



*Go for God!*

# **The Book of JEREMIAH**

## **Introduction & Chapters 1 – 3**

### **“JEREMIAH AND THE FINAL CALL!”**

- > **Jeremiah-** *“Yahweh throws”*- possibly meaning *“to lay a foundation”* or *“to establish, appoint, send.”*
- > **Date:** 627 to 580 B.C.
- > **Theme: Pending judgment upon Judah; final call to repentance.** (Jeremiah is the autobiography of one of Judah’s greatest prophets. Judah had become filled with apostasy, idolatry, perverted worship and moral decay. In response to Jeremiah’s sermons his countrymen opposed, beat, isolated and imprisoned him. Yet as he watched his prophecies come to pass and judgment fall upon his people he still had a heart for them. Even though his heart was broken.)
- > **Key Word:** *Judah’s Last Hour*
- > **Key Verses: Jeremiah 7:23-24-** *But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.’ “Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.*

**Jeremiah 8:11-12-** *For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, Saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ When there is no peace. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed, nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; in the time of their punishment They shall be cast down,” says the LORD.*

> **Famous Verses: Jeremiah 29:10-14-** *For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive.*

**Jeremiah 17:9-10-** *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.”*

> **Key Chapter: Ch. 31** - In the midst of judgment and condemnation comes wonderful promises for His people, God will ***“put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people”*** (v33). Jesus brought forth that new covenant with His death and resurrection (Mt. 26:26-29).

> **Christ in Jeremiah:** The **Messiah is seen in chapter 23:1-8** as the ***coming Shepherd and the righteous Branch*** who ***“shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”***

The curse on Jehoiachin (Jeconiah, Coniah) meant that no physical descendant would succeed him to the throne (22:28-30). Matthew 1:1-17 traces the genealogy of Christ through Solomon and Jeconiah to His legal (but not His physical) father Joseph. But no son of Joseph could sit upon the throne of David, for he would be under the curse of Jehoiachin. Luke 3:23-28 traces Christ’s lineage backward from Mary (His physical parent) through David’s other son Nathan (Luke 3:31), thereby avoiding the curse. The Righteous Branch will indeed reign on the throne of David.

> **Historical Events of Jeremiah's Ministry:**

- ***Three stages in Jeremiah's ministry:***

- 1- From 627 to 605 B.C. he prophesied while Judah was threatened by Assyria and Egypt.
- 2- From 605 to 586 B.C. he proclaimed God's judgment while Judah was threatened and besieged by Babylon.
- 3- From 586 to about 580 B.C. he ministered in Jerusalem and Egypt after Judah's downfall.<sup>1</sup>

> **The Book of JEREMIAH (Outline & Insights)**

(1:1–19) Preparation of Jeremiah

(2:1–45:5) Proclamations to Judah

(46:1–51:64) Proclamations of Judgment on the Nations

(52:1–34) The Fall of Jerusalem

> **Jeremiah's Illustrations of God's Judgment:**

*An Almond Branch (1:11,12)*

*A Boiling Caldron (1:13–16)*

*Lions (2:15, 4:7, 5:6, 50:17).*

*A Scorching Storm Wind (4:11,12, 18:17, 23:19, 25:32)*

*Wolf (5:6)*

*Leopard (5:6)*

*Stripping Away Judah's Branches (5:10)*

*Fire (5:14)*

*Making This House (Worship Center) like Shiloh (7:14)*

*Serpents, Adders (8:17)*

*Destroying Olive Branches (11:16–17)*

*Uprooting (12:17)*

*Linen Sash Made Worthless (13:1–11)*

*Bottles Filled with Wine and Dashed Against One Another (13:12–14)*

*A Potter's Jar Shattered (19:10,11; cf. 22:28)*

*A Hammer [God's Word] Crushing a Rock (23:29)*

*A Cup of Wrath (25:15)*

*Zion Plowed as a Field (26:18)*

*Wearing Yokes of Wood and Iron (27:2; 28:13)*

*A Hammer [Babylon] (50:23)*

*A Mountain of Destruction [Babylon] (51:25)<sup>2</sup>*

> **Chapter 1 - "The Call of Jeremiah"**

(v1-10) The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah

-Three keys to the CALL:

#1- God "forms" us

#2- God "sanctifies" us

#3- God "ordains" us to the nations (Mt. 28:19,20)

(v11-19) Jeremiah's message to Judah; our message today - Luke 10:1-20

> **Chapter 2 - "Apostate Judah"**

(v1-3) Israel's relationship with God

(v4-8) God's faithfulness/Israel's unfaithfulness

(v9-13) God's charge against Israel

(v14-19) Israel will reap what it sows

(v20-28) Judah's self-deception

(v29-37) Judah's self-justification

> **Chapter 3 - "Return, Return, Return"**

(v1-5) Judah's harlotries

(v6-25) Return backsliding Israel & Judah

<sup>1</sup> *Talk Thru the Bible* by Bruce Wilkinson & Kenneth Boa.

<sup>2</sup> John F. MacArthur, Jr., *The MacArthur Study Bible*, (Dallas: Word Publishing) 1997.