

Jeremiah & Lamentations

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& Lamentations

JEREMIAH 1-15

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What time in Israel's history did Jeremiah prophesy? (Chapter 1)
2. When did God call Jeremiah to prophesy? (Chapter 1)
3. What was Jeremiah's response to God's call and how did God encourage him in his ministry? (Chapter 1)
4. What was the significance of the boiling pot tilting from the north? (Chapter 1)
5. God said His people were at a crossroads. What did God tell them to ask for at the crossroads? (Chapter 6)
6. What command does Jeremiah remind the people of, which God gave to their forefathers as they left Egypt? (Chapter 7)
7. God says not to boast in riches, strength or wisdom but to boast in what? (Chapter 9)
8. What does Jeremiah say is wrong with the shepherds? (Chapter 10)
9. What does Jeremiah say about a man's life and steps? (Chapter 10)
10. What did Jeremiah's linen belt picture which he buried? (Chapter 13)
11. Jeremiah prophesied the carrying away of Judah. He said as an Ethiopian can't change his skin or a leopard its spots, neither can Judah do what? (Chapter 13)
12. Some false prophets in Jeremiah's time were prophesying that no famine or sword would touch the land. How did those prophets die? (Chapter 14)
13. Why did the people hate Jeremiah? What did God make Jeremiah like? What was God's feeling toward the people? (Chapter 15)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. God said that the people brought disaster on themselves because of two sins. What were the two sins and how is this like us today? (Chapter 2)
2. God tells "faithless Israel" to return and He will not frown on them any longer if they only do what? (Chapters 3 & 4)
3. What was God's punishment on Israel for serving foreign gods in their own land? What can we learn from this? (Chapter 5)
4. In this chapter, God says to ask for the good ways, the old ways, and they would find rest. Why would they find rest in that? (Chapter 6)
5. God pictures Israel as metal and Jeremiah as a tester. How are they like metal and how can they change? (Chapters 6 & 7)
6. What does Jeremiah mean by the statement, "They do not even know how to blush"? (Chapter 8)
7. What can we learn from God's admonition to Israel to not learn the ways of the nations or be terrified by signs in the sky? How did Israel break the covenant? (Chapters 10 & 11)
8. In this chapter, what is Jeremiah's complaint about the wicked? What is God's answer? (Chapter 12)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Jeremiah lived and prophesied in the time of Israel's history which corresponds to the end of 2 Kings. This was the most tragic hour the nation ever saw. Jeremiah was the prophet of the "midnight hour".

ANSWERS TO LESSON 60

OBSERVATIONS

1. The time leading up to, and including, when the people of Jerusalem went into exile. (1:3)
2. Before he was born. (1:5)
3. He said he could not speak because he was only a child. God said not to be afraid of the people or to say he was only a child. God put His word into Jeremiah's mouth. (1:6-10)
4. From the north, disaster would be poured out on all who live in the land of Israel. (1:13-16)
5. Ask for the ancient paths. Ask where the good way is and walk in it. (6:16)
6. To obey him, and he would be their God and they would be his people. (7:23)
7. That we know and understand him. (9:23-24)
8. They are senseless and do not inquire of the Lord. (10:21)
9. A man's life is not his own, and it is not for man to direct his steps. (10:23)
10. It pictured the pride of Judah, which God would destroy. (13:1-11)
11. Judah could not do good because they are accustomed to evil. (13:23)
12. They died by the sword and famine. (14:15)
13. Jeremiah gave God's Word which was hard to take. God made Jeremiah like a fortified wall of bronze. God was not willing to change His mind toward Israel, even if Moses and Samuel were to intercede for them. (15:1, 19-21)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. They had forsaken God, who is the spring of living water, and turned to other things, which are cisterns that cannot hold water. We tend to look to things beside God to satisfy our souls. (2:13)
2. Acknowledge their guilt. God does not ask us to be perfect, but to be sincere, earnest and repent. (3:12-13, 4:1-2,5)
3. They would serve foreigners in a foreign land. When we put other things before the Lord, we alienate ourselves from our promised land—His presence! (5:18-19)
4. The ways of God may seem "old fashioned", but they are good ways. We find fulfillment in walking with God, so we have rest. (6:16)
5. They are rebels and they act corruptly. They must reform their ways and actions. (6:27-7:7)
6. Israel has no shame. They are not repentant or sorry. (8:12)
7. God wants us to learn His ways and not ways of the world, which is worthless. Israel ceased to obey God and follow his ways. (10:1-3, 11:1-5)
8. The wicked prosper. God tells Jeremiah there is a day when He will uproot the wicked nations that have seized Judah's inheritance. Later He will have compassion on them if they listen to him. (12:1-4, 14-17)

