



A People Apart

Jeremiah 35:1-14

A People Apart

Jeremiah 35: 1-2

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD during the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah: 2 "Go to the Recabite family and invite them to come to one of the side rooms of the house of the LORD and give them wine to drink."



Who are the Recabites?

- ✓ The Recabites were a nomadic clan (35:7-10) descended from “Jonadab [or Jehonadab] son of Recab” (v. 6)
- ✓ assisted Jehu in exterminating Baal worship from Israel (2 Kings 10:15-27)
- ✓ They were related to the Kenites (1 Chron. 2:54-55) who descended from Moses’ father-in-law, Jethro (Judg. 1:16)
- ✓ Jonadab Ben Recad rejected a settled way of life for the life of a nomad, and his lifestyle became the norm for his clan (Jer. 35:6-10).



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Jeremiah 35: 3-5

So I went to get Jaazaniah son of Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, and his brothers and all his sons--the whole family of the Recabites. 4 I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the room of the sons of Hanan son of Igdaliah the man of God. It was next to the room of the officials, which was over that of Maaseiah son of Shallum the doorkeeper. 5 Then I set bowls full of wine and some cups before the men of the Recabite family and said to them, "Drink some wine."



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Jeremiah 35: 3-5



Solomon's temple



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Jeremiah 35: 6-11

But they replied, "We do not drink wine, because our forefather Jonadab son of Recab gave us this command: `Neither you nor your descendants must ever drink wine. 7 Also you must never build houses, sow seed or plant vineyards; you must never have any of these things, but must always live in tents. Then you will live a long time in the land where you are nomads.'



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Jeremiah 35: 6-11

8 We have obeyed everything our forefather Jonadab son of Recab commanded us. Neither we nor our wives nor our sons and daughters have ever drunk wine 9 or built houses to live in or had vineyards, fields or crops. 10 We have lived in tents and have fully obeyed everything our forefather Jonadab commanded us. 11 But when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon invaded this land, we said, 'Come, we must go to Jerusalem to escape the Babylonian and Aramean armies.' So we have remained in Jerusalem."



Who are the Recabites?

- ✓ The four prohibitions of the Recabites
 - ✓ shall not drink wine
 - ✓ shall not build a house
 - ✓ shall not sow a seed
 - ✓ shall not plant or own a vineyard
- ✓ traveled in the wilderness of the Negev (Judg. 1:16; 1 Sam. 15:6)
- ✓ were iron-monger, artisans dealing with iron or even makers of chariots
- ✓ the 'family secrets' of iron making
- ✓ keep this secret within the family, they are forbidden to drink wine and become nomadic.



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Jeremiah 35: 12-14

Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying: 13 "This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Go and tell the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem, 'Will you not learn a lesson and obey my words?' declares the LORD. 14 'Jonadab son of Recab ordered his sons not to drink wine and this command has been kept. To this day they do not drink wine, because they obey their forefather's command. But I have spoken to you again and again, yet you have not obeyed me.



