

# The Lord our Righteousness

Jeremiah 23:1-6

# Intro:

- The Names of God
  - Expressions of His heart and insight to His ways
  - Even in our worst situations, His Name comes to us
  - This is why Jesus is such a source of peace...
  - The NAME and the WORD INCARNATE!
- We turn today to Jeremiah's time
  - Days of sin and national moral decay – Jer 1:1,2
  - Kings Josiah, Jehoiakim, Zedekiah (640-586 BC)
  - Daniel taken in 605 BC; Ezekiel & 10,000 in 597 BC
  - Jerusalem will be destroyed in 586... Jeremiah sees it all
  - But, the worst of it, was not the city, but the hearts...
  - And so a NEW name of God is given...

# I. The need for the name

- Woe to the shepherds – leaders of the country here...
  - The kings had “destroyed and scattered” (1,2)
  - Prophets and priests “polluted” (11)
  - Land full of adulterers (10) spiritual and otherwise
  - There was no one to stand in the gap (Ezk 22:30)
  - The Scribes and Pharisees had done the same (Mt 23)
- What about us?
  - We need the “change” of our nature!
  - Sin has brought pain, defeat, fear and disappointment
  - Eph 2 – dead, enslaved, condemned – children of wrath!
  - This is the position of all outside Christ!
  - What are our real needs?

## II. The Promise of the Name

- I Myself will:
  - Gather the people and bring them back to be fruitful (3)
  - Raise up shepherds (leaders) who will tend (4)
  - Take fear, terror, wandering tendencies away
  - Raise up FOR DAVID a righteous BRANCH (5) [*tsaddiyq*]
  - He will reign and do justice and righteousness [*tsadaqah*]
  - Judah and Israel restored and secure (6)
  - This is HIS NAME – *Yehovah Tsidqenuw* (see 33:13-18)
- Only God can do these things for us
  - His righteousness flows from His Holiness... only Him!

# III. The results of the Name

- What righteousness is not:
  - Isa 64: 6 For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; And all of us wither like a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. (NOT OUR PLANS/ACTIONS)
  - Job 15: 14 "What is man, that he should be pure, Or he who is born of a woman, that he should be righteous? (NOT BIRTH)
  - Gal 2: 21 "I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."
  - Php 3: 9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, (NOT BY LAW)

# III. The results of the Name

- What righteousness is:
  - Isa 54:17 "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their vindication [*tsadaqah*] is from Me," declares the LORD.
  - Rom 3:22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;
  - 1Co 1:30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,
  - 2Co 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
  - Php 3:9 ¶ and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,

# Applications:

- The people needed deliverance from Egypt
- The people needed deliverance from Babylon
- The people needed deliverance from THEMSELVES!
- All the pain, sin, fear, failure is nailed to the Cross
- Righteousness is in HIM and HIM ALONE
  - Not “bean counting” our sins
  - Thru the cross to the empty tomb to HIS THRONE (Ep 1,2)
- Behold, the days are coming...!
  - Seek His presence
  - Seek His Face
  - Seek His Kingdom’s rule and reign