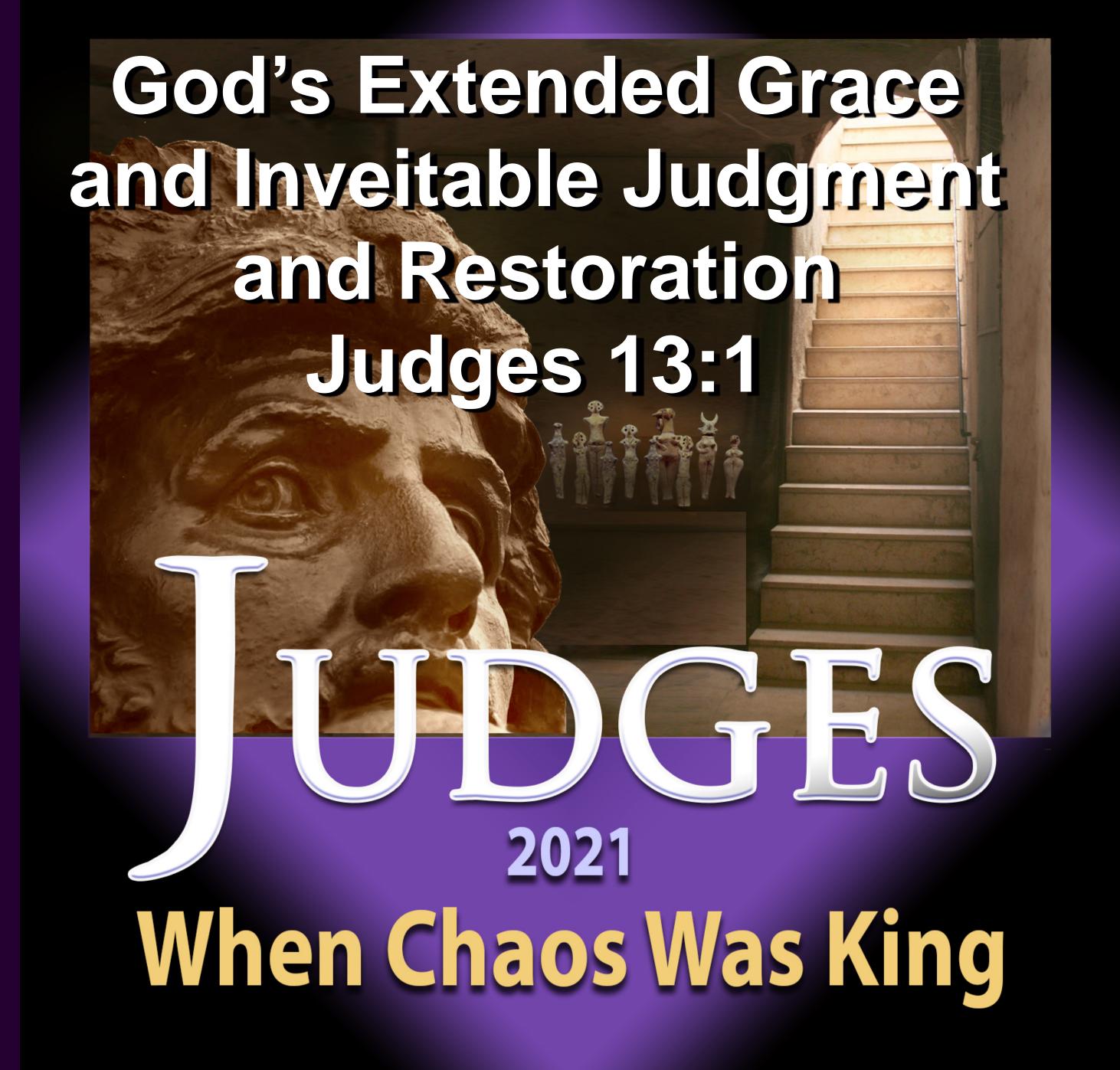
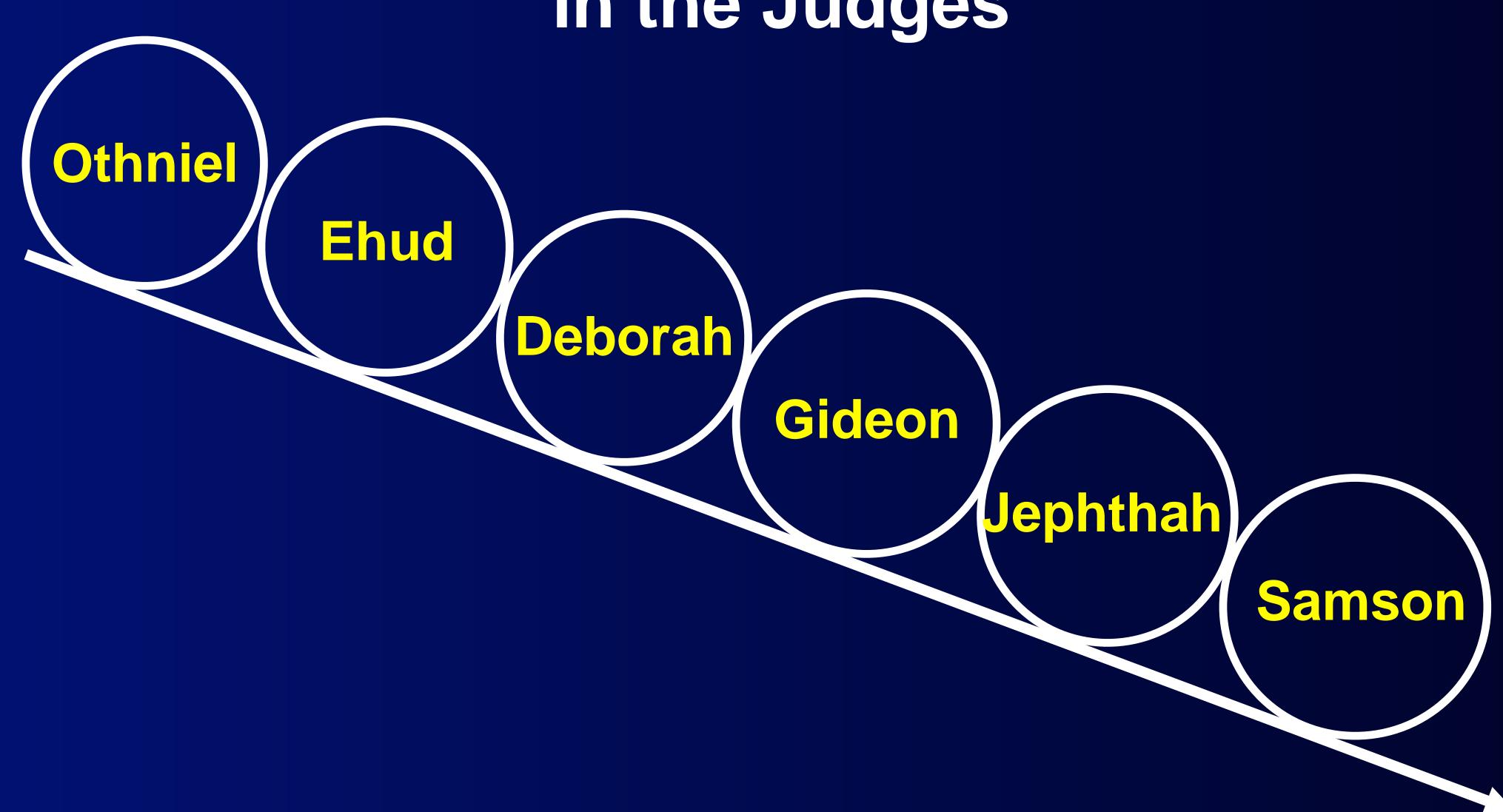
Judges Series
Lesson #81
December 13, 2022

