**Jeremiah 41:16-43:13**

***“Going Against The Will Of God”***

Introduction:

1. Are you going against the will of God? You’ve determined what you want to do...

2. Jeremiah 41:16-43:13 It’s not about what I want to do, but “God, what do you want me to do?”

Are you going against the will of God? You’ve determined what you want to do...

**I. THE PROBLEM WITH GOD’S WILL 41:16-18**

To stay in Judah (the center of God’s will) is difficult. It may not be pleasant!

***A. The Determination 16-17***

*Dwelt in the habitation of Chimham…to go to enter Egypt*

***B. The Dread 18***

*Ishmael had slain Gedaliah whom the king had appointed governor.*

The progression is always the same:

1. **Failure…**things hadn’t gone as expected.
2. **Frustration…**life gets hectic.
3. **Fear…**panic…anxiety…something must be done. The problem is BIG!
4. **Flee…**It’s logical. It’s rational. You decide…YOU.

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**II. THE PLAN BEFORE GOD’S WILL 42:1-6**

We can sure sound spiritual when we want God to bless *our* plans!

***A. The Involvement 1***

**1.** *Captains…Johanan…all the people from the least to the greatest*

**2.** It sure looks like they want to know God’s will.

***B. The Interest 2,3***

**1. The Man of God…***Jeremiah*

**2. The Message to God…***Pray! That the Lord, thy God may show us the way…that*

*we may walk…that we may do.*

***C. The Intercession 4-6***

**1.** The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. 4

**2.** Absolute Obedience to what He reveals is essential. 5 They thought that God would

say, “O.K.”

**3.** The determination: whether the stick points to the right or left. 6

*“Good” as I see it. “Bad” is from my perspective. “We will obey.” Amen! That it*

*may be well with us.* They know that God knows best!!

**4. They had four problems:**

\*They didn’t know how to pray.

\*They didn’t know the Word of God.

\*They already had their minds made up before they went to Jeremiah.

\*They weren’t willing to adjust their lives.

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**III. THE PARTICULARS OF GOD’S WILL 42:7-18**

***A. The Upside Of Obedience 7-12***

The upside of staying in Judah was tremendous.

**1. Time 7** *After ten days…*it must have been a long 10 days. The flesh is always

in a hurry. God is never in a hurry. This would have given them time to pray. Time to

get their hearts right. Time to think.

**2. Testimony 8,9**

God does have a will and plan for your life.

**3. Treasures 10-12**

\**If you abide “I will”…build, plant, repent (reverse the curse to blessing).*

\**Be not afraid of the king of Babylon.* They did not see how God would do it!

They wanted the details!

\**I am with you…***that is enough!**

***B. The Downside Of Disobedience 13-18***

*But if you say, “We will not dwell in this land” Saying, “No”*

**1. Obstinate 13-14** Egypt was far from Nebuchadnezzar. They had food and a

good economy.

**2. Oppressed 15-16***Sword…Famine…Death*

**3. Ordained 17-18**

**\****So it shall be….For thus saith the Lord…*

\*Look at the choices. It was a ‘no brainer’!

\*They wanted to do something so badly they couldn’t hear or see or think!

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**IV. THE POINT OF God’s will 42:19-21**

There is an hour of decision. It was an hour before it was too late!

***A. Heard 19*** *Go not into Egypt…*The message enters the ear gate.

***B. Head 19b*** The message hits the thinker. It seems so logical!

***C. Heart 20***

**1.** *You have dissembled in your heart…you have only deceived yourselves.*

**2.** They said the right things but their hearts weren’t in it. *You deceived yourselves.*

**3. It’s easy to fool ourselves when we want something bad enough!**

***D. Heed 21***

**1.** *You have heard, but you will not obey.*

**2.** You want to do what you want to do. God Himself can’t change your mind!

***E. Hurt 22***

**1.** It always hurts to disobey God. **Always!**

**2.** *Die…Sword...Famine…Pestilence* Joy, Hopes, Dreams, Purpose will die in a

hundred different ways!

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**V. THE PROVOKING OF GOD’S WILL 43:1-7**

Obedience (42:6, 13) Disobedience (42:21-43:4, 7) They decided to do what they wanted

to do. Jeremiah didn’t say what they wanted to hear. I must come up with reasons that I

won’t obey. I must justify my actions.

***A. The Excuses 1-3***

**1.** It was not God’s word. Jeremiah is lying. Jeremiah is not sent from God. God

didn’t say ‘Don’t go.’

**2.** As with Eve in the Garden, Satan **Doubts…Distorts…Denies God’s Word.**

**3.** God’s Word is merely man’s words. 3 God’s word is out to hurt us. It is out to

spoil our fun.

***B. The Enactment 4-7***

*Based on popularity*

**1. Popular Opinion 4** *Johanan…forces…all the people*: *Obey not the voice of the Lord.* That

many can’t be wrong. The majority is always wrong when it comes to God’s Word.

**2. Popular Movement 5-7** *So they came into the land of Egypt.* Jeremiah stands alone!

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**VI. THE PERIL OF GOD’S WILL 43:8-13**

Jeremiah is taken to Egypt. Stones become an object lesson. They thought they got what they wanted.

***A. God’s Word Stands 8-9***

How vivid is biblical prophecy: \*Nebuchadnezzar’s invasion of Egypt. \*His victory.

\*The very place he would set his throne. \*The decoration of his throne. \*The lives he would

destroy. \*The temples he would demolish. \*The gods he would capture.

***B. God*’*s Word Suffers 10-11* Judgment…**Consequences follow disobedience. **It hurts to disobey**

**God.**

***C. God’s Word Survives 12-13***

**1.** The gods of this world will fall: *burnt them…carry them…break them.*

**2. The real danger of Egypt was idols.**

**3.** *Love not the world neither the things that are in the world…lust of the eye…lust of the flesh…the*

*pride of life..The world passes away and the lust of it; but he that does the will of God abides*

*forever.(I John 2:16, 17)*

***One day it will all go! The will of God abides forever!***

***Are you going against the will of God?***

***STOP...IT’S NOT WORTH IT!!!***

**Live for that which will last!**