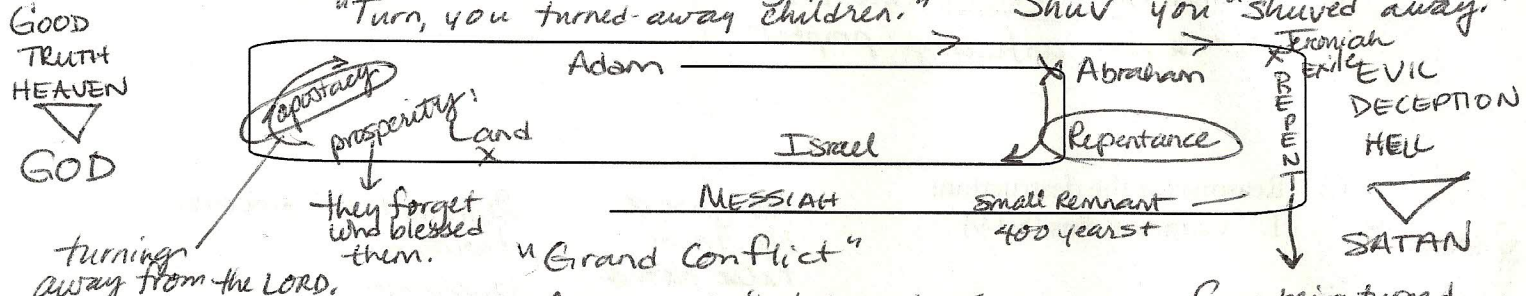


Lesson 2: Jeremiah 3:6-6:30

I. Aspects of True Repentance (3:6-4:4) *Don't hear much about it today.*
 A. It is not to be done in pretense (3:10). *pretense = trying to fool someone.*

B. It involves the guilty party doing something ^{against} their sin against the LORD their God (3:13, 25).
Acknowledge/Admit → Needs to be acknowledged.
Ultimately the offended party.

C. It means (for an apostate people) to _____ from being _____ away from the LORD (3:14, 22).
Wayward; faithless; backsliding



D. Alternatives to apostasy: *Apostasy isn't the "norm" or necessary. Not sinless perfection.*

1. Never straying seriously (having once turned):

2. Cycles of repentance (in miniature):

mini-repentances: quickly dealt with. "I turn from this"

A good story → "defiled by this"

"I've gotten myself into this mess."

E. It involves a fresh realization of the LORD's mercy and kind intentions (3:12b, 15-18).

This leads us to walk His straight & narrow path. Not one "This is a good idea." He is welcoming those who want to be close to Him.

F. It is accompanied by sincere confession of the LORD as the only Source of salvation, in contrast to previous misguided pursuits (3:22b-23).

You are the only way I can be saved. Not pulling up your bootstraps. Relying on Him to rescue & save.

Repentance precedes fulfillment of purpose - destiny.

It includes positive behavioral change (4:1, 3) that facilitates the fulfillment of the LORD's intended destiny for the person/people involved (4:2, Gen 12:2-3).

Not "I'll try to do better." But actual change. Keeping book on shelf. Keeping TV off.

H. Its absence eventually facilitates the unleashing of divine wrath (4:4b). *Keeping computer safe. judgment.*

I. Biblical examples concerning repentance:

He wants us to voluntarily choose Him.

1. Individual: King David - Ps 51 (after being confronted for committing adultery)
 "According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions" *Luke 24: 46-47*

2. Group: The local church at Ephesus - Rev 2:1-7 (after straying from previous devotion)
 "Repent and do the works you did at first... To the one who conquers, I will grant to eat of the tree of life"

3. Nation: King Josiah re. Judah - 2 Kg 22:8 - 23:27 (after Book of the Law was discovered)
 "Great is the wrath of the LORD... because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this book"

Death/Resurrection
 Repentance & forgiveness of sins led proclaimed.

