

# Prophets and Kings: "How a Nation Falls"

## Jeremiah 38:14-18,24-28

- I. Leadership matters. (Verse 11)
- II. Righteousness matters. (Verse 12)
- III. Humility matters. (Verse 12)
- IV. God's truth matters. (Verse 12)
- V. Faith matters. (Verse 13)
- VI. Discipleship matters. (Verses 13 and 14)

1 Thessalonians 2:8 - "Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us."

Jeremiah 38:14-28

## VII. Faithfulness matters. (Verses 14-28)

Jeremiah 15:18 - "Why has my pain been perpetual...my wound...refusing to be healed?"

Jeremiah 20:7-8 - "O Lord, You have deceived me... I have become a laughingstock...Everyone mocks me... for me the word of the LORD has resulted in reproach and ridicule all day long."

Jeremiah 15:16 - "...I ate your words, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts."

Hebrews 12:2 - "...for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

## Faith Sheet for Friends and Family This Week

1. What, in your own words, is *hardness of heart* and what are the *consequences*?
2. What would it look like if our government leaders applied God's compassion and God's justice?
3. Why is it more loving and respectful to tell someone a difficult truth rather than obscure it? Read 2 Samuel 12:1-10, Proverbs 24:25, 27:5-6, 28:23, and 29:5.
4. What is the difference between saying something *offensive* and saying something *offensively*? Read Ephesians 4:15, 25 and Colossians 4:6.
5. How does the normal flow of life lead some to believe judgment for sin will never come? Read Mathew 24:32-44.
6. In what ways should believers today be like Jeremiah, grieving over our world? In what ways are believers today different than Jeremiah? Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.