

February 20, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Jer. 2:11-13 *Has a nation ever changed its gods? (Yet they are not gods at all.) But My people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols. Be appalled at this, you heavens, and shudder with great horror,” declares the Lord. “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. (NIV)*

I am reminded today of a conversation I had a few years back with a self-proclaimed atheist. He was very proud that he didn't have to bow down to any gods. His confidence was in his worldly learning. He had attained an number of academic degrees and felt he had no need of anything. I wish I could tell you that he heard the gospel and changed his mind. As far as I know, he did not. As I shared the scriptures of the 'good news' with him, he proudly proclaimed that he didn't need any of those things. He was just fine on his own. How could this be true? It reminded me of today's scripture and the words that Jesus speaks to the church of Laodicea in **Rev.3:17** *You say 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' but you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. (NIV)*

The prophet Jeremiah felt the same type of disappointment when he preached repentance to the people of Israel. His message seemed to fall on deaf ears. Like the prodigal son, they wanted what they thought was good and pleasing to the eye, and to self. How wrong they were, and so every person who believes that they do not need the help of the LORD. This picture that the LORD paints here is so very apropos. They had forsaken the Lord and instead, had looked to the things of this world to meet their needs. *they have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.* And that is where this world is headed again. Instead of freedom, we are sliding deeper into captivity.

Dear LORD, I pray that we will come back to You before it is everlastingly too late. You are all that I need. Everything that is eternal and important is found in You alone. I pray for a sweeping revival in this land. In Jesus Name, Amen