

ATTENTION-

The prophet Elijah had some tremendous victories but (1 Kings 19) ran when his life journey became really tough. The Lord followed him and reassured him of His presence and the companionship of 7,000 faithful others in Israel.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH- (Utilizing the New International Version)

How are the people described in Jeremiah 5:21?

What kind of hearts do the people have in Jeremiah 5:23?

What do the wicked men not do in Jeremiah 5:28?

What do the prophets of Jeremiah's day do in Jeremiah 5:30-31?

What do the priests of Jeremiah's day do in Jeremiah 5:30-31?

What do the people of Jeremiah's day do in Jeremiah 5:30-31?

LESSON-

When everyone else is corrupt in the Lord's eyes, Jeremiah 5:31 asks a question.

ILLUSTRATION-

Rudyard Kipling penned a masterpiece regarding dedication in the tough journey of life (1910.) It contains some strong parallels regarding dedication to discipleship.

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,

Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

#### PRAYER-

Lord, please allow me to keep my head on You when all about me are losing theirs. Amen