



Judgement on the Philistines (Jeremiah 47)

October 28

RECAP: [Jeremiah](#)

CONTEXT: As part of God's providence Babylon would not only be used to punish God's people for their sins, but also the sins of the nations around them. Jeremiah 47 is a judgement oracle (prophesy) against an ancient enemy of Israel (c.f. Josh 13:2-3; Judg 3:31, 13:1). This took place c. 604 BC, supported by archaeological evidence (ash layer, broken pots, skeleton).

FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Generosity):

- How is generosity linked with who God is?
 - This Gospel?
- What does the Bible say about financial stewardship?
- What practical-spiritual implications does generosity have on our life, the local church, the wider Kingdom?

READ: Jeremiah 47

QUESTIONS:

1. *V. 1- "before Pharaoh struck down Gaza" must mean that the Egyptians attacked one of the Philistine cities before the Babylonians destroyed the rest.*
2. In what ways had the Philistines been the enemy of God's people in the past? (c.f. Josh 13:2-3; Judg 3:31, 13:1).
3. Have you ever witnessed a sudden storm; the might of an army?
4. *Vv. 2-3- What words tip us off as to the speed of the attack?*
5. What two meanings might v. 2 have, referring to the sudden _____ of Babylon over the Assyrians and the _____ way in which its armies swept through the land?
6. **V. 2b- In the NT the phrase "weeping and gnashing of teeth" is often used to describe people's reaction to Christ's return/judgement/hell. Why?**
7. V. 3b seems uncaring, yet the speed of the attack is so quick what will people not be able to do?

8. "Like a thief in the night." (2 Pet 3:10, Mt 24:12; Rev 3:3, 16:15). This NT phrase is used to speak of Christ's Second Coming in Judgement. How is this a fitting phrase here?
How ought the sudden destruction of the Philistines serve to encourage us to be ready for Jesus' return?
9. V. 4- Tyre and Sidon were traditional allies of the Philistines, but even they would succumb to Babylon. Is there any rescue or help from the Day of the Lord?
10. V. 5a- If not referring to mourning what might "baldness" be a reference to?
11. V. 5b- *Remnant may refer to the remaining Philistines before the Babylonian attack.* What did gashing symbolize (1 Ki 18:28)? Who alone can help and rescue?
12. **Have you ever not been able to sleep until you did what you needed to do (write something down, do a project, complete something, call someone)?**
13. So too, God will not be able to _____ until He has _____ the Philistines for all of their sins.
14. What encouragement ought the fulfilment of this prophecy bring to us?

NEXT WEEK: The Call of Ezekiel, Ezk 2:1-3:3

DID YOU KNOW?

Palestinians are not Philistines. The Philistines were a sea faring people who settled along the coastal plain of Canaan and harassed Israel throughout their existence (e.g. Joshua and Judges). They were largely subdued by King David and Solomon, however, as this passage makes clear, a small remnant persisted and grew to bother the later kings of Judah (In Jer 47 Philistia may also describe the whole coastal plain from Gaza to Tyre). However, after the Babylonians the Philistines ceased exist. When the Jews revolted against Rome in AD 132 the Romans renamed the area Palaestina in an attempt to minimize Jewish identification with the land of Israel. Today, modern Palestinians are Arabs who came to live in the former territories of Israel before it became a modern state in 1948

Judah at the Time of Jeremiah

