



PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT®

Jeremiah

PART 1

YOU'VE FORSAKEN ME:
REPENT AND RETURN

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

English Standard Version

JEREMIAH

PART 1

YOU'VE FORSAKEN ME:
REPENT AND RETURN

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PAGE **L E S S O N S**

1	LESSON ONE: Jeremiah 1-2
21	LESSON TWO: Jeremiah 3-4
37	LESSON THREE: Jeremiah 5-6
45	LESSON FOUR: Jeremiah 7-9
55	LESSON FIVE: Jeremiah 10-12
63	LESSON SIX: Jeremiah 13-15
73	LESSON SEVEN: Jeremiah 16-18
85	LESSON EIGHT: Jeremiah 19-21
93	LESSON NINE: Jeremiah 22-24

A P P E N D I X

111	Jeremiah Observation Worksheets
205	“Jeremiah, a Man Appointed by God”
207	“Jeremiah at a Glance”
209	Map of Israel
211	Map of Nations Surrounding Israel
213	Map of Jerusalem
215	“The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah’s Time”



HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

The New How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2010

The New Inductive Study Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2013

Hebrew Word Study Tools

(The following is a list of helpful Hebrew Word Study Tools:)

HARRIS, R. LAIRD; ARCHER, GLEASON L. JR.; WALTKE, BRUCE K.

Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1980

RICHARDS, LAWRENCE O.

Expository Dictionary of Bible Words

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1985

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELEIN, FRANK E.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 6

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishers, 1990

SMITH, JAMES E.

Old Testament Survey Series, The Books of History

Joplin, Missouri: College Press Publishing Company, 1995

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com.



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PRECEPT
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Jeremiah Part 1
Lesson 1, Chapters 1–2

LESSON ONE

Chapters One and Two

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of Jeremiah 1–2, 52
“Jeremiah, a Man Appointed by God” chart
“Jeremiah at a Glance” chart
“Map of Israel”
“Map of Nations Surrounding Israel”
“The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah’s Time” chart
Cross-references

A Nation . . .

God is very clear in His Word: neither Israel nor any other country can walk in unfaithfulness to God and go unpunished (Ezekiel 14:12-20).

A Message . . .

The message is hard, but God’s heart is not judgment—it’s repentance. At any moment, God can turn bad situations around. But *we* have to listen!

Like their neighbors, God’s people in Jeremiah’s day preferred the message of “Peace, peace,” not realizing they were at war with God!

A Man . . .

Jeremiah was one of the most vulnerable and personal Old Testament prophets. His prayers, struggles, questions, disappointments, doubts, and tears will show you how to walk more honestly and, as a result, more intimately with God. Through Jeremiah you will see how to serve God in the faithful, though often difficult, exercise of the gifts and ministry He has given each of us.

May we have eyes to see . . . ears to hear.



DAY
ONE

As you study Jeremiah, know that God is going to hammer home truth until the nail sinks deep into the heart of the matter. God is not going to let up. Remember that you need to persevere, to keep going because you need this message. You need to continuously apply and share what you learn with those God brings into your path because the future of your nation is at stake—your future and the future of your loved ones.

1. Part 1 of Jeremiah will take us through the first twenty-four chapters. Your first assignment is to make a commitment to these nine weeks of study—do your homework, come to discussion group, persevere to the end. Write your commitment down in your own words. If you have conditions, “ifs” or “buts,” list them—just make sure you can say them aloud to God.
2. Our first lesson will cover the first two chapters of Jeremiah. Let’s begin our initial observations by reading through the first chapter simply to get an understanding of its general content. You’ll find a set of **Observation Worksheets** in the Appendix of this book. Observation Worksheets are printouts of the texts we’re studying, double-spaced and with wide margins to make them easy to read and mark. When you finish reading Jeremiah 1, write down what this chapter seems to be about in one sentence.
3. Now let’s observe the text more closely. Start by asking questions, interrogating the text like a reporter or investigator using the **5 Ws and H** questions: ***who, what, when, where, why and how***. **Let’s begin with people—the WHO—the easiest to see.** Read Jeremiah 1 again and mark every reference to *Jeremiah* and *God*, including pronouns. Color *Jeremiah* in one color, possibly orange. (We don’t recommend marking Jeremiah in every chapter, but it’s helpful in chapter 1 where we are given specific information about the man.) There is a **Key Word Bookmark** on the back cover of your Precept book which you can refer to for suggested marking for frequently used words such as *God*. When you finish marking *Jeremiah* and *God*:



- a. Answer the following:
 - 1) **Who** are the main characters in this chapter? (List them.)
 - 2) **Who** is speaking to whom?
- b. Jeremiah gives more information about himself than do all the other Old Testament prophets. In the Appendix you'll find a page to record a "bio" on "Jeremiah, a Man Appointed by God." List your insights from chapter 1. You'll add to it as we progress through the book.
- c. Now look at where you marked God and list what you learned about Him.

4. As you read Jeremiah 1, you may have noticed some important repeated words. These are called **key words**, because they help unlock the meaning of the text. Their repetition shows you how important they are to the author's message.

It's helpful to make a list of key words and phrases you want to mark along with how you mark them. This key word list will help you as you move from chapter to chapter. You can list key words on the back of the bookmark on the back cover of your Precept book. Start with the following:

- a. *the nations*. (Note the suggested marking on the front of your key word card—you don't have to use *this* marking, but if you're looking for help to get started, here's one way to do it!) You can mark *kingdoms* the same way.
- b. *the north*. You might use a compass or arrow pointing up (northward).



