

A Study of **JEREMIAH**



Lesson One – Chapters 1-4

A Study of Jeremiah **LESSON ONE – CHAPTERS 1-4**

1. Jeremiah's Commission (1:1-10)
2. Signs (1:11-16)
3. Do not fear (1:17)
4. Personal Responsibility (2:17; 4:18)
5. Degeneration (2:21-22)
6. Denial (2:33, 25, 35)
7. Godly Sorrow (2:26)
8. Divorce (3:1-8)
9. At That Time (3:17-18)
10. The Remnant (4:27, et al.)

JEREMIAH'S COMISSION

(Jeremiah 1:1-10)

JEREMIAH'S COMISSION

Jeremiah 1:1-10)

1. God had a plan, a purpose, and a work for Jeremiah (1:5)
2. Jeremiah at first objected; made an excuse (1:6)
3. But ultimately submitted to the will of God (2:1)
4. Note God's providence makes it possible for weak men to achieve His purposes (1:8-9, 19; Ex 3:12, 4:12, 16; Phil 4:13)

God Called Others in the Bible to Special Service

1. Abraham (Heb 11:8)
2. Moses (Heb 11:27)
3. Jonah (Jonah 1:1-3)
4. Isaiah (Isa 6:8)
5. Samuel (1 Sam 3:10)
6. Paul (Acts 26:16, 19)
7. Jesus (Heb 10:7)

Some Application for Christians Today

1. God has a plan for us and has called us to a special work! (Eph 1:3-6; 2Th 2:14)
2. The question is, "How will we respond – like Abraham or like Jonah?"

SIGNS

(Jeremiah 1:1-16)



The Almond Tree

Jer 1:11-12

“Literally, “the wakeful tree,” because it awakes from the sleep of winter earlier than the other trees, flowering in January, and bearing fruit in March; symbol of God’s *early* execution of His purpose”



The Boiling Pot

Jer 1:13-16

Boiling pot was symbol of calamity – from the North – i.e., from Babylon

INSPIRATION

(Jeremiah 1:9-10)



“Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.”

“See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant.”

- **Jeremiah was God’s spokesman** (see Jo 12:49-50)
- **God’s word was powerful** (see 2Cor 10:3-5)
- **God was giving Jeremiah everything he needed to do his work** (2Pet 1:3)

DO NOT FEAR

(Jeremiah 1:8, 17-19)

1. Jeremiah is commanded, "Do not be afraid..."
2. Similar words given hundreds of times in the scriptures (e.g., Luke 12:4-7; 2Tim 1:7; Heb 13:6; 1Pe 3:6, 14; Rev 21:8)
3. Are such commandments absolute? No fear at all? (Rom 13:1-4)
4. Why was Jeremiah not to fear? See vs 1:8, 17-19)
5. What if Jeremiah was afraid? (v17)
6. Connection with Phil 4:13?
7. Why do we sometimes let ourselves feel ungodly fear?
 - Lack of trust in God (Ps 56:4)
 - Excessive desire for esteem and approval (Gal 2:11-12)
 - Failure to put things in perspective (Rom 8:18)

JEREMIAH'S 1st SERMON

(Jeremiah 2:1-3:5)

JEREMIAH'S 1st SERMON

(Jeremiah 2:1-3:5)

1. Israel was not always the reprobate they are now – They were not born in sin (Jer 2:1-3, 21-22). This fact underscores the unnecessary tragedy of their rebellion and fall.
2. God had blessed them greatly and had done nothing to justify their leaving Him (Jer 2:5-7)
3. Their sin was pervasive – from top to bottom (Jer 2:8)
4. It was absolutely astonishing that Israel should give up the true God for idols, that of value for that of no value, and living water for perpetual thirst! (2Jer 2:9-12)
5. Who was responsible for their downfall? Not God (v5). They caused it! (v17; 4:18; Job 4:8)

JEREMIAH'S 1st SERMON

(Jeremiah 2:1-3:5)

6. The principle sin mentioned in this sermon is idolatry (e.g., 2:8, 11-13, 20, 23, 27-28, 3:2)
7. They also sinned in trusting other nations instead of the Lord (36-38)
8. Their reaction:
 - “Where is the Lord?” (8)
 - “I am not polluted” (23)
 - “There is no hope” (25)
 - “We are lords. We will come no more to You” (31)
 - “I am innocent... I have not sinned” (35)
 - Pretend repentance (26)

JEREMIAH'S 1st SERMON

(Jeremiah 2:1-3:5)

9. The Lord was longsuffering with them – There was still hope
 - **Patience** – He had chastened them over and over yet they refused to repent (2:30; 3:3)
 - **Amazing Grace** – But in spite of all their sin, He was still willing to accept them back if they would come to Him (3:1; 4:12-13)

JEREMIAH'S 2nd SERMON

(Jeremiah 3)

1. **How bad was Judah? (3:6-11)**
 - Worse than her sister Israel! (11 – see 2Kings 17:7-23)
 - Also, worse than their ancestors (Jer 7:26, 16:10-12) and the nations around them (2 Kings 21:2, 11)
 - Judah was ashamed only because she got caught in her sin (2:26) and only pretended to repent (3:10)
2. **Yet God was still willing to take her back (3:12-18)**
 - His conditions: confession (3:13) and repentance (3:12)

JEREMIAH'S 2nd SERMON

(Jeremiah 3)

3. "Then it will come to pass" – Promise of future Messianic blessings (3:16-18)
 - New shepherds provided (3:15; see 2:8, Acts 20:28)
 - The ark of the covenant will be no more (3:16)
 - Jerusalem: "The Throne of the Lord" (3:17)
 - Repentant people of all nations would come there (3:17-18)
 - (Reference to the return from Babylonian captivity (3:18) but that is not the focus of the passage)
4. "Indeed we do come to you" (3:22-25)
 - Jeremiah recorded what their reaction should have been.
 - Only a remnant responded this way

JEREMIAH'S 2nd SERMON

(Jeremiah 4)

1. Call to repentance (4:1-4)
 - Return (1)
 - Put away abominations (1)
 - Break up the fallow ground (3)
 - Circumcise yourself (3)
2. Results of refusing to repent (4)
 - God's fury will come like a fire! (4)
3. Question: If Judah had repented, would God have still sent the Babylonians?



JEREMIAH'S 2nd SERMON

A Terrible Judgment Is Coming (Jeremiah 4)

1. Disaster from the north with great destruction (6)
2. Land desolate; cities waste and uninhabited (7)
3. There will be shock, astonishment, and sorrow (8-9)
4. It will reveal the lies of the false prophets who spoke of "peace" (10)
5. What was the cause of this coming disaster? Their own willing rebellion (17-18). There was no one else to blame. They were foolish, silly, without understanding, and unwise (22).
6. Therefore, God said, "I will not relent" (28)
7. Neither idols nor allies could save them (v30)
8. "Yet I will not make a full end" (27; 5:16, 18)