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Deterioration of Positive Volition in the Judges



Jeremiah began his ministry under the young King Josiah	627 BC
Josiah killed in battle at Megiddo	609 BC
Nebuchadnezzar defeats the Assyrians and the Egyptians at Carchemish	605 BC
First deportation of exiles, including Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah	
Second deportation of exiles to Babylon	597 BC
Fall of Jerusalem	586 BC

rail of Jerusalem

200 DC

Jer. 11:1, "The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

Jer. 11:2, "Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

Jer. 11:3, " 'and say to them, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Cursed is the man who does not obey the words of this covenant

Jer. 11:4, "'"'which I commanded your fathers in the day I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, "Obey My voice, and do according to all that I command you; so shall you be My people, and I will be your God,"'"'"~NKJV

Jer. 11:5, "'"'"that I may establish the oath which I have sworn to your fathers, to give them 'a land flowing with milk and honey,' as it is this day."'" And I answered and said, 'So be it, Lord.'

Jer. 11:6, "Then the Lord said to me, 'Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying: "Hear the words of this covenant and do them.

Jer. 11:7, " '"For I earnestly exhorted your fathers in the day I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, until this day, rising early and exhorting, saying, 'Obey My voice.' " '" ~NKJV

Jer. 11:8, " ' "Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but everyone followed the dictates of his evil heart; therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do, but which they have not done." '

Jer. 11:9, "And the Lord said to me, 'A conspiracy has been found among the men of Judah and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Jer. 11:10, "'They have turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers who refused to hear My words, and they have gone after other gods to serve them; the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken My covenant which I made with their fathers.'" ~NKJV

Blessings in Lev. 26:1ff

Lev. 26:3, "If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them,

Lev. 26:4, "then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit."

Lev. 26:6, "I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make you afraid; I will rid the land of evil beasts, and the sword will not go through your land.

Lev. 26:7, "You will chase your enemies, and they shall fall by the sword before you.

Lev. 26:8, "Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight; your enemies shall fall by the sword before you.

Lev. 26:9, "For I will look on you favorably and make you fruitful, multiply you and confirm My covenant with you."

The Five Cycles or Stages of Divine Discipline

- 1. These are only for Israel.
 - a. Both the blessings and the judgments are the concluding warnings in the Mosaic Covenant which was between God and Israel and is not relevant to Gentile nations or to nations in the Church Age.

The Five Cycles or Stages of Divine Discipline

- 1. These are only for Israel.
 - b. Though there may be similarities in the sense of implications, it is wrong to apply the Mosaic Law (ML) to Gentiles or the Church Age. Nothing unique to the ML was ever the basis for divine judgment on Gentile nations in the dispensation of the Mosaic Law.

2. The five cycles.

The first cycle of discipline, Lev. 26:14–17

Lev. 26:16, "I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

Lev. 26:17, "I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you."

2. The five stages.

The first stage of discipline, Lev. 26:14–17

- Increasing terror over plagues, pandemics, disease, which without the Word leads to fear, despair, sorrow, and depression.
- Military conquest and theft of agricultural produce.
- God becomes Israel's enemy and sets Himself against them.
- Fear and panic reign, the people flee at imaginary threats.
- All of these destroy their peace and stability in the LAND!

b. The second stage of discipline, Lev. 26:18–20

Lev. 26:18, "And after all this, if you do not obey Me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. Lev. 26:19, "I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. Lev. 26:20, "And your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit."

b. The second stage of discipline, Lev. 26:18–20

- Seven-fold intensification of divine discipline.
- God will break their pride.
- Drought and famine will come.
- No matter how much they try, their economic recovery will be in vain.

c. The third stage of discipline, Lev. 26:21–22

Lev. 26:21, "Then, if you walk contrary to Me, and are not willing to obey Me, I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins.

