

Outline of Jeremiah

- 1 Call of Jeremiah
- 2-45 Prophecies Concerning Judah
- 46-51 Prophecies Concerning Other Nations
- 52 Jerusalem in Ruin

Author

The book opens claiming the words to be Jeremiah's. Jeremiah had a secretary much like Luke was to Paul in the New Testament. His name was Baruch. He provided assistance in writing the material (Je.36:17-18; 45:1).

Jeremiah, the Prophet

Jeremiah tells us much about himself in the book that bears his name. He tells much more than any other prophetic book reveals about its writer. It can be seen as an autobiography. He really was the only prophet who recorded his feelings as he ministered. That can be interesting and helpful to other ministers. Jeremiah comes from a priestly family (like Ezekiel and Zechariah), yet there is no indication that he had formal training for the priesthood or functioned as a priest. He prophesied to Judah and other ancient Near Eastern nations of his time (1:10). Throughout Jeremiah's entire ministry he was never blessed to see the people of Judah turn back to God. He confessed how much he did not like proclaiming the message of judgment to the people he loved. He felt the pain of the prophecies he delivered.

JEREMIAH

Jeremiah called Judah to repent in view of God's coming judgment by an army from the north (Je.2-45). God's people had given themselves to idolatry. Yet God assured them He had a future for Israel and Judah (Je.30-33).

Almost all of his ministry took place in Jerusalem. Jeremiah encountered more opposition, and had more enemies than any other prophet. Much of the opposition came from his message which included asking the people to surrender unconditionally to Babylon to minimize the destruction.

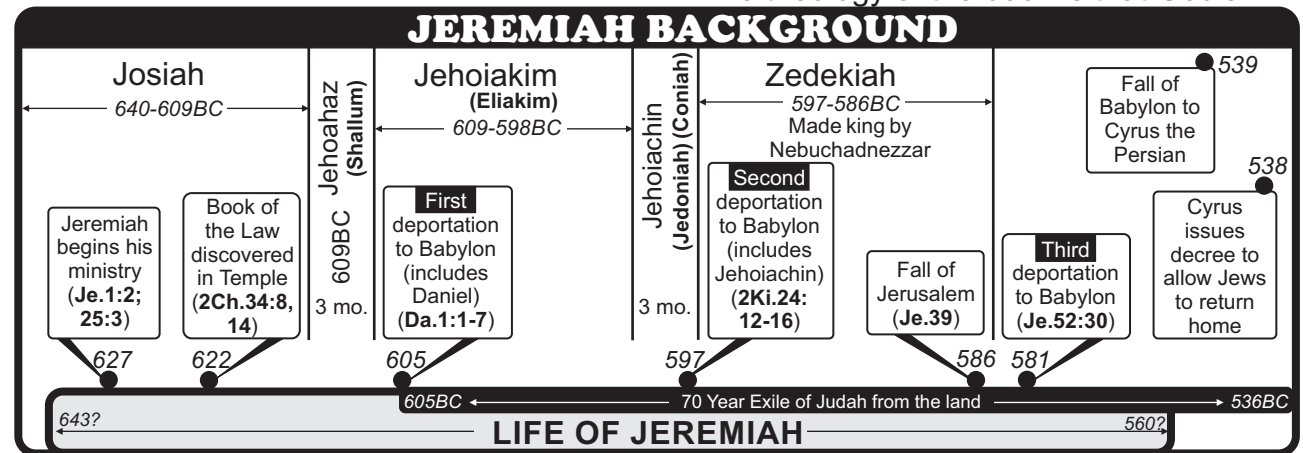
Summary

Jeremiah lived in days of darkness. The

of Jerusalem in 588 and its fall in 586 BC (Je.39). Because Jeremiah advocated surrender to the Babylonians, Nebuchadnezzar allowed him to choose where he wanted to live. He chose to stay where he was. The nations were God's agents in executing His will (27:6). God had a concern for the nations as well as for His people (Je.29:1-14). The theology of the book is that God's

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Northern kingdom was no more from the Assyrian invasion in 722 BC. Only Judah remained. Yet instead of looking to God for help, they looked either to Egypt or to Assyria. The Babylonian monarch summoned Zedekiah to Babylon in 593 BC (51:59). He rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar by making a secret treaty with Pharaoh Hophra (589-570 BC) because of pressure from Judean nationalist (Je.37-38). This resulted in a siege

judgment would fall on Judah because she had broken His covenant.

CHRIST IN JEREMIAH

- He is the fountain of living waters (2:13); the righteous Branch (23:4-6); provider of the New Covenant (31:31); and the Redeemer (50:34).