Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 2:9-11

9. "Therefore I will still contend with

you," declares the LORD, "And I will contend with your sons' sons.

10 "For cross to the coastlands of Kittim and see, And send to Kedar and observe closely,

And see if there has been anything

like this!

11 "Has a nation changed gods,

When they were not gods?

But My people have exchanged their

Glory For that which is of no benefit.

I. The First Love!

Jeremiah 2:1-3

1Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2"Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem , saying, 'This is what the LORD says:

"I remember regarding you the devotion of your youth, Your love when you were a bride, Your following after Me in the wilderness, Through a land not sown.

3"Israel was holy to the LORD,

The first of His harvest. All who ate of it became guilty; Evil came upon them," declares the LORD.""

Revelation 2:4-5

4 But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.

5 Therefore, remember from where you have fallen, and repent, and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and I will remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

II. God was forsaken and forgotten!

Jeremiah 2:4-8

What injustice did your fathers find in Me,

That they went far from Me,

And walked after emptiness and became empty?

6"They did not say, 'Where is the LORD

Who brought us up out of the land of Egypt,

Who led us through the wilderness,

Through a land of deserts and of pits,

Through a land of drought and of deep darkness,

Through a land that no one crossed

And where no person lived?'

7"I brought you into the fruitful land

To eat its fruit and its good things.

But you came and defiled My land,

And you made My inheritance an abomination.

8"The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' And those who handle the Law did not know Me; The rulers also revolted against Me,

And the prophets prophesied by Baal And walked after things that were of no benefit.

III. Israel switched fake gods for real God!

Jeremiah 2:9-12

9. "Therefore I will still contend with you," declares the LORD, "And I will contend with your sons' sons.

10"For cross to the coastlands of Kittim and see, And send to Kedar and observe closely, And see if there has been anything like this!

11"Has a nation changed gods,

When they were not gods?

But My people have exchanged their glory For that which is of no benefit.

12"Be appalled at this, you heavens, And shudder, be very desolate," declares the LORD.

13"For My people have committed two evils:

They have abandoned Me,

The fountain of living waters,

To carve out for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns

That do not hold water.

IV. Israel was run over by everyone!

Jeremiah 2:14-17

14"Is Israel a slave? Or is he a servant born in the home? Why has he become plunder?

15"The young lions have roared at him,

They have roared loudly. And they have made his land a waste; His cities have been destroyed, without inhabitant.

16"Also the men of Memphis and Tahpanhes Have shaved your head.

17"Have you not done this to yourself By your abandoning the LORD your God When He led you in the way?

V. If you abandon God,

God will abandon you!

Jeremiah 2:18,19

18"But now what are you doing on the road to Egypt, Except to drink the waters of the Nile? Or what are you doing on the road to Assyria, Except to drink the waters of the Euphrates River?

19"Your own wickedness will correct you, And your apostasies will punish you; Know therefore and see that it is evil and bitter. For you to abandon the LORD your God, And the fear of Me is not in you," declares the Lord [i]GOD of armies.

VI. We are bent upon sinning!

Jeremiah 2:22-25

22"Although you wash yourself with lye And use much soap, The stain of your guilt is before Me," declares the Lord GOD.

23"How can you say, 'I am not defiled, I have not gone after the Baals'? Look at your way in the valley! Know what you have done! You are a swift young camel running about senselessly on her ways,

24A wild donkey accustomed to the wilderness,

That sniffs the wind in her passion.

Who can turn her away in her mating season? None who seek her will grow weary; In her month they will find her.

25"Keep your feet from being bare,

And your throat from thirst;

But you said, 'It is hopeless!

No! For I have loved strangers,

And I will walk after them.'

VII. If you reject the living God,
He will turn His face away in times of your troubles!

Jeremiah 2:27-28

27Who say to a tree, 'You are my father,'

And to a stone, 'You gave me birth.'

For they have turned their backs to Me,

And not their faces;

But in the time of their trouble they will say, 'Arise and save us!'

28"But where are your gods

Which you made for yourself?

Let them arise, if they can save you

In the time of your trouble!

For as many as the number of your cities Are your gods, Judah.

VIII. How long will we reject our God?

Jeremiah 2:31-32

31"You generation, look to the word of the LORD. Have I been a wilderness to Israel, Or a land of thick darkness?

Why do My people say, 'We are free to roam; We will no longer come to You'?

32"Can a virgin forget her jewelry, Or a bride her attire? Yet My people have forgotten Me For days without number.

IX. If we do not repent,

God will judge and punish us.

Jeremiah 2:35-37

35You said, 'I am innocent; Surely His anger is turned away from me.' Behold, I will enter into judgment with you Because you say, 'I have not sinned.'

36"Why do you go around so much

Changing your way? Also, you will be put to shame by Egypt, Just as you were put to shame by Assyria.

37"From this place as well you will go out With your hands on your head; For the LORD has rejected those in whom you trust,

And you will not prosper with them."

To conclude -

Remember your First Love

Do not forsake God

Be loyal to God

Do not abandon God