

God's Response to Israel

Study 28: See Readings below

1. In general, what did the LORD promise that He would do for the nation of Israel if the nation will obey His voice and keep the commands of the Covenant? What did the LORD promise to He would do to the nation of Israel if they were disobedient to God and unfaithful to the Covenant? Suggested Reading: *Exodus 19:3-6, Leviticus 26:1-46, Deuteronomy 28:1-14-68*

2. In general, how would you describe Israel's faithfulness to their covenant with God?

3. The passages below are God's evaluation, through the prophets Isaiah (700 BC) and Jeremiah (600 BC), regarding Israel's commitment to God and faithfulness to the Covenant. Please explain what God says about His covenant people in each of these passages.

Isaiah 1:1-5

Isaiah 5:18-24

Jeremiah 2:4-32 & Jeremiah 5:1-11

Jeremiah 7:1-26

Jeremiah 11:1-10

4. Again read **Jeremiah 11:9-10**. What is God's summary of Israel's faithfulness to the Covenant? How do you think the LORD will respond as a result?

5. Read **2 Kings 17:1-23**. Beginning in 730 BC and continuing for the next 30 years, the Assyrian armies would attack, destroy, and overtake much of the land of Israel, even forcibly deporting many of the Israelites out of the land. Read **2 Kings 24:1 - 25:12**. In the 600 BC, the Babylonian armies would begin their assault on the people of Israel and the city of Jerusalem, yielding horrific destruction for the next 20 years, forcing many Israelites into 70 years of Babylonian captivity. Israel would never be the same. Never again would Israel be its own kingdom, with its own king, owning its own land, where the people live in covenant freedom, favor, and peace, independent of other nations. What do you think is God's role in the above? What, if anything, would motivate God to do this? Suggested Reading: *Deuteronomy 28:15-68, Jeremiah 11:11-17, Jeremiah 21:1-10, Jeremiah 22:8-9, Jeremiah 25:1-14*

6. What do you think will be God's *ultimate* response to Israel's "foresaking" of the Covenant?