Jeremiah – Part 6

Symbolic Acts

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. Today we are beginning a new series of studies on the book of the prophet Jeremiah. Our topic today: Symbolic Acts

Scripture Theme Song: "For I know the thoughts" (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

1) The Bible is filled with symbols
   a) The sacrifice of a spotless lamb
      i) Genesis 4:3-7
      ii) Why was one sacrifice accepted and not the other? (John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:19)
   b) The bronze serpent
      i) Numbers 21:4-7
      ii) John 12:32; John 3:14-16
   c) The earthly sanctuary
      i) Exodus 25:8
      ii) Hebrews 8:1-6
2) Symbols is the prophetic ministry of Jeremiah
   a) The Potter and the Clay – Jeremiah 18:1-10
      i) Genesis 2:7
      ii) Isaiah 29:16
      iii) Isaiah 45:9
      iv) Isaiah 64:8
      v) What common message do you hear in these references to the Potter and the clay?
      vi) How can we learn to trust our lives into the hands of God to shape and form us according to His will?
   b) Smashing the earthen flask – Jeremiah 19:1-2, 10
      i) What message was conveyed by smashing the earthen flask? Jeremiah 19:11
      ii) Why was this word of judgment given? Jeremiah 19:4-5
      iii) Why does the LORD instruct the prophet Jeremiah to use such a startling illustration?
      iv) What other examples do we find in Scripture of God using startling illustrations to catch the attention of those present?
         (1) Exodus 3:1-2
         (2) Exodus 19:16-20
         (3) 1 Kings 18:36-39
         (4) John 2:13-17
         (5) Why does God resort to such startling illustrations?
      v) Share a time when God did something startling to catch your attention.
   c) Wearing and burying the linen sash – Jer. 13:1-11
      i) Jer. 13:1-2 – is this actually happening or is Jeremiah in vision? (Ezra 7:9 - 4 months journey)
      ii) Jeremiah 13:3-5
      iii) Jeremiah 13:6-11 (see also Matthew 23:37)
      iv) Many still reject the God's invitation to experience an intimate relationship with Him. Why? Is there anything we can do to change their minds?