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An object lesson

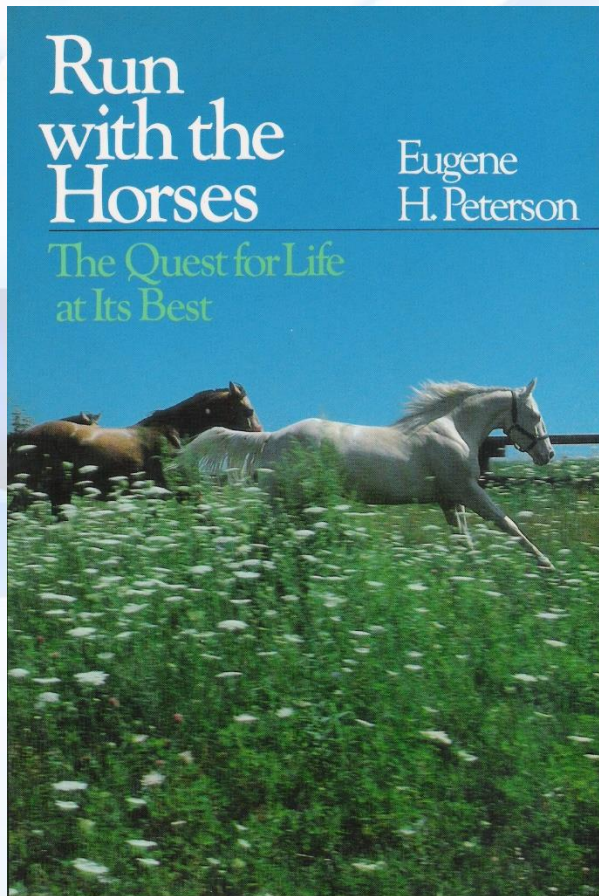
Judah



Recabites



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*The essence of Jeremiah's message is this; **You also have a father who has commanded you to live in total relationship to him. You know that he has set you apart to a life of love. Why don't you live in response to it? If you think it is because ordinary, mortal human beings can't do it, think again. The Recabites are ordinary, mortal human beings and they have been doing it for 250 years***



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Recabites' Distinctive

The four prohibitions of the Recabites
shall not drink wine
shall not build a house
shall not sow a seed
shall not plant or own a vineyard



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Judah's Distinctive

Deuteronomy 6:4–5 (NIV)

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

(Deuteronomy 6:4–9, 11:13–21; Numbers 15:37–41)



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Christian's Distinctive

Matthew 22:37–39 (NIV)

³⁷ Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’



A People Apart: Four Movements of the Holy Spirit

Movement	Triggers	Keyword	Scripture
Doing to Being	exhaustion	becoming	Luke 10:42
Servant to Friend	longing	intimacy	John 15:15
False self to true self	failure	authenticity	2 Cor 3:18
Knowing to not knowing	pain, suffering	trust	1 Tim 3:16



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Doing to Being (Becoming)

Luke 10:42 (NIV)

42 but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”



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Servant to Friend (Intimacy)

John 15:15 (NIV)

15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.



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False Self to True Self (Authenticity)

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV)

18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The false Self	The true self in God
The 'me' I have created to get by in life without God and to get my needs met apart from him	The authentic, original 'me', free from all pretence, as God intended and as I am now 'in Christ'
Security and significance achieved by what we have, what we can do, and what others think of us	Security and significance achieved by being deeply loved by God
Happiness sought in autonomy from God and through attachments Attachments = anchors of my well-being	Fulfilment found in dependency upon God, and surrender to him; through living our vocation
Identity is our idealized self (who we want others to think we are)	Identity is who we are – and becoming – in Christ
Achieved by means of pretence and practice	Received as a gift with gratitude and surrender
Maintained by effort and control	Maintained by grace (and Holy Spirit)
Embraces illusion as a means of attempting to become a god	Embraces reality as the place of meeting and being transformed by God
Results in pride, arrogance, defensiveness	Results in humility, love and openness
Appears unnatural and forced	Appears natural and relaxed



The false self	The true self of God
Fallen image of God (Rom.1:23)	Restored image of God (Col.1:15;Rom.8:29)
Old man (Col.3:9 KJV)	New man (Rom.8:29)
Old self (Rom.6:6; Eph.4:22-24)	New self (Col.3:10; Eph.4:24))
Old nature (Eph.4:22)	New nature (2 Cor.4:16)
Heart of stone (Eze.11:19)	Heart of flesh (Eze.11:19)
Flesh (Rom.8:13; Gal.5:19-21)	Live in the Spirit (Rom.8:5)
Natural man (1 Cor.2:14)	New creation (2 Cor.5:17)



