Jeremiah 42-44 Grace and Purpose

Jeremiah 42:1-6

¹ Then all the commanders of the forces, Johanan the son of Kareah, Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people both small and great approached ² and said to Jeremiah the prophet, "Please let our petition come before you, and pray for us to the Lord your God, that is for all this remnant; because we are left but a few out of many, as your own eyes now see us,

Jeremiah 42:1-6

3 that the Lord your God may tell us the way in which we should walk and the thing that we should do." 4 Then Jeremiah the prophet said to them, "I have heard you. Behold, I am going to pray to the Lord your God in accordance with your words; and I will tell you the whole message which the Lord will answer you. I will not keep back a word from you."

Jeremiah 42:1-6

⁵ Then they said to Jeremiah, "May the Lord be a true and faithful witness against us if we do not act in accordance with the whole message with which the Lord your God will send you to us. ⁶ Whether it is pleasant or unpleasant, we will listen to the voice of the Lord our God to whom we are sending you, so that it may go well with us when we listen to the voice of the Lord our God."

Jeremiah 42:11-17

¹¹ Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, whom you are now fearing; do not be afraid of him,' declares the Lord, 'for I am with you to save you and deliver you from his hand. ¹² I will also show you compassion, so that he will have compassion on you and restore you to your own soil. ¹³ But if you are going to say, "We will not stay in this land," so as not to listen to the voice of the Lord your God,

Jeremiah 42:11-17

¹⁴ saying, "No, but we will go to the land of Egypt, where we will not see war or hear the sound of a trumpet or hunger for bread, and we will stay there"; ¹⁵ then in that case listen to the word of the Lord, O remnant of Judah. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, "If you really set your mind to enter Egypt and go in to reside there,

Jeremiah 42:11-17

there in the land of Egypt; and the famine, about which you are anxious, will follow closely after you there in Egypt, and you will die there. ¹⁷ So all the men who set their mind to go to Egypt to reside there will die by the sword, by famine and by pestilence; and they will have no survivors or refugees from the calamity that I am going to bring on them.""

Jeremiah 43:1-2

¹ But as soon as Jeremiah, whom the Lord their God had sent, had finished telling all the people all the words of the Lord their God—that is, all these words— ² Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the arrogant men said to Jeremiah, "You are telling a lie! The Lord our God has not sent you to say, 'You are not to enter Egypt to reside there';

Jeremiah 43:7

⁷ and they entered the land of Egypt (for they did not obey the voice of the Lord) and went in as far as Tahpanhes.

Jeremiah 44:11-14

¹¹ "Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I am going to set My face against you for woe, even to cut off all Judah. 12 And I will take away the remnant of Judah who have set their mind on entering the land of Egypt to reside there, and they will all meet their end in the land of Egypt; they will fall by the sword and meet their end by famine. Both small and great will die by the sword and famine; and they will become a curse, an object of horror, an imprecation and a reproach.

Jeremiah 44:11-14

¹³ And I will punish those who live in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, with the sword, with famine and with pestilence. ¹⁴ So there will be no refugees or survivors for the remnant of Judah who have entered the land of Egypt to reside there and then to return to the land of Judah, to which they are longing to return and live; for none will return except a few refugees.'"

Grace and Purpose

I. We are continually tempted to walk by sight, not by faith

Proverbs 19:11

¹¹ A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.

Grace and Purpose

II. It is always right to live by faith, even when we're just taking one step at a time

Grace and Purpose

III. Walking by faith is possible because even when we don't know the next step, we ultimately know where we are going to end up