JEREMIAH 16-31

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Why did God tell Jeremiah not to marry anyone in the land or to go to any funerals or feasts? (Chapter 16)
2. Why was God sending fishermen and hunters? (Chapter 16)
3. What does Jeremiah say about the heart? Trusting in man? Trusting in God? (Chapter 17)
4. What was God saying when He told Israel He would show them His back and not His face? (Chapter 18)
5. Jeremiah said Pashur the priest would have his name changed to Magor-Missabib. Why? (Chapter 20)
6. What was God's response to Zedekiah when he cried out about the Babylonians attacking them? (Chapter 21)
7. What was Jeremiah's message to the kings, shepherds and prophets in these chapters? (Chapters 22 & 23)
8. Jeremiah prophesied Judah's captivity by Babylon. How long did he say they would be in exile? Then what would happen? (Chapter 25)
9. Jeremiah was threatened with death by some of the people. Why was he not killed? (Chapter 26)
10. What was the outcome of Hananiah's prophecy? (Chapter 28)
11. What was the content of the message which Jeremiah sent to the exiles already in Babylon? (Chapter 29)
12. Why did God say He would destroy Shemaiah when he was prophesying good things for God's people? (Chapter 29)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. God says that men will no longer say, "As the Lord lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt," But rather they will say, "As the Lord lives, who brought the Israelites up out of all the countries where He had banished them." What is the significance of this prophecy? (Chapter 16)
2. What does Jeremiah say about keeping the Sabbath holy, or the results of not keeping it? How should this speak to us? (Chapter 17)
3. What was God's word to Jeremiah at the potter's house? What does this say to us today? (Chapter 18)
4. What word did Jeremiah speak to the people when he brought a jar with him and broke it in front of them? (Chapter 19)
5. When Jeremiah becomes discouraged by insults and reproach, he considers quitting prophesying, but then God's word burns like fire in his heart! What does this mean to you? (Chapter 20)
6. What is the meaning of the vision of two baskets of figs? (Chapter 24)
7. Why did God tell Jeremiah to fashion a yoke for himself and walk around carrying it? (Chapter 27)
8. The Lord says in 30:12, "Your wound is incurable, your injury beyond healing." But then He tells of a new covenant. What will it be like? (Chapters 30 & 31)

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Jeremiah 31:15 says, "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted because her children are no more." According to Matthew 2:18, this prophecy was fulfilled hundreds of years later by King Herod when he murdered all the male children 2 years old and under in an attempt to kill the Christ child.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 61

OBSERVATIONS

1. God had removed His hand from them. They were about to reap the fruit of their own evil. (16:1-5)
2. To "fish" and "hunt" the Israelites. To be used as instruments of God's judgment. (16:16-18)
3. It is deceitful above all things. Cursed is the one who trusts in man, he will be like a bush in the wasteland. Blessed is the one who trusts in God, he will be like a tree planted by the water. (17:5-10)
4. He was turning from the people because they were reprobate. He wasn't going to bless them, make His face shine on them. (18:1-17)
5. Magor-Missabib means terror on every side. God was going to make him a terror to himself and all his friends. (20:1-4)
6. God said He Himself would also fight against Zedekiah and Israel because it was his will for the Babylonians to win. (21:1-5)
7. The kings were to repent and do what is just and right. He proclaimed woe to the shepherds who were scattering the sheep of His pasture. The prophets and priests are godless and wicked. Their path would become slippery and they will be banished. (22:1-5, 23:1-2, 11-12)
8. 70 years, then the Lord would judge Babylon and it would fall. (25:12-14)
9. Some feared God and felt they would bring disaster on themselves if they killed Jeremiah. (26:10-19)
10. The Lord replaced the wooden yoke with an iron yoke and Hananiah died that same year, because he prophesied falsely. (28:12-17)

