

Jeremiah 43:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then spake Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, Thou speakest falsely: the LORD our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there:

Analysis

Azariah and Johanan refuse God's clear word, accusing Jeremiah of speaking falsely under Baruch's influence. This illustrates the heart's ability to reject truth by impugning the messenger. They asked for God's word (42:2-3), pledged to obey (42:6), but reject it when it contradicts their desires. Unbelief always finds excuses to dismiss God's word.

Historical Context

They blamed Baruch, Jeremiah's scribe, for supposedly manipulating the prophet. This conspiracy theory allowed them to rationalize disobedience to clear divine direction.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do you rationalize away God's word when it contradicts your desires?
2. What defense mechanisms do you use to dismiss biblical teaching you don't want to follow?

Interlinear Text

קָרְאָה בֶן יְהוֹשָׁעְיָה וְיְהוֹחָנָן בֶן בָּנָי הַלְּאָמָר
Then spake Azariah the son of Hoshiah and Johanan the son of Kareah
H559 H5838 H1121 H1955 H3110 H1121 H7143

שְׁלָמִים יְמִינֵי הַנְּאָגָשׁ יְמִינֵי וְכֵל
and all the proud Then spake unto Jeremiah falsely
H3605 H376 H2086 H559 H413 H3414 H8267

לְאָמָר אֱלֹהִים יְכוֹנֵן מִדְבָּר אֶת הַלְּאָמָר
Thou speakest hath not sent the LORD our God Then spake
H859 H1696 H3808 H7971 H3068 H430 H559

לֹא תָּבִא מִצְרָיָם לְגַוְתָּר שְׁמָמָן
Go not into Egypt to sojourn
H3808 H935 H4714 H1481 H8033

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 7:9 (Parallel theme): And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.

2 Chronicles 36:13 (References God): And he also rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God: but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel.

Proverbs 16:5 (References Lord): Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

Jeremiah 42:1 (Parallel theme): Then all the captains of the forces, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least even unto the greatest, came near,

Jeremiah 40:8 (Parallel theme): Then they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan and Jonathan the sons of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Jezaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

Jeremiah 13:15 (References Lord): Hear ye, and give ear; be not proud: for the LORD hath spoken.

Jeremiah 43:1 (References God): And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking unto all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words,

James 4:6 (References God): But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

1 Peter 5:5 (References God): Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.