

## BROKEN CISTERNS!

Jeremiah 2:5-18

INTRODUCTION: Jeremiah wrote our introductory reading just prior to the nation of Judah going into captivity to Babylon. Jeremiah 2:13. Jeremiah is rebuking his people for basically two sins. These two sins are at the root of all their other sins that led to the total destruction of the nation as a free and independent nation under God for almost 2,500 years. The nation of Israel is the only nation God ever chose for His own and the United States of America is the only nation that chose that same God as our God. Today we will see that the same two sins Judah was guilty of are the same two sins our nation is guilty of committing.

### I. THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER!

When we forsake someone it means we renounce and quit or leave them entirely. When the Lord says Israel forsook God it means the renounced Him as their God. 1 Peter 3:15. Many who left Egypt with the nation of Israel were not truly of the nation of Israel: Romans 9:6-8; Hebrews 11:6. When trouble came Israel's way, instead of trusting in the Lord and praying to Him the nation choose to grumble and complain: Exodus 14:10-12; Exodus 15:22-27; Exodus 16:1-3; Exodus 17:1-7; Exodus 32:1-6; Numbers 13:26-14:12.

### II. ISRAEL CONTINUED TO CHOOSE BROKEN CISTERNS!

Some 800 years later Jeremiah declared in 620 BC that things had not changed that much for the children of Israel. They knew what King Solomon had told them: Proverbs 3:5-6. It wasn't that they did not know what God had said; they just didn't believe the Word of God! The nation of Israel rejected God because they had no faith in the Lord: Hebrews 4:1-2. Even the priest rejected the Lord: Jeremiah 2:8. Following the Law as a means of justification is and always has been a broken cistern! Galatians 3:10-13.

### III. OUR NATION IS ALSO CHOOSING TO TRUST IN BROKEN CISTERNS!

Our nation much like Israel of old has committed two sins: Jeremiah 2:13. There was a time in our nation when the Lord Jesus Christ was considered the only Savior and Lord of mankind. There was a time in our nation when we believe God instituted marriage for life: Malachi 2:15-16; Matthew 5:31-32. Children were felt to be a blessing from God: Psalm 127:3-5. Today we sacrifice our children to the gods of money and pleasure. We abort almost 4,000 children a day in our nation. Our nation is headed down the path to captivity but there is still hope: 2 Chronicles 7:14; Galatians 6:7-8. In our lives today will we choose to trust in the Lord and His Word or will we dig out our own broken cisterns? Proverbs 14:12; 2 Peter 2:19-22. We must confess and repent as individuals and as nations to have our Lord's blessings: 1 John 1:9. If we know the truth and obey the truth it will set us free: John 8:31-32; John 17:17; John 14:6; John 17:3; John 4:13-14.