

THE RULE OF THE WORD OF GOD

“See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.” (Jeremiah 1: 10)

The instructions received by the prophet Jeremiah were living words from the Lord God, the creator of heaven and earth. But who was Jeremiah that he could uproot or overthrow a kingdom? By what means he could tear down or destroy? He was never a warrior and he did not have in his hands any weapons. Or, how suitable for him to build or to plant while he was not a farmer and he did not have tools to uproot and to plant. Jeremiah was not an engineer or a builder to overthrow and to build, but he was a prophet chosen by God.

God had appointed Jeremiah to be a prophet to speak in behalf of God to nations and kingdoms, to teach them about the will of God and what the Lord wants them to do in their lives, and to tell them about the events that is to come. Jeremiah was appointed by God to warn the people about the consequences of their sins, and their unholy living that took them away from God. He had shown them the outcome of their unbelief in God and their wickedness in living and worshipping idols. Yet he encouraged them by telling about God's mercy and love, and His forgiveness to those who turn back to Him and repent from sin.

When God called him to serve, Jeremiah was only a child. *“Ah, Sovereign Lord, I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.” (Jeremiah 1: 6)* But despite of being a child, Jeremiah trusted in God and believed in all the promises that he received from Him. He was not having any weapon in his hands, but God put His word in his mouth. *“Then the Lord reached out His hand and touched my mouth and said to me, ‘Now, I have put my words in your mouth’.” (Jeremiah 1: 9)* This was the only weapon that Jeremiah had, the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, *“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.” (Ephesians 6: 17)* Therefore Jeremiah agreed to take the responsibility. And in his service to God, he faced nations and kingdoms, difficult situations, trials, obstacles and rejection. People ridiculed him, mocked him and some even became enemies to him. They persecuted him and even tried to kill him. But Jeremiah persevered and he continued the work toward the end. He pressed on toward the goal and the Lord God worked through him using his voice to spare and save all who believe in God's word.

The prophet is the man who knows the will of God and who declares it clearly and precisely to others. But what is the will of God? *“And this is His command: ‘To believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He commanded us’.” (1 John 3: 23)*

God has sent His son Jesus to this world to save the sinners and the lost, to those who believe in Him. God wants us to declare that to all over the world. After believing in Jesus, the Holy Spirit of God uses the word to teach us the right from the wrong. If we react with the Spirit of God and allow His word to work on us, it brings great changes in our lives and in the lives of the people around us. **For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword:**

1- To uproot: The word of God will snatch and extract every harmful thing from its root, like the farmer who uproots the unwanted plants from the field so it will not grow again, and like the surgeon who remove the cancerous tumor from the body. The word of God will uproot from you the fear, the anxiety, the doubt and unbelief from your heart.

2- To tear down: Every human who grows up also builds up and gets a lot of contacts and links with the people around him. His interest, dependence and trust are on non-solid things like relations, friendships and reciprocal benefits. Human put his hope on promises and covenants that may seem strong, but in reality they are empty facts and lies. But after knowing God, the Holy Spirit and the word of God will take away and dismantle those harmful bonds and covenants. The word of God will teach us how to rely only on God's love and faithfulness to fulfill all His promises.

3- To destroy: The word of God destroys all what is evil and all that causes death. Jesus Christ is the word of God who has the victory over sin. After He died on the cross He rose again from the grave to give us eternal life. *“Where, O death is your victory? Where, O death is your sting? The sting of death is sin. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15: 55-57)* Therefore with Jesus, death is not any more a threat to us. Death is already defeated and we have the hope to eternal life.

4- To overthrow: A building that has no strong foundation will easily be shaken and fall. God's word is the true foundation where we should build our life and plans. As the word of God enters into the human heart, it destroy all the false teaching, the previous sad experiences and the forces that hinder us from receiving God's grace. God's word will overthrow all walls and division that hinder God's work and plan. *“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.” (Hebrews 4:13)*

5- To build: God's word molds us in the right manner. God's word builds us on the pure heavenly wisdom that is full of mercy and good deeds. Therefore, we ought to read our Bible daily and on regular basis. Like newborn babies we must crave pure spiritual milk so that by it we may grow up.

6- To plant: God's word is the seed of salvation sown in human heart. God has promised eternal life to everyone who believes in Jesus. God's word planted in us will give hope and will fill us with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

There was a man who once lived away from Jesus. But God's word changed him. He was looking for a job and he was living a miserable life. But God planted His word in that man's heart, and his anxiety, burden and weariness were uprooted from him. All his false belief and religion were destroyed when he accepted Jesus as Lord and Saviour of his life, and he was filled with peace and joy. This is the power of God's word.

“As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and make it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.” (Isaiah 55:10-12)

My dear and beloved: Above was the description of what was on Jeremiah mouth when he faced the kings and the kingdoms. It is a powerful weapon that God has put in our hearts to build our lives, our families, and our nation. This is the Word of God.

Father God, I come to You in the name of Jesus who died for us on the cross. O Lord, increase my faith in your words. Put your words in my heart and touch my lips to tell the people about your great love and faithfulness. This is my prayer in Jesus' name, **Amen!**