

A Time with Jesus
TWCC 10-06-2022

First Reading Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

¹These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

⁴Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Question 1 – why do you think the writer instructs the people to keep on living and keep on increasing and not to decrease?

Question 2 - The people are also instructed to seek welfare for the city. Does that sound counter to what we may want to do if we were taken into exile? Why might these instructions be given to them?

Psalm 66:1-12

¹Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; ²sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise. ³Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you. ⁴All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."

Selah

⁵Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

⁶He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.

There we rejoiced in him, ⁷who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations- let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

Selah

⁸Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,

⁹who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

¹¹You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

¹²you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

Question 1 – ⁵Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals. ⁶He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There we rejoiced in him, ⁷who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations- let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

- Why do you think it is such a focus of the writer for the reader to be invited into coming and seeing what God is doing?

Question 2 - ⁸Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, ⁹who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. ¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. ¹¹You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; ¹²you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

- God brought them to a place after all that they had been through. How does God bring us through places of difficulty into “spacious places”?

2 Timothy 2:8-15

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David-that is my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful-for he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

Question 1 – ⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David-that is my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

Question 2 - ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

- How does one live into this? How are you living into this being “a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth”.

Gospel Luke 17:11-19

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Question 1 - ¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.

- What is this area today?
- Why do you think Jesus may have taken this route?
- Was there an alternative significance to this route?

Question 2 - ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him.

- Why do you think Jesus doesn't go and interact with the lepers up close?