

Jeremiah 2:1-13 (NIV)

The word of the LORD came to me: ²“Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem:

- “ I remember the devotion of your youth,
how as a bride you loved me
and followed me through the desert,
through a land not sown.
- ³ Israel was holy to the LORD,
the firstfruits of his harvest;
all who devoured her were held guilty,
and disaster overtook them, ’ ”
declares the LORD.
- ⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob,
all you clans of the house of Israel.
- ⁵ This is what the LORD says:
- “What fault did your fathers find in me,
that they strayed so far from me?
They followed worthless idols
and became worthless themselves.
- ⁶ They did not ask, ‘Where is the LORD,
who brought us up out of Egypt
and led us through the barren wilderness,
through a land of deserts and rifts,
a land of drought and darkness,
a land where no one travels and no one lives?’
- ⁷ I brought you into a fertile land
to eat its fruit and rich produce.
But you came and defiled my land
and made my inheritance detestable.
- ⁸ The priests did not ask,
‘Where is the LORD?’
Those who deal with the law did not know me;
the leaders rebelled against me.

The prophets prophesied by Baal,
following worthless idols.

9 “Therefore I bring charges against you again,”
declares the LORD.

10 “And I will bring charges against your children’s children.
Cross over to the coasts of Kittim and look,
send to Kedar and observe closely;
see if there has ever been anything like this:

11 Has a nation ever changed its gods?
(Yet they are not gods at all.)
But my people have exchanged their Glory
for worthless idols.

12 Be appalled at this, O heavens,
and shudder with great horror,”
declares the LORD.

13 “My people have committed two sins:
They have forsaken me,
the spring of living water,
and have dug their own cisterns,
broken cisterns that cannot hold water.