

GLEANINGS

Article GE- 131

IS OUR SUMMER ENDING?

The people of Israel made the mistake of believing their leaders when they told them that the worst was over and their nation was heading for a new, a glorious, and a peaceful future.

“⁶ I have listened attentively, but they do not say what is right. No one repents of his wickedness, saying, “What have I done?” Each pursues his own course like a horse charging into battle. ⁷ Even the stork in the sky knows her appointed seasons, and the dove, the crane and the swallow observe the time of their migration. But my people do not know the requirements of the LORD. ⁸ “How can you say, “We are wise, for we have the law of the LORD,” when actually the lying pen of the scribes has handled it falsely? ⁹ The wise will be put to shame; they will be dismayed and trapped. Since they have rejected the word of the LORD, what kind of wisdom do they have? ... From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain; prophets and priests alike, all practice deceit. ¹¹ They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. “Peace, peace”, they say, when there is no peace. ¹² Are they ashamed of their loathsome conduct? No, they have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush. So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when they are punished, says the LORD.” Jeremiah 8:6-12 *New International Version*

Be alert when our leaders tell us that the worst is over and we are now heading for a glorious and peaceful future. Their vision of the future is a society where they are exempt from the laws they impose upon us and where all opposition to their rule has ceased. The prophet Jeremiah realized the time God had allotted his nation to repent, come back to Him and return to harvesting souls had passed and he wrote, ²⁰ *“The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and we (as a nation) are not safe.”* Jeremiah 8:20 *NIV*