**THE EXPOSITION OF HOLY SCRIPTURE BY ALEXANDER MACLAREN**

**JEREMIAH-001. GOD'S LAWSUIT by ALEXANDER MACLAREN**

*"Wherefore I will yet plead with you, saith the Lord, and with your children's children will I plead."*

*Jeremiah 2:9*

Point out that plead is a forensic term. There is a great lawsuit in which God is plaintiff and men defendants. The word is frequent in Isaiah.

**I. The reason for God's pleading.**

The cause--wherefore. Our transgression does not make Him turn away from us. It does profoundly modify the whole relation between us. It does give an aspect of antagonism to His dealings.

**II. The manner.**

The whole history of the world and of each individual. All outward providences. All the voice of Conscience. Christ. Spirit, who convinces the world of Sin.

**III. The purpose.**

Wholly our being drawn from our evil. The purely reformatory character of all punishment here. The sole object to win us back to Himself. He conquers in this lawsuit when we come to love Him.

**IV. The patience.**

That merciful pleading--I will yet--runs on through all sin, and is only made more earnest by deepening hostility. After rejections still lingers. Extends over a thousand generations. Is exercised even where He foresees failure.