

INTRODUCTION TO Jeremiah

READ ALONG

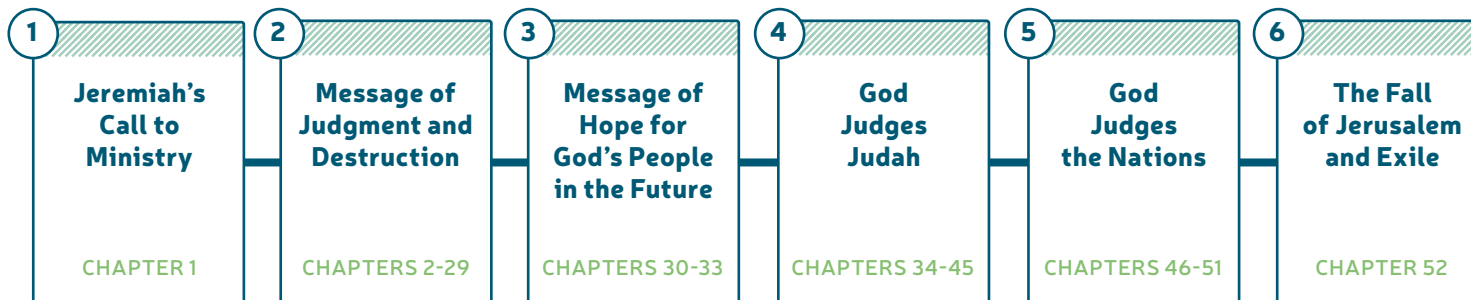
- 03/05–03/27 Jeremiah 1-6
- 03/30–04/03 Jeremiah 7-16
- 04/6–04/10 Jeremiah 17-27
- 04/13–04/17 Jeremiah 28-38
- 04/20–04/24 Jeremiah 39-50
- 04/27–05/01 Jeremiah 50-52

WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

- 18. ECCLESIASTES
- 19. SONG OF SOLOMON
- 20. ISAIAH
- 21. **JEREMIAH**
- 22. LAMENTATIONS
- 23. EZEKIEL
- 24. DANIEL

BASIC STRUCTURE

52 CHAPTERS



KEY THEMES

- Human rebellion and sinfulness are clearly displayed in the prophecies of God's judgment. We read in 17:9, *The heart is more deceitful than anything else, and incurable—who can understand it?*
- God's holiness is seen throughout. God will destroy and judge in order to keep His promise throughout generations (see Ch. 18 where He is the potter who crushed the clay in order to form a new vessel).
- In the judgment of the nations (46-51), we find that God's righteous judgment is not just for His people, but He is the judge of all the earth. There is no people or nation outside of His rule.
- God always keeps His promises. Jeremiah prophecies of future days when God "will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah" (31:31). This new covenant will not be like the old one. Rather, God says, "I will put my teaching within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God and they will be my people. No longer will one teach his neighbor or his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know me, from the least to the greatest of them—this is the LORD'S declaration. For I will forgive their iniquity and never again remember their sin" (31:33-34). When Jesus provides the way to enter into the new covenant through His own blood, we are promised a new heart and the indwelling Holy Spirit of God.

BOOK BASICS



DATE
626-586 BC



TYPE
Prophecy



AUTHOR
Jeremiah

Jeremiah, a priest from Anathoth (1:1), whose ministry spanned 626-586 B.C., is known as "the weeping prophet" because the book is saturated with a sense of doom. However, in contrast, Jeremiah's name means "the Lord exalts" or "the Lord is exalted."

OCCASION

Jeremiah prophesies and writes in the last days of Judah, the southern Kingdom of Abraham's offspring. In the fourth year of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah (605 B.C.) both Egypt and Assyria (two nations Israel and Judah had trusted) are defeated by Babylon at the battle of Carchemish and the certainty of God's judgment was solidified. In that year, God instructed Jeremiah to write down all of the messages He had sent to Judah through the prophet.

MESSAGE

Jeremiah's message is one of judgment and destruction, but also one of mercy and future hope. God is going to "uproot and tear down, to destroy and demolish" so that He can "build and plant" (1:10).