

The Whispers of Worldliness
Jeremiah 40-44
Jeremiah: The Christ-like Prophet, part 14

Jeremiah 42:19: Go ye not into Egypt: know certainly that I have admonished you this day.

- When Israel left Egypt in the days of Moses they complained as if they had been ripped away from a delicious big picnic barbecue! Numbers 11:5
- A strange and scary tendency of our human heart is to return to the destructive ways of the past. The world whispers and even screams for us to return.

Isaiah 31:1; Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!

- 900 years have now passed since Israel left Egypt, and again they thirst to return to Egypt.
- The story is in Jeremiah 40-41: Jerusalem is ashes. The walls are broken down. The Temple was charred and ruined... then Governor Gedaliah, appointed by Nebuchadnezzar, was assassinated.
- The whispers of the world are leading them to return to old destructive paths (Jer.41:17). In order to reject the whispers of the world we must refuse four key dangers:

1. Refuse FEAR, Jer. 42:10-12

42:11, 12; “Be not afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom ye are afraid; be not afraid of him, saith the LORD: for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand. I will shew mercies unto you, that he may have mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own land.”

2. Refuse REBELLION, Jer. 42:13,14

Jer. 42:13; But if ye say, we will not dwell in this land, neither obey the voice of the LORD your God...

3. Refuse DECEPTION, Jer.42:19-22

Jer.42:19, 20a: Jeremiah pleads with them, "O ye remnant of Judah, go ye not into Egypt: know certainly that I have admonished you this day. For ye dissembled in your hearts..."

4. Refuse PRIDE, 43:2-4

Jer. 43:2: Then spake... Johanan... and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, Thou speakest falsely; the LORD our God hath not sent thee to say, God not into Egypt to sojourn there.