

Questions on Jeremiah Chapter 16

1. Verses 1-9 discuss the impact of God's judgment against Judah with respect to common social conduct and interactions. Contrary to usual social customs, what did God tell Jeremiah *not* to do in verses 1 and 2?
 - a. What was the reason for him not doing this? (vs. 3-4)
2. What two "houses" are mentioned in verses 5 and 8?
 - a. These two houses are mentioned in Ecclesiastes 7:2, but what is said about the house of mourning in the Ecclesiastes verse?
3. Contrary to usual customs, where was Jeremiah *not* to go and what was he not to do according to verse 5?
 - a. What reasons are given for his not doing these things in verses 5 and 6?
 - b. What customary funeral practices are mentioned? (vs 6-8) *(Note regarding verse 8... It is difficult to tell whether or not the "feasting" of verse 8 is related to the funerals of the previous verses or if it belongs with verse 9 and refers to an entirely type of occasion. We do know that many cultures do have a practice of big meals for family and friends following funerals.)*
4. Along with avoiding sad occasions such as funerals, what was to be avoided according to verse 9? (and perhaps verse 8)
5. Strangely, what did the people not know according to verse 10?
 - a. What was the answer to their question about their sin? (v. 11)

- b. How did Judah's sins compare to their father's? (v. 12)
6. According to verse 13, God would not politely escort the people of Judah out of their land but He would _____ them out.
- a. The story of Nebuchadnezzar's golden image of Daniel 3 may shed some light on this, but according to the later part of Jer. 16:13 what would the Jews do in Babylon whether they wanted to or not?
7. The old saying was that God "brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt". What **new** saying would replace the old one? (vs. 14-15)
8. The Babylonian invaders are represented as *what* two things in verse 16?
9. How thorough would God's punishment be of Judah? (v. 18)
10. What question is asked in verse 20 regarding false gods?
- a. As we saw in 2:11, 28; 5:7; 10:11 and elsewhere, why are fabricated "gods" not really *God*?
 - b. What do idols lack according to Galatians 4:8?
11. According to verse 21, what were God's punitive actions against Judah intended to accomplish?