

# Jeremiah 29:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the LORD, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; but ye would not hear, saith the LORD.

## Analysis

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**Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the LORD**—The Hebrew שָׁמָע (shama, hearkened) means more than hearing—it means obedient listening. Israel's covenant rebellion wasn't ignorance but willful disobedience. This indicts not just Jerusalem's remnant but the exiles who clung to false prophets instead of Jeremiah's hard word.

**Which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them**—This poignant phrase (רָאָה וְשָׁלַח, hashkem veshaloch, literally 'rising early and sending') appears twelve times in Jeremiah (7:13, 25; 11:7; 25:3-4; 26:5; 29:19; 32:33; 35:14-15; 44:4), portraying God as diligent father urgently warning rebellious children. God sent prophets persistently, early—yet **ye would not hear**. The tragedy of judgment is that it's entirely preventable but willfully chosen.

## Historical Context

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From Isaiah through Jeremiah, God sent prophets for over 150 years warning Judah to repent. This 'rising early' language emphasizes divine patience exhausted. The exile wasn't divine cruelty but the natural consequence of persistent covenant rebellion after centuries of patient warning (2 Chr 36:15-16).

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. What does 'rising early and sending' reveal about God's character and His grief over judgment?
2. How do you respond when God's word contradicts what you want to hear? Do you heed or seek other voices?
3. In what ways does God still 'rise early' to warn His people today? What messengers does He send?

## Interlinear Text

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תַּחַת      אֲשֶׁר      לֹא      שָׁמְעוּתָם      אֶל      דְּבַר י'      נֹאמַם  
H8478      H834      H3808      H8085      H413      H1697      H5002  
**Because they have not hearkened**      **to my words**      **saith**

יְהוָה:      אֲשֶׁר      וְשָׁלַח      אֶת      אֲלֵיהֶם      עֲבָדַי י'       
the LORD      H834      and sending      H413      H854      unto them by my servants  
H3068      H7971      H5650

הַנְּבִיאִים      הֶשֶׁבַע      וְשָׁלַח      וְלֹא      שָׁמְעוּתָם  
the prophets      rising up early      and sending      H3808      Because they have not hearkened  
H5030      H7925      H7971      H8085

נֹאמַם      יְהוָה:  
saith      the LORD  
H5002      H3068

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 6:19** (Word): Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.

**Jeremiah 26:5** (Word): To hearken to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I sent unto you, both rising up early, and sending them, but ye have not hearkened;

**Hebrews 12:25** (Parallel theme): See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:

**Jeremiah 32:33** (Sin): And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.

**Jeremiah 34:17** (Word): Therefore thus saith the LORD; Ye have not hearkened unto me, in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother, and every man to his neighbour: behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, saith the LORD, to the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine; and I will make you to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

**Jeremiah 7:13** (Sin): And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the LORD, and I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not; and I called you, but ye answered not;