11. Work and pray for Babylon's prosperity, because as it prospers they will prosper. When the time is right, God would call them out. (29: 4-11)
12. Even though they were good things, they were not of the Lord. He prophesied against Jeremiah. (29:24-32)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. The Israelites voluntarily went to Egypt because of drought. They were delivered from Egypt many years later when the Egyptians made them slaves. Babylon on the other hand was an instrument of God's wrath. God sent them there because of their wickedness. (16:14-15)
2. If they keep the Sabbath, the city will prosper. If they don't, it won't. We need to keep the spirit of the Sabbath, and we will prosper. (17:19-27)
3. Just as the potter crushed the first pot and made another, we are to be as clay in God's hand so He can mold us as He wills. (18:1-6)
4. God was going to smash the nation and city just as the jar was smashed. (19)
5. Once we agree to walk with God, we can't turn back because His word burns in our hearts. (20:7-12)
6. The two baskets of figs are compared to those already exiled in Babylon and those who stayed behind. God considers the exiles as the good figs and those who stayed as bad. This was opposite of what the people thought! (24)
7. To picture the yoke of bondage the Babylonians would incur. (27:1-7)
8. God would put his law in their minds and write it on their hearts because they were unable to do this on their own. (31:33)

JEREMIAH 32-44

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What was the significance of Jeremiah buying a piece of land and putting the documents in a jar to preserve them? (Chapter 32)
2. What is the stark contrast within the prophecy concerning Jerusalem in this chapter? What is the promise concerning David's throne? (Chapter 33)
3. In what way did Jeremiah prophesy that Zedekiah would die? (Chapter 34)
4. Why did God have Jeremiah write His words on a scroll? What was King Jehoiakim's response to the scroll? What was God's response to Jehoiakim? How does this compare to the Recabites? (Chapters 35 & 36)
5. What was the choice which God gave Zedekiah in regard to the Babylonians' attack on Jerusalem? Which choice did he take? (Chapters 38 & 39)
6. What did the Babylonians do with Jeremiah? (Chapter 40)
7. What awful murders did Ishmael's son of Nethaniah commit? What then, happened to him? (Chapter 41)
8. The captives of Ishmael who were fleeing to Egypt, stopped to ask Jeremiah what the Lord's direction for them was. What did Jeremiah say? Did the captives believe his words and follow them? Why? (Chapters 42 & 43)
9. What was the message which Jeremiah illustrated by burying some large stones in the brick pavement at the entrance to Pharaoh's palace? (Chapter 43)
10. What was God's word in this chapter to the people who vowed to burn incense and make offerings to the "queen of heaven"? (Chapter 44)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Zedekiah, King of Judah, confirmed Jeremiah to the courtyard of the guard in the royal palace. He didn't want to kill him, yet he didn't receive his words. Why? How is this like some people today? (Chapter 32)
2. Why was Jeremiah so amazed that God would speak to him to buy a piece of land? What was God's response? What is this like today? (Chapter 32)
3. Because the people of Israel made slaves of each other and didn't give each other freedom, God gave them "freedom" to die by the sword, plague and famine. What can we learn from this? (Chapter 34)
4. Verses 1-3 tell us that the King of Judah and the people did not heed Jeremiah's words and yet they asked him to pray for them when Egypt attacked. Who is this like today? (Chapter 37)
5. Jeremiah was thrown into a cistern and sank in the mud. What is the a picture of? (Chapter 38)
6. Ebed-Melech saved Jeremiah from the cistern so God spared his life later. Why? (Chapter 38)
7. Gedaliah didn't think Ishmael would kill him; so, he didn't heed Johanan's warning. What can we learn from this? (Chapters 40 & 41)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Though Jehoiakim burned the scroll with Jeremiah's words, the words still burned in Jeremiah's heart and no man could quench them.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 62

OBSERVATIONS

1. By faith Jeremiah knew they would return and the deed would be good again because God had spoken to him. (32:8-15)
2. The great destruction and death is contrasted with joy and restoration. The Messiah would come from David's line and reign forever. (33:1-18)
3. He would not die by the sword, he would die peacefully. (34:1-5)
4. He wrote the words on a scroll hoping that the people would repent when the warnings were read. Jehoiakim burned the scroll, so Jeremiah prophesied God's punishment on him and his descendants. God said the rest of Israel should learn a lesson from the Recabites who obeyed. (35:12-16, 36)
5. If he surrendered, he and Jerusalem would be spared, but if he didn't, they would fall. He didn't surrender and they fell. (38:14-39)
6. They let him go free. (40:1-6)
7. Ishmael killed King Gedaliah and many of his men, plus he murdered a large group of other men that were harmless. Ishmael was chased out of the country. (41)
8. Jeremiah said they should stay in Israel and not flee to Egypt. They didn't believe Jeremiah, because they were suspicious of him that he wanted to see them captured by the Babylonians. (42 & 43)
9. That God would cause Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, to conquer in Egypt and his throne would set over those stones. He would be used as an instrument of God's wrath. (43:8-13)
10. That they would die in Egypt by famine and sword. (44:15-30)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Jeremiah's words were not easy or nice. Sometimes God's word is not easy on our flesh, but we do not reject it because deep down we know it is God. (32:1-5)
2. Because the land was about to be captured. God saw the future and told Jeremiah to do it by faith. We need to respond to God's word to us and not the grim circumstances around us. (32:8-25)
3. We need to treat each other as God treats us or we will bring bondage and death to ourselves (34:8-17)
4. People today often don't want to identify with those seeking God because compared to others in the world, they seem peculiar. Yet, when people are in trouble, they quickly turn to those seeking God.
5. This is a picture of the way men treated Christ with rejection and disdain. Christ went to the pit for us to get us out of the pit. (38:4-6)
6. Because he trusted God and put his faith to act on. (38:7-13)
7. We need to examine words that come to us and seek the Lord, not just go by our own judgment. (40:7-41:3)