Lev. 26:22, "I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, destroy your livestock, and make you few in number; and your highways shall be desolate."

c. The third stage of discipline, Lev. 26:21–22

- Another seven-fold intensification of divine discipline.
- Multiplication of carnivorous wild animals which will attack and destroy their children, domestic livestock, and take the lives of many leaving their roads bare of travelers, which indicates a loss of trade and business.

d. Fourth stage of divine discipline, Lev. 26:23–26

Lev. 26:24, "then I also will walk contrary to you, and I will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

Lev. 26:25, "And I will bring a sword against you that will execute the vengeance of the covenant; when you are gathered together within your cities I will send pestilence among you; and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.

Lev. 26:26, "When I have cut off your supply of bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall bring back your bread by weight, and you shall eat and not be satisfied."

d. Fourth stage of divine discipline, Lev. 26:23–26

- Military defeat as seen in each of the Judges cycles.
- An increase in disease, plague, pandemic.
- Economic recession, depression, collapse.
- Increasing divorce from reality, as seen in worshipping false gods (demons) leads to the inability to make wise decisions, and the resulting bad decisions bring selfinduced misery.

- e. The fifth stage of discipline, Lev. 26:27–38
 - Another seven-fold intensification of suffering.
 - Parents will cannibalize their own children in order to survive (Lev. 26:29).
 - God will destroy their pagan altars and cast their lifeless carcasses on their idols (Lev. 26:30).
 - Cities will be laid waste, pagan temples destroyed (Lev. 26:31).
 - Their enemies will take over their land (Lev. 16:32).
 - They will be removed from the Promised Land and scattered among the nations (Lev. 16:33).

The offer of grace, forgiveness, and restoration.

Lev. 26:40, "But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers, with their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to Me, and that they also have walked contrary to Me,

Lev. 26:41, "and that I also have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt—

Lev. 26:42, "then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and My covenant with Isaac and My covenant with Abraham I will remember; I will remember the land."

The offer of grace, forgiveness, and restoration.

Lev. 26:43, "The land also shall be left empty by them, and will enjoy its sabbaths while it lies desolate without them; they will accept their guilt, because they despised My judgments and because their soul abhorred My statutes."

In Deuteronomy the Blessings:

Deut. 28:1, "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

Deut. 28:2, "And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God:

<u>Deut. 28:3</u>, "Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.

Deut. 28:4, "Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks."

In Deuteronomy the Blessings:

<u>Deut. 28:11</u>, "And the LORD will grant you plenty of goods, <u>in</u> the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you.

<u>Deut. 28:12</u>, "The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow."

The Judgments in Deut. 28

Deut. 28:15, "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:

<u>Deut. 28:16</u>, "Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country."

<u>Deut. 28:18</u>, "<u>Cursed shall be the fruit of your body</u> and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks."

The Judgments in Deut. 28

<u>Deut. 28:32</u>, "Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people, and your eyes shall look and fail with longing for them all day long; and there shall be no strength in your hand.

Deut. 28:33, "A nation whom you have not known shall eat the fruit of your land and the produce of your labor, and you shall be only oppressed and crushed continually." Deut. 28:46, "And they shall be upon you for a sign and a wonder, and on your descendants forever.

<u>Deut. 28:47</u>, "Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything,"

The Judgments in Deut. 28

<u>Deut. 28:53</u>, "You shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters whom the LORD your God has given you, in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you."

<u>Deut. 28:64</u>, "Then the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other gods, which neither you nor your fathers have known—wood and stone.

<u>Deut. 28:65</u>, "And among those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul."

Yhwh's Promise of Grace

<u>Deut. 30:1</u>, "Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and <u>you call them to mind</u> among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you,

<u>Deut. 30:2</u>, "and <u>you return</u> to the LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul,

<u>Deut. 30:3</u>, "that the LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you."

Yhwh's Promise of Grace

<u>Deut. 30:4</u>, "If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you.

<u>Deut. 30:5</u>, "Then the LORD your God will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers."

Jer. 7:23, "But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.'

Jer. 7:24, "Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward." ~NKJV

Jer. 7:25, "Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.

Jer. 7:26, "Yet they did not obey Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers." ~NKJV

Jer. 9:24, "'But let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,' says the LORD."

Heb. 12:5, "And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: 'My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

Heb. 12:6, "'For whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives."