

# Jeremiah 44:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Jeremiah said unto all the people, to the men, and to the women, and to all the people which had given him that answer, saying,

## Analysis

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**Then Jeremiah said unto all the people** (וַיֹּאמֶר יִרְמְיָהוּ אֶל-כָּל-הָעָם)—The prophet addresses **the men, and to the women** (אֶל-הַגְּבָרִים וְאֶל-הַנָּשִׁים) equally, dismantling their attempt to divide responsibility. **All the people which had given him that answer** (כָּל-הָעָם הַמְּשִׁיבִים אֹתוֹ) indicates this defiant response was collective, not individual dissent.

This verse serves as a transition to Jeremiah's devastating rebuttal (vv.21-23). Rather than being silenced by their united opposition, the prophet confronts the entire community. The structure demonstrates God's word doesn't retreat before human consensus—truth remains authoritative regardless of popular rejection. When the multitude agrees in error, the solitary prophet must still declare divine verdict.

## Historical Context

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This confrontation occurred at a public gathering in Egypt, likely Pathros (v.15), probably around 582-580 BC. Jeremiah, now elderly and nearing the end of his ministry, faces a community that has collectively rejected everything he's preached for 40+ years. Yet he doesn't soften the message to accommodate their hardness.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. Why must truth-speakers persist in declaring God's word even when facing unanimous opposition?
2. How does addressing both genders equally emphasize universal accountability before God?
3. What gives a prophet courage to stand alone against an entire community's consensus?

## Interlinear Text

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לֵאמֹר:	יְרֵמִיָּה הוּא	אֵל	כָּל	הָעָם	עַל	הַגָּבֹרִים	יְעַל
said	Then Jeremiah			and to all the people		to the men	
H559	H3414	H413	H3605	H5971	H5921	H1397	H5921
	הַנָּשִׁים	יְעַל	כָּל	הָעָם	אֶת וְ	הָעָם	יְעַל
and to the women				and to all the people			
H802	H5921	H3605	H5971	H6030	H853		
	דָּבָר	לֵאמֹר:					
which had given him that answer		said					
H1697		H559					