

## # 19 - Bible Overview

### Jeremiah and Lamentations

We have covered The Law, history, and poetry books. Our last devotion started the journey of discovering the Prophets. As we mentioned before, there are sixteen prophets. We learned about Isaiah, who was a major prophet and probably the greatest prophet of all.

Today we will look at another major prophet. His name is Jeremiah. He wrote two books: Jeremiah and Lamentations.

Jeremiah ministered to the southern part of Israel called Judah, and particularly to the great city of Jerusalem in Judah. Jeremiah was a prophet during the reign of five kings of Judah.

Jeremiah was sent by God to warn the people that if they didn't turn back to God, they would be conquered by the country of Babylon. But the people continued to worship idols and disobey God.

Although Jeremiah prophesied mostly bad news about the coming destruction, he did tell the people that God would show them mercy. After seventy years in captivity the Israelites would be allowed to return to Israel.

It was a difficult life for Jeremiah. Because he told the people the truth, they did not like him. He was not only rejected by the people, but by his own family too! Sometimes he was treated really badly.

You would think when Northern Israel was conquered by Assyria that would have awakened Judah, but they thought because their king was a descendant of David, the rightful heir to the throne, and because the Temple was in Jerusalem, God would not allow them to be defeated.

Jeremiah watched as Judah was gradually conquered and people were taken to Babylon. The city of Jerusalem, also known as the City of David, held out the longest. Even though the rest of Judah was conquered, the people still didn't listen to Jeremiah. The people thought the Temple protected them

from destruction, but they were wrong. God cared more about the people's souls than the Temple. Jerusalem eventually fell to Babylon too.

In Lamentations Jeremiah laments (is sorry) because the worst has happened. Jerusalem fell to the enemy and the Temple is destroyed along with the city and all of Judah.

Jeremiah grieves because the people rejected their God and now must suffer the consequences of disobedience. He tried to warn them, but they would not listen. So now Jeremiah weeps. In fact, he is known as the weeping prophet.

### DEVOTION

Read Jeremiah 25: 4 -7 & 11-12:

Why was God angry at Judah? \_\_\_\_\_

Who was going to conquer Judah? \_\_\_\_\_

How long would their punishment last? \_\_\_\_\_

In Jeremiah 32: 26-31: What city is Jeremiah talking about? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Lamentations 3: 19-33:

In verse 20 what awful time was Jeremiah grieved over?

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In verse 31, Jeremiah said that no one is abandoned by the Lord forever. What did this mean for the people of Judah who were scattered in a foreign country?

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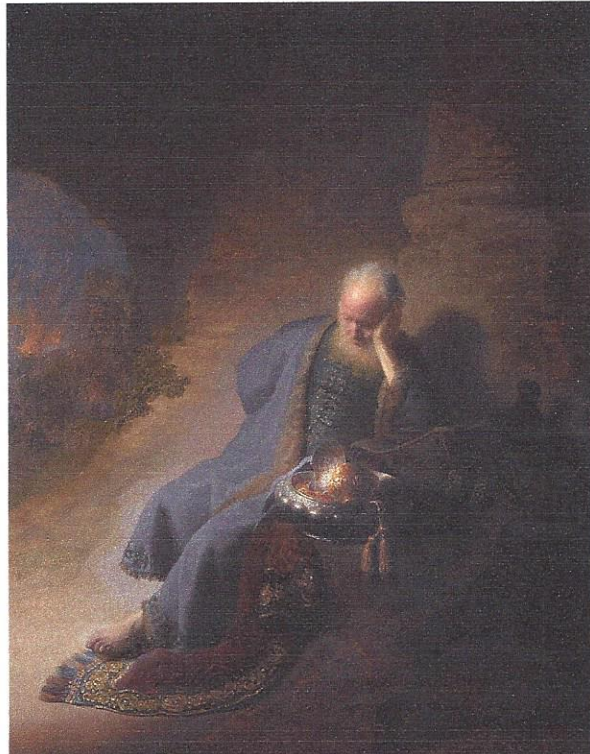
## PRAYER

Dear God, Help me to be like Jeremiah and to speak the truth even when people don't want to hear the truth. I pray that you increase my faith and help me to always obey your commands and not stray as the Israelites did. Amen.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . I am

\_\_\_\_\_ years old. I am walking through the Bible with

\_\_\_\_\_ on this date \_\_\_\_\_.



**Jeremiah, the weeping prophet**



## FOR A TODDLER

What you need: Nothing extra today

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Did you know there is a man in the Bible whose name is Jeremiah?

Jeremiah was sent by God to warn the people to start obeying God, but the people would not listen. What do you think happened to the people?



God through them a party



God punished them



God stopped talking to them.

Jeremiah was very sad that the people disobeyed God and were punished, but God told Jeremiah that he still loved the people. He punished them to make them better people, who are obedient to God.

When the people started obeying God, it made both the people and God happy.



### PRAAYER

Dear God, I want to obey you. Please help me realize that when I am punished it is for my own good. Let me learn to be a better person and obey God and my parents. Amen.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . I am

\_\_\_\_\_ years old. I am walking through the Bible with

\_\_\_\_\_ on this date \_\_\_\_\_ .