JEREMIAH 45-52 & LAMENTATIONS

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. The Lord compares Egypt to the Nile. How? What is the message to Egypt through Jeremiah? (Chapter 46)
2. What is God's message to the Philistines through Jeremiah? (Chapter 47)
3. In what way is Moab compared to wine? What will be Moab's outcome and why? (Chapter 48)
4. What is God's message to the Ammonites through Jeremiah? (Chapter 49)
5. What is God's message to Edom, Damascus, and Elam? (Chapter 49)
6. What is the word of the Lord concerning Hazor and Kedar? (Chapter 49)
7. God speaks a word concerning Babylon the great. What will be Babylon's outcome and who will God use to accomplish it? (Chapters 50 & 51)
8. What will Israel and Judah do in the day of Babylon's judgment? (Chapters 50 & 51)
9. What is Jeremiah lamenting in Lamentations? (Chapter 52 - Lamentations)
10. What does Jeremiah say about the Lord's compassion in Lamentations? (Lamentations Chapter 3)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What can we learn for our own lives from God's word to Baruch in this chapter? (Chapter 45)
2. How will God look at the sin of the remnant? What does this say to us? (Chapter 50)
3. Why did God call Babylon the "hammer of the whole earth?" (Chapter 50)
4. Why did God call Babylon a "gold cup in the Lord's hand?" What will happen to this gold cup? (Chapter 51)
5. What was the significance of Seriah tying a rock to the scroll and throwing it in the Euphrates? (Chapter 51)
6. What can we learn from verse 2 about worldly "lovers" and "friends"? (Lamentations Chapter 1)
7. What can we learn from verse 7 about treasures in days of old? (Lamentations Chapter 1)
8. Lamentations 3:33 tells us God does not willingly bring affliction grief. 1:14 tells us the cause. What is it?

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

When the people were in Judah, God would not allow words of prosperity, even though they were still in the promised land. When the people were exiled to Babylon, God told them to pray for prosperity so that they would prosper, even though it was a heathen nation.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 63

OBSERVATIONS

1. Egypt rises like the flooding Nile, but it will fall again. Jeremiah says that Babylon will be God's instrument to make Egypt fall. (46)
2. All Philistines will be destroyed because God said it was His time for judgment. (47)
3. Moab has remained in grown like unpurified and unstrained wine. Now is the time for Moab's destruction because of her overwhelming pride. (48)
4. The Ammonites will be driven away and become fugitives. They will become a mound of ruins, but afterward, God will restore them. (49:1-6)
5. Edom will be stripped bare, the walls of Damascus will be burned down, and the bow of Elam will be broken. (49:7-27, 34-39)
6. They are living in ease, and disaster will come on them from every side. (49:28-33)
7. Babylon will be captured and Babylon the Great will fall. An alliance of great nations from the north will cause it to happen. (50 & 51)
8. Together they will go in tears and seek God. (50:4-5)
9. The degradation and fall of Jerusalem. (52 - Lamentations)
10. They never fail. (Lamentations 3:22)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Not to seek great things for ourselves in God's kingdom, but to seek for His will to be done. (45)
2. He will forgive them to the point that their sin cannot be found, which is how he forgives us! (50:20)
3. Because He used Babylon as an instrument of His wrath on all the other nations. (50:23-24)
4. Babylon made the whole world drunk with her wine of sin. The gold cup will be crushed, broken. (51:6-8)
5. It was a picture of Babylon sinking to rise no more. (51:59-64)
6. They will be unfaithful, deserting us in our times of need.
7. The "good old days" will do nothing for us today. Only God is a help and comfort.
8. Our sins make a yoke on our own neck. God allows the yoke of affliction to bring brokenness and repentance.