

A Sense of Entitlement



The Attitude of Israel in Jeremiah ch.2

“You Owe Me...”



- ☞ Making national headlines this week is story of Rachel Canning who is suing her parents, accusing them of tossing her out of the family home when she turned 18 and refusing to pay for her private high school and college education.
- ☞ Do we ever feel entitled to God’s grace, as if He owes us? That is exactly the attitude of Israel found in *Jeremiah 2.*

Passing the Blame



- ❧ God had been nothing but kind and generous in His dealings with Israel (*Jeremiah 2:4-13; 5:7-9*).
- ❧ Ultimately they had no one to blame but themselves (*Jeremiah 2:14-19*).
- ❧ Many today excuse their bad attitudes or actions by pointing to:
 - ❧ Supposed or real parental failure
 - ❧ Lack of advantages growing up
 - ❧ Society as a whole has failed them
 - ❧ Genetics

A Lack of Guilt



- ✧ Israel seemed completely unwilling to own up to their sins (*Jeremiah 2:22-23; 31-35*).
- ✧ Israel acted as if God was obligated to protect and provide for them simply because they were His people (*Jeremiah 7:1-10*).
- ✧ God is not served by human hands and doesn't need anything from us (*Matthew 3:7-9; Acts 17:24-31*).

Demanding a Second Chance



- ❧ During times of ease Israel turned their focus away from God to serve idols. However, in times of distress Israel would come running back to God demanding another chance (*Jeremiah 2:26-28*).
- ❧ The reality is that Israel was given many “second chances.” Each of the prophets God sent represented another chance! (*Jeremiah 2:29-30*)
- ❧ By the time I hear the gospel the reality is that I am not receiving a second chance, but probably chance 1,000 or maybe 10,000. Use the rest of your life to express to God how thankful you are for His priceless grace!

Conclusion:



- ❧ *“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9)*
- ❧ *“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8)*
- ❧ *“But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:4-5)*