Lecture 17 – The Role of Jeremiah

For men are not cast off by the Lord forever. Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. Lamentations 3:31-32

Key Terms
Assurance, monarchy, covenant, shepherds

Objective
To evaluate the role of Jeremiah in the context of God’s covenant relationship with His people

The Role of Jeremiah
I. Introductory Comments
   A. Davidic epoch
   B. Time
   C. Experiences
   D. Character

II. Proclamation: “Too Late!”
   A. No king; harvest is past (Jeremiah 8:18-22)
   B. Two main periods in prophetism (Vos, pp. 189-190)
      1. Samuel to 750 B.C.: Repent, convert, reconstruct
      2. 750-600 B.C.: Not repair but regeneration; replace Mosaic theocracy, make room for new
   C. Jeremiah’s emphasis: changing gods (Jeremiah 2:9-14)
      1. Monarchy is finished
      2. Curse of covenant unavoidable
      3. Blessings of covenant assured in regenerated environment

III. Key Passages
   A. Jeremiah 3:1-25
      1. Yahweh’s joy (Jeremiah 2:2, 3)
      2. Question: Take back a divorced wife? (Jeremiah 3:1)
      3. Assurance
         a. I am your husband (Jeremiah 3:11-14)
         b. I am with you, no Ark of the Covenant needed (Jeremiah 2:16)
         c. Shepherds after Yahweh’s heart (Jeremiah 3:15)
         d. Jerusalem the throne – all nations there (Jeremiah 3:17)
         e. Cure backsliding (Jeremiah 3:22)
   B. Jeremiah 11:1-17
      1. Curse of Mosaic covenant (Jeremiah 11:1-8), disaster decreed (Jeremiah 11:17)
      2. Covenant broken (Jeremiah 11:9-13)
      3. Do not intercede for them (Jeremiah 11:14)
   C. Jeremiah 23:1-8
      1. Faithless shepherds – Davidic descendents (verses 1-2)
      2. Yahweh the true shepherd (verse 3)
      3. Faithful shepherds (verse 4)
      4. The royal, righteous shepherd (verses 5-6)
      5. Restored people (verses 7-8)
   D. Jeremiah 31 and 33
      1. Robertson on broader context of Jeremiah 31:31-34 (pp. 273-278)
2. Robertson’s exegetical observations
3. Jeremiah 33:14-22 (*the following points are not on the CD lecture, but are included for your benefit*)
   a. Davidic house restored (Jeremiah 33:14-18)
   b. Assurance regarding Davidic house (Jeremiah 33:19-22)
   c. Assurance regarding covenant with patriarchs (Jeremiah 33:25, 26)