

LET IT ALL FALL DOWN

BUILDING OUR CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST

a study in jeremiah

#12 “The Counterattack”

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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Sermon Outline Notes

In Kingdom warfare WE CAN EXPECT THE ENEMY TO COUNTER-ATTACK

From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. Matthew 11:12 ESV

I. Jeremiah 20:1-6

When the priest Pashhur son of Immer, the official in charge of the temple of the LORD, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things, ² he had Jeremiah the prophet beaten and put in the stocks at the Upper Gate of Benjamin at the LORD’s temple.

A Counter-Attack OFTEN COMES THROUGH FRIENDLY FIRE

I know the ones I have chosen. But this fulfills the Scripture that says, ‘The one who eats my food has turned against me.’ ¹⁹ I tell you this beforehand, so that when it happens you will believe that I AM the Messiah. John 13:18b–19.*

II. Jeremiah 20:7-9

^{8b} So the word of the LORD has brought me insult and reproach all day long. ⁹ But if I say, “I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name,” his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.

A Counter-Attack PUSHES US BACK TO THE POINT OF OUR CALL

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14 NIV

III. Jeremiah 20:10-13

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a mighty warrior; so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced; their dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹² LORD Almighty, you who examine the righteous and probe the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance on them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³ Sing to the LORD! Give praise to the LORD! He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked.

A Counter-Attack MAKES US RELY ON GOD'S VINDICATION

We faithfully preach the truth. God's power is working in us. We use the weapons of righteousness in the right hand for attack and the left hand for defense. ⁸ We serve God whether people honor us or despise us, whether they slander us or praise us. 2 Corinthians 6:7-8. NLT

IV. Jeremiah 20:14-18

¹⁴ Cursed be the day I was born! May the day my mother bore me not be blessed! ¹⁵ Cursed be the man who brought my father the news, who made him very glad, saying, "A child is born to you—a son!" ¹⁶ May that man be like the towns the LORD overthrew without pity. May he hear wailing in the morning, a battle cry at noon. ¹⁷ For he did not kill me in the womb, with my mother as my grave, her womb enlarged forever. ¹⁸ Why did I ever come out of the womb to see trouble and sorrow and to end my days in shame?

A Counter-Attack MAKES US CONFRONT OUR DOUBTS AND PUT OUR CONFIDENCE IN GOD

But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead. ¹⁰ And he did rescue us from mortal danger, and he will rescue us again. We have placed our confidence in him, and he will continue to rescue us. ¹¹ And you are helping us by praying for us. Then many people will give thanks because God has graciously answered so many prayers for our safety. 2 Corinthians 1:9-11 NLT