

You have to convince them that they are not living faith People usually get argumentative and upset They like the life they create for themselves

and they want to believe God is OK with it

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That is where we find Israel at.... comfortable in their sin

Today we are going to "meet" the nation of Judah What we are really going to do is meet their sins

How many people here struggle with sin?

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:37-40

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What if we could do the same for our sin?

The Two Sins of Israel "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."

Jeremiah 2:13

The Two Sins of Israel These are metaphors for Judah's sins Both have to do with water lisions They both start with an action Then they both have a result statement EREMIAH

Forsaken me

Forsaken: abandoned or deserted

Since God is the one speaking here, His problem is that Judah has abandoned and deserted him

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God Remembers (Jeremiah 2:1-4)

What God remembers is even in their disobedience, when things got bad, they came running back to God

lisions

Forsaken the spring of living water A water spring is simply a natural hole in the earth from which water flows out onto the land Many springs in the region are responsible for the bodies of fresh drinking water and wells

God is reminding them that when they chose to walk away from him they chose to walk away from there source of life

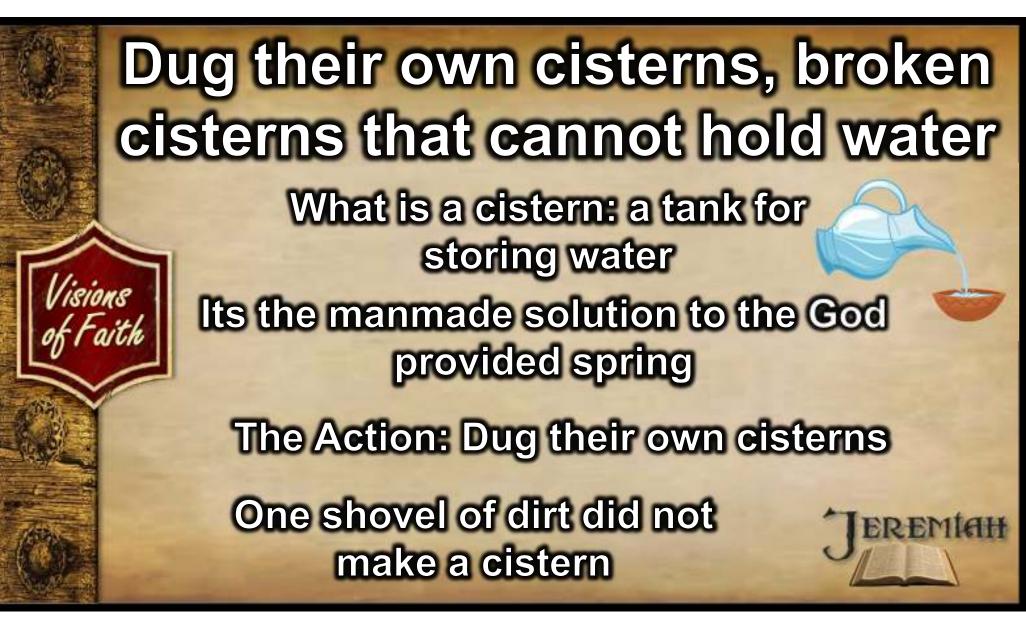
Applying to Us

When God handed out the 10 commandments, the first four had to do with our relationship with him

When Jesus summarized the law in two statements again he started with our relationship with God

In our attempt to hang onto our actions we develop the attitude.... "Who needs God?"

Forsaken me He wants to remind them they (and us) abandoned God, not the other way around, God will remain faithful but at some point you have to choose to come back



It was there own cistern **God not consulted God not considered** God forsaken: (Judges 10:13) lisions But you have forsaken me and served other gods, so I will no longer save you The issue here is how they chose to deal with their EREMIAH **Babylon problem**

The Alliance (v. 18) Now why go to Egypt to drink water from the Nile? And why go to Assyria to drink water from the Euphrates? lisions Instead of going to God they sought alliance the world Its amazing what plans we come up with when we decide EREMIAH to go it alone.

Eventually Assyria and Egypt fall to Babylon Judah's plan did not hold water and they found themselves lisions alone... still they would not go back to God (Jeremiah 3:6-10) EREMIAH

Applying to Us

Problems come, battles are fought and we seek our answers as if there is no God

We may participate in some religious act to pay homage to some tradition

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But the real life problems we dig

And watch our solutions break

We continue to see our "kingdoms" fall

For this is what the Lord says: 'I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends; with your own eyes you will see them fall by the sword of their enemies. I will give all Judah into the hands of the king of Babylon, who will carry them away to Babylon or put them to the sword.

You know what the sad thing is, the voice of God (Jeremiah) called to Judah until the day it fell (Jeremiah 3:14-18)

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VISIONS OF FAITH

JEREMÍAH Two Sins, one choice