

chapel 2/5/74 Jeremiah

But a life that was in line with God's purposes ~~from~~ for him.

Now these prophets were not men of iron. These prophets were not puppets that God simply sent out and they went and gave a message and went somewhere else and there was no feeling in them. We have more of a picture of Jeremiah's inner feelings than we have of any other writer perhaps, certainly of any other prophet who wrote a book of the OT. We find how keenly Jer. felt these situations.

Look at Jer. 15:15-18. Jer. says: "O Lord thou knowest, remember me and visit me and revenge me of my persecuters, take me not away (reading text) . . . ." And in ch. 20 we find Jer. even going to the extent of wishing he had never been born. Jer. 20:14-18 we read (reading text . . . . .) What a picture of the way that Jer. felt. What a picture of the way the Lord feels when His people put their own objectives and their own purposes instead of seeking to follow Him and to do what He wants them to do. We find a very interesting vs. in this same 20th chapter. Vs. 7 Jeremiah cries out: "O Lord thou hast deceived me and I was deceived, thou art stronger than I and hast prevailed. I am in derision daily, everyone maketh me mooketh me." Now what do you do with a vs. like this? "Thou has deceived me and I was deceived." Does God deceive people? Does God tell people lies? Well, of course for any of you who have had Heb. you already know the answer. You look in the Heb. and find what the word is and you find the word is patha (?). You can look in your dictionary and it will say: Deceive, entice, persuade. But the way to find out what a word means is not to look in a dictionary and see what Eng. word they put opposite to it, because no Heb. word exactly corresponds to an Eng. word. We want to find what the real meaning of this word is. So we look at the various uses of it. I personally find the very quickest and most convenient way to do this is to use the Englishman's Hebrew Concordance of the OT, because in it we find all the Heb. words placed, and then after them we find all the passages where they occur with the context in the Eng.