their punishment.”

Grace and Purpose

III. God has great purposes for us, which requires us to trust him and persevere in our walk with him

Grace and Purpose

IV. God is with us, God equips us, and God fills us – every step of the way

Isaiah 40:28-31

²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard?

The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth

Does not become weary or tired.

His understanding is inscrutable.

²⁹ He gives strength to the weary,

And to him who lacks might He increases power.

Isaiah 40:28-31

³⁰ Though youths grow weary and tired,
And vigorous young men stumble badly,

³¹ Yet those who wait for the Lord

Will gain new strength;

They will mount up with wings like eagles,

They will run and not get tired,

They will walk and not become weary.