

**Jeremiah 15:15-21**

<sup>15</sup> LORD, you understand; remember me and care for me. Avenge me on my persecutors. You are long-suffering—do not take me away; think of how I suffer reproach for your sake. <sup>16</sup> When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, LORD God Almighty.

<sup>17</sup> I never sat in the company of revelers, never made merry with them; I sat alone because your hand was on me and you had filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup> Why is my pain unending and my wound grievous and incurable? You are to me like a deceptive brook, like a spring that fails. <sup>19</sup> Therefore this is what the LORD says: "If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them.

<sup>20</sup> I will make you a wall to this people, a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you to rescue and save you," declares the LORD. <sup>21</sup> "I will save you from the hands of the wicked and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel." *Jeremiah 15:15-21 NIV*

1. What does the Lord understand? Review who Jeremiah was.
2. What kind of person is being described in verses 17 & 18?
3. What is God's encouragement to Jeremiah?

**Acts 13:44-47**

<sup>44</sup> On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. <sup>45</sup> When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy. They began to contradict what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him.

<sup>46</sup> Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. <sup>47</sup> For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."

*Acts 13:44-47 NIV*

1. How would you feel if the whole city of Rochester gathered to hear one of our Pastors?
2. Why did Paul and Barnabas feel they had to speak the Word to the Jews first?
3. Why were the Jews jealous? What drew the crowds to Paul?

**Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

<sup>22</sup> Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

<sup>23</sup> Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. <sup>26</sup> What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>27</sup> For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

<sup>28</sup> "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom." *Matthew 16:21-28 NIV*

1. What had happened just prior to verse 21?
2. Compare John 2:19; 3:14; 10:17-18; Matthew 12:39-40. How do these verses help you understand what Jesus was doing in verse 21?
3. What happened to Peter here? "Get behind me Satan!"
4. What does it mean "to deny"? Who's cross?
5. How do you interpret verse 28?