

APPLICATION

Now, with what you have studied for yourself in the text—what do you think it means to “extract the precious from the worthless”? And what is God’s promise if you do?

Beloved, if you are faithful to your calling as a follower of Christ, tough times will come. Paul teaches in 2 Timothy 3:12: “All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” How will you respond when persecutions (or “persecutors,” as in Jeremiah 15:15) come?

Will you respond the way Jeremiah did in Jeremiah 15:15–18 and think of God as a deceptive stream—when you know that He is really the Fountain of Living Waters (Jeremiah 2:13)? Or will you hold true to your calling and *extract the precious from the worthless*, trusting in what God has promised in His Word—that He is with you to save and deliver you?

Our prayer for you is that you will stand firm in the knowledge of His Word—even when you are persecuted or seemingly standing alone. God is with you, Beloved!

LEARN MORE

There’s even more to see, more Truth to discover! If you would like to study Jeremiah more deeply, we have two studies we recommend: *Jeremiah Part 1—Precept Upon Precept* (70540) or *Jeremiah Part 1—Precepts For Life* (22067). Simply order online at www.precept.org or call 1-800-763-8280.



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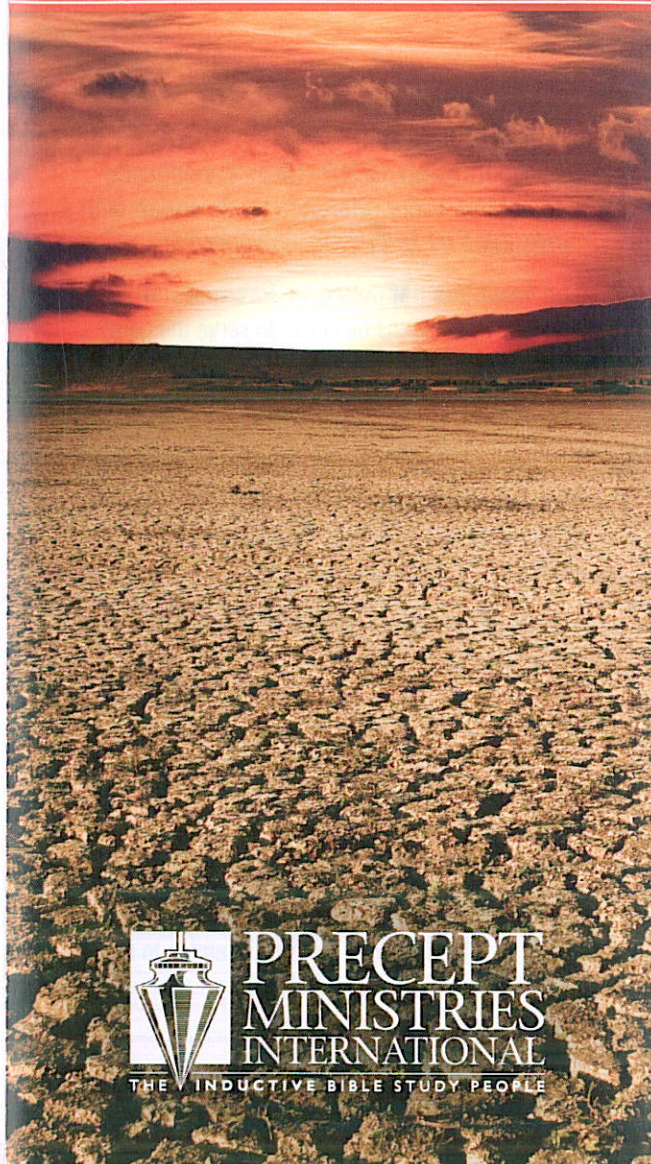
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See It for Yourself!

Bible Study:

Jeremiah

the Weeping Prophet



PRECEPT
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Do you ever wonder if God has forgotten about you? When times are tough, do you feel as if He has abandoned you? Especially when you believe you are doing what He has called you to do?

Our study comes from Jeremiah—"the Weeping Prophet." The context tells us that Jeremiah is suffering greatly for serving the Lord's word to His people. Take a few minutes to study this passage to learn about God's role and your role when times get tough—especially when you are doing His work.

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Read Jeremiah 15:15–18** on the opposite page. Mark every reference to *Jeremiah* with a circle (*hint: he is the "me" in verse 15*).

List what has happened to Jeremiah. What is going on with him as he seeks to serve the Lord?

- 2. Now read verses 19–21.** Continue marking references to Jeremiah. Also mark every reference to God with a triangle.

List what God says He will do for Jeremiah in these verses:

- 3. One last exercise.** Underline the repeated phrase "If you" in verse 19.

What two things does God tell Jeremiah to do?

A.

B.

Jeremiah

JEREMIAH 15:15–21

- 15** You who know, O LORD,
Remember me, take notice of me,
And take vengeance for me on my persecutors
Do not, in view of Your patience, take me away;
Know that for Your sake I endure reproach.
- 16** Your words were found and I ate them,
And Your words became for me a joy and the
delight of my heart;
For I have been called by Your name,
O LORD God of hosts.
- 17** I did not sit in the circle of merrymakers,
Nor did I exult
Because of Your hand upon me I sat alone,
For You filled me with indignation.
- 18** Why has my pain been perpetual
And my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
Will You indeed be to me like a deceptive stream
With water that is unreliable?
- 19** Therefore, thus says the LORD,
"If you return, then I will restore you—
Before Me you will stand;
And if you extract the precious from the worthless,
You will become My spokesman.
They for their part may turn to you,
But as for you, you must not turn to them.
- 20** "Then I will make you to this people
A fortified wall of bronze;
And though they fight against you,
They will not prevail over you;
For I am with you to save you
And deliver you," declares the LORD.
- 21** "So I will deliver you from the hand of the wicked,
And I will redeem you from the grasp of the violent."