

Jeremiah

The Fruitless Prophet

Lesson 09 – Predictions

Jeremiah 45-49

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1. Baruch (Jer 45)

- This word came in the **fourth year of Jehoiakim 605** (c.f., Jer 25:1; 36:1; 46:2). This connects with Jer 36.
- God had just hidden Jeremiah and Baruch from the king. They were enduring persecution for the book Jeremiah spoke and Baruch wrote. Baruch was one of Jeremiah's few friends.
- God told him **not to seek great things for himself**. God would bring evil on all flesh. However, because of his faithfulness to God, God would spare Baruch's life.

This reminds us that life is not about us; it is about glorifying God. Nothing can happen to God's faithful people without God's permission. We have nothing to fear as long as we remain in the will of God for our lives.

2. Egypt (Jer 46)

- This too was in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, **605** (46:2).
- Babylon will defeat Egypt at Carchemish (46:2-12). Babylon then became the ruling power.
- The LORD had His hand in this great battle. Though the Egyptian nations banned together, the LORD would take vengeance on Egypt (46:9-10).
- Some years later, Babylon will invade Egypt (46:13-26). God promised that this would come to pass (46:13). Nebuchadrezzar would rise high above Egypt like the mountains Tabor and Carmel in Israel (46:18).
- God promised to save Israel in the end (46:27). Israel must not fear. God promised not to annihilate them, but He would punish them (46:28).

This is a reminder to us that if we do wrong, we will not lose our relationship with God, but we will lose our fellowship and suffer His chastening until we confess and return to Him (1Jn 1:6-9).

3. The Philistines (Jer 47)

- Here God predicts that the Philistines, Israel's southwestern neighbours would be defeated.
- The rising waters out of the north refer to Babylon (47:2). All of the nations around Israel who had mistreated God's people were about to be punished for their evil actions.
- We see in Jeremiah 47:6 that the "*sword of the LORD*" was actually Babylon. God was using Babylon to inflict punishment on His own people

and on those around them.

In an unknown and mysterious way, the Lord is sovereign over all that takes place in the world, yet at the same time, people can rebel against Him. Though He is sovereign, He gives man a choice. He died for all men and desires all men to come to Him (1Ti 2:4-6). He offers salvation to all who will repent and believe (Ac 3:19; Ro 10:13) and rejects those who refuse to believe (2Th 1:8-9) and those who fail to truly believe (Mt 7:21-23). Mysteriously, He weaves all this into His perfect will.

4. Moab (Jer 48)

- Moab, Israel's southeastern neighbours would be defeated. Moab was the decedents of Lot's eldest daughter (Ge 19:37).
- Jeremiah began with a general prediction against Moab (48:1-10). They would flee for their lives and be like a heath in the wilderness. The word translated "*heath*" means naked. They would be like one in the wilderness who has nothing at all.
- The next section shows the complacency of Moab (48:11-17). The LORD pronounced His sovereignty as King over Moab (48:15).
- Then Jer emiah focused on the destruction of Moab (48:18-28)
- Moab's pride would be her downfall (48:29-39).
- Moab would be utterly destroyed (48:40-47).
- I wonder why God spent so much time talking about Moab? Could it be because of her close contact with Israel over the years?

5. Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar and Hazor, Elam (Jer 49)

- Babylon will conquer Ammon in the east (49:1-6).
- Edom to the south east will fall to Babylon (49:7-22)
- Damascus to the north will be burned (49:23-27)
- Babylon will smite Kedar and Hazor regions of Arabia to the east (49:28-33)
- God would also break the bow of Elam (modern Iran) (49:34-39).

The LORD is not just the God of the Jews or the God of Christians; He is the God of the whole world. All people will one day give account to their Creator.

(Philippians 2:10-11) "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Romans 14:12) "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." May be daily strive to live like Baruch, who was faithful to the Lord even during persecution.