Confirmation Class

Week 17 – The Prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah 31

23 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "***When I bring them back from captivity,*** the people in the land of Judah and in its towns will once again use these words: 'The LORD bless you, O righteous dwelling, O sacred mountain.'
24 People will live together in Judah and all its towns--farmers and those who move about with their flocks.
25 ***I will*** refresh the weary and satisfy the faint."
26 At this I awoke and looked around. My sleep had been pleasant to me.
27 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when ***I will*** plant the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the offspring of men and of animals.
28 Just as I watched over them to uproot and tear down, and to overthrow, destroy and bring disaster, so ***I will*** watch over them to build and to plant," declares the LORD.
29 "In those days people will no longer say, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.'
30 Instead, everyone will die for his own sin; whoever eats sour grapes--his own teeth will be set on edge.
31 "The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when ***I will*** make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.
32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when ***I took*** them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, " declares the LORD.
33 "This is the covenant ***I will*** make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "***I will*** put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. ***I will*** be their God, and they will be my people.
34 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For ***I will*** forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."
35 This is what the LORD says, he who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar- - the LORD Almighty is his name:
36 "Only if these decrees vanish from my sight," declares the LORD, "will the descendants of Israel ever cease to be a nation before me."
37 This is what the LORD says: "Only if the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth below be searched out will I reject all the descendants of Israel because of all they have done," declares the LORD.
38 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when this city will be rebuilt for me from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate.

Who is Jeremiah? What was Jeremiah's occupation?" Where might you possibly find out this information?

What is the importance of the phrases "This is what the Lord says," and "declares the Lord.?"

Whose sin do we die for?

How do we come to know God's will? Do you need someone else to teach you? Why or why not? How does having a teacher help or hinder?

Who takes the actions intended to save the people?

What things does God do for the people? Is this a hopeful or threatening message?

What is our right response to the actions of God? How is this response express in our lives?

Homework: Choose a prophet and write a biography about the prophet and his writing. Answer the following questions; When was he a prophet, where did he come from, who did he prophesize to, what was the central point of his message, what if any were the sins of Israel or Judah he warned the people about, when do scholars think the book was written?