

## **THE FIVE CYCLES OF DIVINE DISCIPLINE**

In our lesson text, there are two key verses to our study.

- (Heb.10:27) “Terrifying expectation of judgment.”
- (Heb.10:31) “Terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the Living God.”

The word “**terrifying** (phoberos)” is used to describe the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of divine discipline upon the priest-nation of Israel.

Remember that our lesson text comes from the fourth warning to Jewish (New Covenant) believers in the Book of Hebrews (Heb.10:25-39). Many were returning to Old Covenant law-works system for salvation and spirituality.

The Old Covenant system had been brought to an end by Jesus Christ. (Matt.5:17; Rom.10:4; Luke 24:44; Heb.10:32-38).

- Remember that the Book of Hebrews was written with these five warnings around 64AD. Just six years before the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of divine discipline by Rome hit Israel in 70AD.
- Remember that when Jesus came into this world, Israel was already under the 4<sup>th</sup> of five cycles of divine discipline when they murdered God’s only begotten Son (Matt.21:33-46) [Parable of Tenants].

(Heb.21:41) “He will bring those wretches to a **wretched end**, and will rent out the vineyard to other vine growers.”

Yet God gave Israel 40 years of logistical grace to repent and believe the gospel of Jesus Christ for grace salvation and to leave the nation bound for the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of divine discipline (Acts 1:8; 8:1).

**This lesson will study three aspects of the Five Cycles of Divine Discipline of priest-nation of Israel.**

### **1. Israel was the only nation founded on regeneration and subject to the Five Cycles of Divine Discipline (Lev.26 and Deut.28).**

The Priest-nation of Israel can be dated from Abraham to Moses to David to Jesus Christ (Ex.19:6; Matt.1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38).

(Gal.3:8) “The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, ‘All the nations will be blessed in you (Jesus Christ).’” (Gal.3:16)

### **2. Both (Lev.26:27-46) and (Deut.28:32-68) give us an outline of the five cycles of divine discipline upon the priest-nation of Israel.**

**A general identity to each of the five cycles of divine discipline from (Lev.26:27-46).**

- **1<sup>st</sup> cycle** (Lev.26:14-17)
  - Bad Health in land because “stopped listening and rejected God.”

- **2<sup>nd</sup> cycle** (Lev.26:18-20)
  - Health (punished 7 times worst), bad economics in the land because Israel “stopped listening and spiritual arrogance.”
- **3<sup>rd</sup> cycle** (Lev.26:21-22)
  - Health and economics (punished 7 times worst), crime-terrorism in the land because Israel was “hostile and refuse to listen and flaunt their sins before God.”
- **4<sup>th</sup> cycle** (Lev.26:23-26)
  - Health, economics, crime, and terrorism (punished 7 times worst) in addition to war and pestilence in land because Israel “won’t accept discipline for correction and remain hostile.”
- **5<sup>th</sup> cycle** (Lev.26:27-39)
  - The fall of the nation – death, destruction, and devastation because Israel ”still won’t listen and is hostile.
  - Punished for sins 7 times worst - it will be so bad that at the sound of a leaf blowing in the wind puts them into fearful flight! (Lev.26:36)

**3. The priest-nation of Israel suffered the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of divine discipline three times in biblical history.**

- 722BC by Assyria                      The North Kingdom      (10 Tribes)
- 586BC by Babylon                    The South Kingdom      (2 Tribes)
- 70AD by Rome                        The South Kingdom      (2 Tribes)

**Before closing the Scriptural warning of the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle, The Lord gave a doctrinal solution to it”**

(Lev.26:40-46) “Confess their sin and return to the word of God for daily living and put off their uncircumcised hearts and put on a humble heart so that God might be their God and Lord”  
(Deut.30:1-6, 11-14) (read).

(Deut.8:5) “Thus you are to know in your heart that the Lord your God was disciplining you just as a man disciplines his son.” (Prov.3:12; Heb.12:5-6; Rev.3:19)