

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: December 4, 2019
Jeremiah 13

1. What in the world is God telling Jeremiah to do in 13:1-7?
 - a. God is now Jeremiah's fashion consultant.
 - b. He told him to buy a belt, wear it for awhile, then bury it in the dirt.
 - c. Wait...did he just tell him to dig up the belt that he told him to bury before?

2. Why is God telling Jeremiah to do this, according to 13:8-11?
 - a. I've noticed that a lot of times what God tells me to do doesn't make sense either!
 - b. God says that he will ruin the pride of Judah.
 - c. You cannot take pride in an expensive belt that has stains all over it, and so Judah had nothing to take pride in if they were not in relationship with their God.
 - d. God says that the prideful people that he is trying to talk to will be useless like the belt.
 - e. As a dirty belt is useless, so an unfaithful people who are pursuing their own desires are "completely useless" to God.
 - f. The belt also represents the bonds that God used to bind his people to himself...but they didn't listen or follow him.
 - g. God is using symbolism and signs to teach. It was usual with the prophets to teach by signs, that a stupid unthinking people might be brought to consider, and believe, and be affected with what was thus set before them."¹

3. What is God saying through the prophet by having all of the wineskins filled in the land of Judah, in 13:12-14?
 - a. He told him to instruct Judah to fill up all of their wineskins.
 - b. God wants to make sure that Israel is stocked up with wine.
 - c. The people of Judah will be filled with confusion the way people are when they are drunk.
 - d. The people of Judah will be filled with God's wrath because of the evil in their hearts.
 - e. So wait...the wineskins being full is NOT a good thing?

4. What is God talking about in verses 13:15-27?
 - a. He is going to punish Judah for her unfaithfulness.
 - b. He calls them arrogant and will weep over their pride.
 - c. He will take away the flock that he entrusted to those in power (that they boasted about as if it were theirs). He will make their "special allies" rule over them.
 - d. He is going to expose the sin that has been committed in the same way that prostitutes were exposed for their sin before the people.
 - e. He is convinced that the
 - f. They will be scattered (taken from the promised land that was a part of their inheritance because of their covenant with God).

5. Do we take seriously the covenant that God wants with us or are we in danger of the same judgment? _____

¹Henry, Matthew: *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible : Complete and Unabridged in One Volume*. Peabody : Hendrickson, 1996, c1991, S. Je 13:1