



KIB 506 - Warning to the Remnant: Stop Kicking Against the Goats & Learn to Run with the Horses

Kingdom Intelligence Briefing | November 18, 2025

Foundational Scripture:

Jeremiah 12:5

“If you have raced with men on foot, and they have wearied you, how will you compete with horses? And if in a safe land you are so trusting, what will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?”

1. Context: Why God Spoke This to Jeremiah

Jeremiah was troubled:

- The wicked seemed to prosper.
- The righteous suffered.
- Jeremiah was already exhausted emotionally and spiritually by the resistance he faced from the people of Judah.

God’s response is not sympathetic in the way we might expect. Instead, He essentially says:

“Jeremiah, if this level of pressure is wearing you out, you are not ready for what is coming next. Preparation is happening. Tougher assignments lie ahead.”

This becomes a **universal principle of spiritual growth**.

2. Key Imagery in the Verse

a. **“Racing with men on foot ... competing with horses”**

- “Men on foot” = smaller trials, ordinary resistance, daily obedience challenges.

- “Horses” = greater battles, higher callings, stronger opposition, end-time pressures.
- God is saying: **The current struggles are training for the future.**

b. “In a safe land you are so trusting...”

- “Safe land” (lit. “land of peace”) = times of relative stability or ease.
- God warns Jeremiah: *If faith wavers in calm seasons, it will collapse in the storm.*

c. “...what will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?”

- Thick brush along the Jordan River was known to be a hiding place for predators—especially lions.
- “Thicket of the Jordan” = chaotic environments, spiritual warfare, deception, turbulence, persecution.

In other words:

God trains His servants in calm seasons so they can stand firm in the turbulent ones.

3. Spiritual Applications for Believers Today

a. God Uses Lesser Trials to Prepare Us for Greater Purpose

Every believer faces seasons of “racing with men”—smaller challenges designed to build endurance, discernment, and courage.

Application:

- Don’t despise the “smaller” trials.
- View them as God’s gymnasium for spiritual strength.
- The remnant must be trained to stand in the days ahead (Luke 21:36; Eph 6:10–13).

b. If We Struggle Now, God Is Not Rebuking Us—He Is Preparing Us

God’s tone in Jeremiah 12:5 is not punitive, but *formative*.

He says:

“I am strengthening you because your destiny requires more than your current capacity.”

Application:

- When God increases the pressure, it's because He's increasing the calling.
- The believer's instinct should not be discouragement but recognition: *God is upgrading me.*

c. Faith Must Be Strengthened in Peaceful Seasons

When the “land is peaceful,” we are meant to:

- Deepen prayer roots
- Internalize Scripture
- Build spiritual discipline
- Strengthen family and community ties
- Make holiness a lifestyle, not a crisis response

Application:

The time to prepare is before trouble arrives.

Believers who drift in calm seasons will struggle in the “thicket of the Jordan.”

d. The “Thicket of the Jordan” Foreshadows End-Time Conditions

For the remnant, this text carries prophetic resonance.

The “thicket of the Jordan” represents:

- Deception
- Social upheaval
- Persecution
- Apostasy
- Spiritual predators (1 Peter 5:8)
- The intensifying conflict before Messiah returns

Application:

Jeremiah 12:5 becomes a prophetic warning:

If we faint in the day of footmen, we will not endure the age of the horsemen.

This is why the Holy Spirit is calling the remnant today to maturity, holiness, and discernment.

4. God Is Teaching Us How to Run With Horses

This verse can be read as an invitation, not just a warning.

God wants His people to run with horses.

This means:

- Operating in supernatural endurance
- Walking in the fruit and fire of the Spirit
- Courageous proclamation of truth
- Faith that outpaces the world's fear
- Resilience under pressure
- Prophetic boldness like Jeremiah

Application:

Believers should ask:

“Lord, what disciplines, habits, or attitudes must be strengthened in me so I can run with horses?”

5. When Trials Increase, God's Grace Always Increases More

The call to “compete with horses” is impossible in natural strength. But with God's empowerment:

- The weak become strong (2 Cor 12:9–10).
- The fearful become bold (Acts 4:31).
- The fainthearted become warriors (Joel 3:10).
- The remnant becomes an army (Ezek 37:10).

Application:

Don't measure your capacity by what you can do—measure by what God intends to do through you.

6. Your Present Season Has Purpose

Everything you're facing now—stress, conflict, spiritual warfare, uncertainty—is developing the muscles you will need in the future.

What we see as hardship, God sees as preparation.

Application:

Ask the Lord:

- *What are You training in me through this?*
- *What “horse-level” assignments are ahead that I must be ready for?*

7. Conclusion: The Remnant Must Be Prepared to Run With Horses

Jeremiah 12:5 is God's call to spiritual maturation.

It is a message especially relevant for believers living in the last days:

- Tougher times are coming.
- A greater anointing is being released.
- The remnant must be trained.
- God is preparing us to overcome.

The trials of today are shaping the warriors of tomorrow. God wants to make you someone who can run with horses.