**Jeremiah 4:5-31**

 ***INVITATION REJECTED***

Introduction:

1. The process of revival involves dealing ruthlessly with sin and returning to the Lord with all

 our hearts.

2. What if we don’t?

 *(Hebrews 12:6-11)*

3. In Israel there were two clear indicators of a serious problem in their relationship with God:

 *A. A Lack Of Obedience*

 *B. Idol Worship...COMMON IDOLS OF THE HEART:*

 *Sexual Immorality...Greed...Fear of Man…Love of Money...Relationships...Self Love...*

 *Materialism...*

4. We either respond to the Holy Spirit and repent...OR...God’s increased disciplines will get

 our attention!!

5. Jesus paid the penalty BUT God will and does deal with believers who refuse to repent...some

 consequences may be severe!

6. Repentance Comes Before Forgiveness! When we repent: *Our Mind Changes...Our Heart*

 *Changes...Our Actions Change*

 When God’s People Reject God’s Invitation...*when a nation turns its back on God:*

I. THE PROMISE OF DISCIPLINE 4:5-10

 II. THE PURSUIT OF DISCIPLINE 4:11-18

 III. THE PERPLEXITY OF DISCIPLINE 4:19-22

 IV. THE PAIN OF DISCIPLINE 4:23-31

When God’s people reject God’s invitation...*when a nation turns its back on God*

**I. THE PROMISE OF DISCIPLINE 4:5-10**

*“I will bring evil from the north and destruction...”*

 *A. The Preparation 5*

 When you reject God’s invitation...prepare yourself for God to act!

  *B. The Power 6,7*

Circumstances are overwhelming...there is war and upheaval...reversals...attacks*.*

God may use the lost to accomplish His purpose*.*

 *C. The Purpose 8*

God wants a broken and contrite spirit.

 *D. The Prestige 9*

God doesn’t care who you are...He wants your heart.

 Position means nothing to God, and anyone may be hardened to God’s invitation.

 When you will not respond, life is defeating...confusing...

 *E. The Peace 10*

Watch where you get your message when you will not respond to God’s invitation.

When God’s people reject God’s invitation...*when a nation turns its back on God*

**II. THE PURSUIT OF DISCIPLINE 4:11-18**

*A. The Intensity Of Discipline 11,12*

God’s breath can blow away health...finances...families...to bring us to that place of

 brokenness.

*B. The Insistence Of Discipline 13*

See yourself as you are...as God sees you.

*C. The Instruction Of Discipline 14*

It’s not too late. Repentance and obedience to God reverses the threat of discipline.

 One day it will be too late!!

*D. The Intimidation Of Discipline 15-17*

God is against us, because we are against Him.

*E. The Initiation Of Discipline 18*

We determine blessing or blasting by the choices we make!

When God’s people reject God’s invitation...*when a nation turns its back on God*

**III. THE PERPLEXITY OF DISCIPLINE 4:19-22**

*Jeremiah senses the gravity of the situation.*

 *A. The Distress*

Innocent people often suffer when God is trying to get through.

 Spiritually minded people get it.

 *B. The Destruction 20*

Fellowship with God and obedience to His service always sharpens the sensibilities

 of His servants.

 *C. The Duration 21*

 *“How long?”* As long as they persist in disobeying!

 *D. The Description 22*

God knows all about us...

When God’s people reject God’s invitation...*when a nation turns its back on God*

**IV. THE PAIN OF DISCIPLINE 4:23-31**

*A. God Sees 23-26*

1. God Is Creator...23 Leaving God out leads to chaos, confusion and darkness!

 2. God Is Controller...24 God is BIG!!!

 3. God Is Concluder...25 God doesn’t need us, but He made all this for us!

 4. God Is Completer...26 Leave God out and fruitful places will become a weed patch.

 All of our great works will crumble!

 *B. God Speaks 27-29*

God has purposed grace, but discipline is coming.

 *C. God Surmises 30-31*

*“When you are spoiled, what will you do?”*

The very thing you pursued to bring you pleasure will bring you pain.

Her ‘lovers’ will be unimpressed and will despise her.

***When you walk out on God there is always a price to pay.***

***The price is always greater than you anticipated!***