THE MESSAGE OF HULDAH THE PROPHETESS

2 Kings 22:15&16a She said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel says: Tell the man who sent you to me, ‘This is what the LORD says,..’ ”

Background

2 Kings 21:10-12 The LORD said through his servants the prophets: “Manasseh king of Judah has committed these detestable sins. He has done more evil than the Amorites who preceded him and has led Judah into sin with his idols. Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I am going to bring such disaster on Jerusalem and Judah that the ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.”

2 Kings 21:13-15 “I will stretch out over Jerusalem the measuring line used against Samaria and the plumb line used against the house of Ahab. I will wipe out Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. I will forsake the remnant of my inheritance and give them into the hands of enemies. They will be looted and plundered by all their enemies; they have done evil in my eyes and have aroused my anger from the day their ancestors came out of Egypt until this day.

2 Kings 21:16 Moreover, Manasseh also shed so much innocent blood that he filled Jerusalem from end to end – besides the sin that he had caused Judah to commit, so that they did evil in the eyes of the LORD.

2 Kings 21:6 He sacrificed his own son in the fire, practiced divination, sought omens, and consulted mediums and spiritists, He did much evil in the eyes of the LORD, arousing his anger.

The Book of the Law Found

2 Kings 22:8-10 Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, “I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD.” He gave it to Shaphan, who read it. Then Shaphan the secretary went to the king and reported to him…"Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

Josiah Repents

2 Kings 22:11-13 When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his robes. He gave these orders... “Go and inquire of the LORD for me and for the people and for all Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the LORD’s anger that burns against us because those who have gone before us have not obeyed the words of this book; they have not acted in accordance with all that is written there concerning us.”

The Message of Huldah the Prophetess

2 Kings 22:14(ESV) So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe (now she lived in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter), and they talked with her.

2 Kings 22:15-17 She said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel says: Tell the man who sent you to me, ‘This is what the LORD says: I am going to bring disaster on this place and its people, according to everything written in the book the king of Judah has read. Because they have forsaken me and burned incense to other gods and aroused my anger by all the idols their hands have made, my anger will burn against this place and will not be quenched.’”

2 Kings 22:18-20 “Tell the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, ‘This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says concerning the words you heard: Because your heart was responsive and you humbled yourself before the LORD when you heard what I have spoken against this place and its people – that they should become a curse and be laid waste – and because you tore your robes and wept in my presence, I also have heard you, declares the LORD. Therefore I will gather you to your ancestors, and you will be buried in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster I am going to bring on this place.’” So they took her answer back to the king.

Are There Women Prophets Today?

Exodus 6:30-7:2 But Moses said to the LORD, “Since I speak with faltering lips, why would Pharaoh listen to me?” Then the LORD said to Moses, “See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet. You are to say everything I command you, and your brother Aaron is to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his country.”

I Corinthians 14:31(ESV) For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged.

Acts 2:17&18 “’In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

I Thessalonians 5:19-22 Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

Acts 17:11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Does Huldah’s Message Apply Today?

With the current rate of abortions and even perinatal abortions, with the promotion of lifestyles the Bible labels as sinful and with the rising influence of witchcraft, paganism, and the occult in our culture, we may have, like Judah, reached the point where judgment is inevitable.

Jeremiah 18:7&8 “If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned.”

But does that mean that judgment cannot be delayed even if it is totally deserved? Jonah was sent to Nineveh to announce that Nineveh would be destroyed in 40 days. Nineveh repented, and they were spared for about 150 years. Ahab was warned of judgment, but repented, and the judgment came after he died. Josiah is told that because he repented, the promised judgment will not come in his lifetime.

Two Opposing Extremes

We are in the apostasy predicted for the last days. Judgment is inevitable and there is nothing we can do about it.

Scripture predicts that God will pour out His Spirit on all flesh in the last days and we just need to hold on until it happens.

Matthew 24:12-14 “Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

How Should We Then Live?

Do not be surprised at the increase of wickedness and that the love of most is growing cold.

Realize that we are living in the greatest advance in the proclamation of the Gospel to every “tribe and language and people and nation” since the First Century, and that this increase in missionary activity has largely been fueled by “revivals” or “awakenings.”

Accept the reality that as a nation we are in the shape spiritually that we are in because of the failure of the church collectively and us individually to be salt and light.

Choose to become part of the solution, not part of the problem.