

Jeremiah 26:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God; and the LORD will repent him of the evil that he hath pronounced against you.

Analysis

Jeremiah calls the people to 'amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God.' This represents genuine repentance - not merely feeling sorry but changing behavior. The promise 'the LORD will repent him of the evil' shows God's readiness to show mercy upon repentance. But repentance must be real, not superficial.

Historical Context

This call to amendment comes after the death sentence is pronounced. Even at the last moment, genuine repentance could avert judgment.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What's the difference between regret and genuine repentance?
2. How does God's readiness to 'repent of the evil' demonstrate His mercy?

Interlinear Text

וְעַתָּה ה	הֵיטֵב יִבּוּ	דְּרָכֵיכֶם	וּמַעַלְלֵיכֶם	וְשָׁמַע ו	בֶּקֶוּל
H6258	Therefore now amend	your ways	and your doings	and obey	the voice
	H3190	H1870	H4611	H8085	H6963
וְיְהוָה ה	אֱלֹהֵיכֶם	וְיִנָּח	וְיְהוָה ה	אֵל	הָרָע ה
and the LORD	your God	will repent	and the LORD	H413	him of the evil
H3068	H430	H5162	H3068		H7451
אָשָׁר	דָּבָר	שָׁלִיכֶם:			
H834	that he hath pronounced	H5921			
	H1696				

Additional Cross-References

Jonah 3:9 (Repentance): Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

Isaiah 1:19 (Parallel theme): If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

Jeremiah 26:3 (Repentance): If so be they will hearken, and turn every man from his evil way, that I may repent me of the evil, which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings.

Jeremiah 26:19 (Repentance): Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him at all to death? did he not fear the LORD, and besought the LORD, and the LORD repented him of the evil which he had pronounced against them? Thus might we procure great evil against our souls.

Jeremiah 35:15 (Evil): I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, Return ye now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers: but ye have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me.

Jeremiah 18:8 (Repentance): If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.

Jonah 4:2 (Repentance): And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

Joel 2:14 (Repentance): Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

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