

# Jeremiah

## The Fruitless Prophet

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Lesson 04 – Warning and Mourning

Jeremiah 7:1-10:25

Date: 4 November 2020 - Jer20

### 1. Jeremiah's Ministry Prior to 608

- Jeremiah is about 40 years old; Daniel is about 20 and Ezekiel is about 14.
- Jeremiah's first 20 years of preaching were likely during the good reign of Josiah. During those years, he suffered less persecution than later.

### 2. Jehoahaz 608 briefly mentioned by Jeremiah (Jeremiah 22:10-12)

- Also called Shallum, at 23 years old, becomes king for three evil months. Jehoahaz is Josiah's middle son. (2Ch 36:1-2)
- Jehoahaz went up to Riblah (on the Orontes River in Syria) to appear before Necho. He put him in chains and took him to Egypt where he died in prison. (2Ki 23:33-34)
- God knows the hearts of men and deals with them accordingly. The Bible clearly states that if you honour your parents you will live longer (Ex 20:12). If you keep God's word, he may lengthen your days (1Ki 3:14). The opposite is also true.*

### 3. Jehoiakim 608-597 (Jeremiah 7-20; 25-26; 35-36; 45:1-46:12; 47-49)

Ryrie

- Jeremiah did much of his preaching during the eleven-year reign of Jehoiakim.
- Pharaoh Necho made Josiah's oldest son Eliakim (age 25) King of Judah and renamed him Jehoiakim (2Ki 23:34-37; 2Ch 36:4-5)
- Pharaoh Necho placed a heavy tax/tribute on Judah (2 Kings 23:35). God was using Egypt to begin judgment on erring Judah.

### 4. Judah's Wicked Ways Condemned (Jeremiah 7:1-10:25)

- Jeremiah now gives warnings to Judah in the gate of the Lord's house (7:1). Jeremiah 7:1-8:17 are known as the "**Temple Message**". He called the people to "amend their ways" (7:3, 9, 11).
  - Ryrie comments on Jer 7:4, "**The miraculous deliverance of Jerusalem from Sennacherib's army almost a century before (2 Kings 18:13-19:37) made Judah believe that Jerusalem, because it was the site of the temple, was invincible.**"
  - God's judgment was coming (7:15-16).
  - The people worshipped idols (7:17-19).
  - Jeremiah urged the people to lament over their sins (7:29).
  - Even birds flee danger but not sinful Judah (8:7).

6) Their wise men rejected the word of the Lord (8:9).

7) God promised to consume them for their refusal to repent (8:13)

- Jeremiah mourned sharing God's broken heart for his people (8:18-9:26)
  - Jeremiah grieved (8:18-22).
  - The people were no longer valiant for the truth (9:3).
  - God said He would melt and try them (9:7), He would visit them for their sins (9:9).
  - God was angered because they forsook the law and walked after the imagination of their own heart (9:13-14).
  - Again, God urges the people to mourn over their sins (9:17).
  - The Lord tenderly challenges the wise, mighty and rich to honour Him (9:23-24).
  - The days were coming for judgment (9:25-26).
  - Preaching judgment brought no joy to Jeremiah. It broke his heart that his people would not heed God's word. We too need broken hearts to share the Gospel with compassion.*
- Jeremiah denounced the foolishness of idolatry (10:1-16).
  - Idolatry is learned from the heathen (10:2).
  - Idols are manmade (10:3-4).
  - Idols are not alive (10:5).
  - Jehovah is uniquely God** (10:6-7).
  - Idols are brutish (ignorant), foolish and vain (10:8-9).
  - Jehovah is the true and living God** (10:10). **He is the creator of all** (10:12). **Nature responds to His wishes** (10:13).
  - Molten images are false gods (10:14-15).
  - The LORD of hosts is the former of all things** (10:16).
  - This section ought to encourage our hearts that our God is not manmade but the Maker of all that exists.*
- Captivity is near (10:17-18)
- The burden of Jeremiah (10:19-25)
  - He was personally burdened (10:19).
  - The pastors (national leaders, shepherds) are brutish (stupid or dull-hearted) (10:21).
  - "No man can walk aright apart from the revelation of God in His Word."** (McGee) (10:23).
  - Jeremiah's tender heart once again reveals why he is often called the weeping prophet. May God give us broken hearts for our lost loved ones and friends. They are heading for an eternal judgment separated from God for all eternity. "Give me a passion for souls!"*