## MAY 29 –JUNE 4, 2017 OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MINISTRY MEETING WORKBOOK

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

PLEASE NOTE - The references below are taken from the 86-16 Index. Many verses have additional references that have not been included due to time & space. We are encouraged to do additional personal research.

(Jeremiah 49:7-10) 7 For E'dom, this is what Jehovah of armies says: "Is there no longer any wisdom in Te'man? Has good advice perished from those with understanding? Has their wisdom rotted? 8 Flee, turn back! Go and dwell down in the depths, O inhabitants of De'dan! For I will bring disaster on E'sau When the time comes to turn my attention to him. 9 lf grape gatherers came in to you, Would they not leave some behind for gleaning? If thieves came in by night, They would cause only as much ruin as they wanted. 10 But I will strip E'sau bare. I will uncover his places of concealment. So that he cannot hide. His children and his brothers and his neighbors will all be destroyed, And he will be no more.

\*\*\* jr chap. 13 p. 163 par. 18 "Jehovah Has Done What He Had in Mind" \*\*\*

But the divine word went beyond that. Edom would become like Sodom and Gomorrah. You know what that meant—uninhabited for all time, ceasing to exist. (Jer. 49:7-10, 17, 18)

(Jeremiah 49:17) 17 "And E'dom must become an object of horror. Everyone passing along by her will stare in horror and whistle on account of all her plagues.

\*\*\* jr chap. 13 p. 163 par. 18 "Jehovah Has Done What He Had in Mind" \*\*\*

18 Another prophecy was also fulfilled in the first century C.E. God foretold through Jeremiah that Edom was among the nations that would suffer from the Babylonian invasion. (Jer. 25:15-17, 21; 27:1-7) But the divine word went beyond that. Edom would become like Sodom and Gomorrah. You know what that meant—uninhabited for all time, ceasing to exist. (Jer. 49:7-10, 17, 18) That is exactly what happened. Where do you think the names Edom and Edomites can be found today? On any modern maps? No. They are mainly found in books of ancient and Bible history or on maps reflecting that time. Flavius Josephus recounts that the Edomites were forced to accept Judaism in the second century B.C.E. Thereafter, with the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 C.E., they ceased to exist as a distinct people.

- \*\*\* rs p. 61 pars. 2-3 Bible \*\*\*
- Prophecy: Jer. 49:17, 18: "Edom must become an object of astonishment. Everyone passing along by her will stare in astonishment and whistle on account of all her plagues. Just as in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and her neighbor towns,' Jehovah has said, 'no man will dwell there." (Jeremiah's recording of prophecies was completed by 580 B.C.E.)
- □ Fulfillment: "They [the Edomites] were driven from Palestine in the 2nd century B.C. by Judas Maccabæus, and in 109 B.C. John Hyrcanus, Maccabæan leader, extended the kingdom of Judah to include the w. part of Edomitic lands. In the 1st century B.C. Roman expansion swept away the last vestige of Edomitic independence . . . After the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. . . . the name Idumæa [Edom] disappeared from history." (The New Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedia, 1952, Vol. 11, p. 4114) Notice that the fulfillment extends down to our day. In no way can it be argued that this prophecy was written after the events had taken place.

(Jeremiah 50:6, 7) 6 My people have become a flock of lost sheep. Their own shepherds caused them to stray. They led them away onto the mountains, roaming from mountain to hill. They have forgotten their resting-place. 7 All those finding them have devoured them, and their enemies have said, 'We are not guilty, because they sinned against Jehovah, against the dwelling place of righteousness and the hope of their forefathers, Jehovah."

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\*\*\* jr chap. 11 p. 137 par. 17 "Shepherds in Agreement With My Heart" \*\*\*

17 If an unwary sheep were to be induced to wander away from the flock, an alert shepherd would be quick to direct it back to safety. (Read Jeremiah 50:6, 7.) Similarly, on occasion an overseer might have to reason firmly but lovingly with ones who are wandering into dangerous situations. For instance, he might note that an engaged couple are spending time together without a chaperone in places where their passions might overwhelm them. A kind and understanding elder could help the couple to avoid such compromising circumstances. While being careful to avoid accusing them, he might highlight possibilities that could lead to conduct that Jehovah hates.

(Jeremiah 50:38, 39) 38 There is a devastation on her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is a land of graven images, And because of their frightful visions they keep acting with madness. 39 Therefore, the desert creatures will dwell with the howling animals, And in her the ostriches will dwell. She will never again be inhabited, Nor will she be a place of residence throughout all generations."

\*\*\* jr chap. 13 p. 161 par. 15 "Jehovah Has Done What He Had in Mind" \*\*\*

15 Jeremiah also prophesied about the end of Egypt's conqueror, Babylon itself. A century before it occurred, Jeremiah accurately predicted the sudden fall of Babylon. How? God's prophet foretold that her protective waters would be "dried up," and her mighty men would not fight. (Jer. 50:38; 51:30) These prophecies were fulfilled in detail when the Medes and the Persians diverted the Euphrates River, waded across its bed, and then entered the city, taking the Babylonians by surprise. You would likely consider equally significant the declaration that the city would become an uninhabited wasteland. (Jer. 50:39