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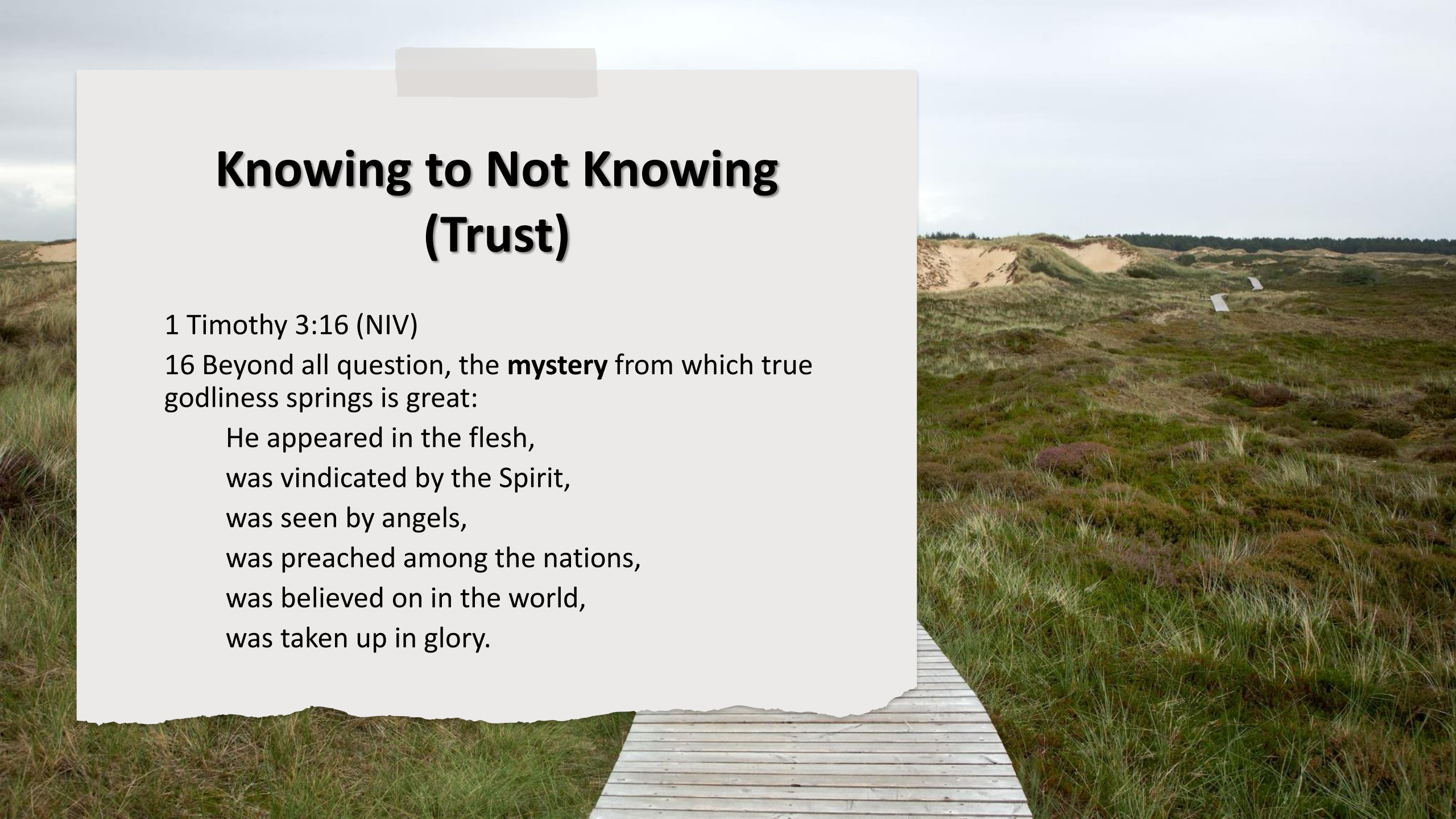


Knowing to Not Knowing (Trust)

1 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

16 Beyond all question, the **mystery** from which true godliness springs is great:

He appeared in the flesh,
was vindicated by the Spirit,
was seen by angels,
was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world,
was taken up in glory.





Weathering the Storms of Life

Weathering the Storms of Life

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV)

The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.”



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2 Peter 1:5–8 (NIV)

5 For this very reason, make every effort to **add to your faith goodness**; and to goodness, **knowledge**; 6 and to knowledge, **self-control**; and to self-control, **perseverance**; and to perseverance, **godliness**; 7 and to godliness, **mutual affection**; and to mutual affection, **love**. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your **knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ**.



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Jeremiah 35:1-14