

Note #70—Jeremiah 4:4

4 הַמֶּלֶךְ לַיהוָה וְהִסְרוּ עֲרֻלוֹת לְבַבְכֶם אִישׁ
יְהוּדָה וְיֹשְׁבֵי פֶן-תְּצַא כָּאֵשׁ חֲמָתִי וּבְעִרָה
וְאֵין מִכְבֵּה מִפְּנֵי רַע מַעֲלָלֵיכֶם:

4. Circumcise yourselves to the Lord, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

[Yeshua described what Jeremiah is talking about here to a rabbi once. The rabbi visited Yeshua under cover of nightfall because he feared losing his teaching office if the other Jews saw him. Yeshua used the metaphor of a new birth to describe what Jeremiah likens to a circumcision of the heart. Yeshua assured the rabbi that he would not enter the kingdom of heaven if he did not receive the new birth. Jeremiah here assures the Jews that they will reap the eternal and hellish fury of God if they do not receive the circumcision of the heart. Yeshua was amazed that a rabbi could be ignorant of such a fundamental teaching as is given here. See John 3:1-10.]