Jeremiah Part 1

Lesson 1, Chapters 1–2

- c. *gods*. (You can use a big black I). Later we will mark *idol* the same way. Idolatry is an important theme.
5. Look at each marking and then note what you learn from the text about each key word or phrase you marked. This is where you discover truth, gain further knowledge. This is where your theology increases—from gathering information on various things the Lord God wants you to know!

For instance, look at where you marked *nations (kingdoms)*. What did you learn about them? List your insights below or in the margin of your Observation Worksheet. Everything you write will answer a **5 Ws and H** question, so keep asking them as you go.

6. According to what you observed in Jeremiah 1, are the nations important and why?

Congratulations. You're off to a good start. We'll call it a day, but as we do, think about what you've learned, the truth you have already discovered for yourself simply by observing the text! You've learned about Jeremiah—a man the Lord Himself commissioned to be His spokesman. The rest of this week, you're going to see that God has a work for you too. Get ready!



DAY
TWO

1. Remember the 5 Ws and H questions we talked about yesterday? Read through Jeremiah 1 again and then write out the **WHAT** of this chapter. What is it about? What is happening? We know you summarized *what* the chapter was about after reading it through once, but how do you see it now?

2. **Who, what, WHEN. . . .**

Marking references to time is a good habit. Time is indicated in many different ways: by words like *month* and *year*, by events like the annual feasts, and by sequencing terms like *before*, *then*, *after*, *until*. Each time phrase is significant and often vital to understanding the progression of events, so don't neglect them; mark them.

See the front of the card from the back cover for marking tips. You can put a clock over or a green circle around a time word and then a green squiggly line under the rest of the reference to time.

For instance you can mark the first reference in verse 2 like this:

In the thirteenth year of his reign . . .

- a. Now read through Jeremiah 1 again and mark all the time references.
- b. Does Jeremiah 1 give any clues to **WHEN** the events listed are happening? It does! Write out your answer below. Then look at "The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time" in the Appendix.
- c. Color-code each of the kings in verses 2 and 3. Since these are all kings of Judah, you might put a blue box around each of them, then give each one a distinct color inside the box. (If you have done courses from our Kings and Prophets series and already have markings for these kings, you may want to use your markings.) Put these kings on your **Key Word Bookmark** and continue marking them throughout Jeremiah. This will help you put the chapters into context historically.



3. We are going to fully explore the **WHEN** of Jeremiah later, but first let's get the major **Ws** answered. **WHERE? Where is the event happening, where will it happen, where are the people from?** Get the point?
 - a. Read through Jeremiah 1 and mark the *wheres* (geographical locations). See your bookmark for a marking suggestion.
 - b. When you mark a **“where” you don't know**, it's a good idea to look at a map. Look at the “Map of Israel” in the Appendix and find Anathoth. It's about four miles from Jerusalem.
4. You probably saw yesterday that some of the **WHOs** were nations or kingdoms from the north, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and other cities of Judah. So now we've connected the **WHO** with the **WHERE**. But in verses 15-19 you run into the pronouns *they* and *them*. Understanding who or what pronouns refer to sometimes takes a little thinking. But the good news is that context is “king”—it rules over interpretation. So all you need to do is read the surrounding verses (and think) to discover the answers.
 - a. Read Jeremiah 1:14-19 again, paying careful attention to “they” and “them” each time they occur. Then answer the following:
 - 1) Who will disaster be set loose upon?
 - 2) What is the disaster? Who are the “they” who set up their thrones at Jerusalem?
 - 3) Who will God declare judgments against in verse 16? Who has forsaken Him? Who might “dismay” Jeremiah when he preaches a message of judgment? Who will fight against Jeremiah?



- b. Is the “they” in verse 15 the same as the “they” and “them” in verses 16–19? How do you know?

- 5. Now the last of the **5 Ws**: **WHY?** *By the way, the text may not answer all the 5 Ws and H, so don't force it.* Does Jeremiah 1 give you any clues regarding:
 - a. why God appointed Jeremiah as a prophet?

 - b. why He commands Jeremiah to speak to the “them” of verse 17?

 - c. why “they” in verse 19 will fight against Jeremiah?

- 6. And of course there is that last question: **HOW?** Watch for *hows* as we move through Jeremiah.

Great! You are off to an excellent start. Once you get used to continually asking the 5 Ws and H questions, you are going to be amazed at all you learn, all you discover on your own. It's awesome!

This exercise was to get you started if you are new to Precept. You faithful “old-timers” may have left us during this time and observed the text on your own. However, may we suggest you make yourself available to new students to help them see how doable and valuable inductive study is.



Jeremiah Part 1

Lesson 1, Chapters 1–2

The **inductive method** is to discover truth for yourself by going directly to the text before other sources, **observing** the text (seeing what it says), **interpreting** it (understanding what it means), and **applying** it to your life.

Application is often simply adjusting your beliefs to or aligning your character and behavior with the plumb line of God's Word. This produces **transformation** as many of you know.

In fact, those of you who have experienced the transforming effect of inductive study wouldn't study the Word any way other than inductively, would you?

7. Jeremiah is about events that happened to Israel more than two and a half millennia ago. But if you're not Jewish, what does any of this have to do with you? Does God have a purpose for your life as He did for Jeremiah's? Look up Jeremiah 1:5 and the following verses, read them, and write down what you learn about how they relate to you.
 - a. Ephesians 1:3-5; 2:10

b. John 15:16

8. Finally, you will find a "Jeremiah at a Glance" chart in the Appendix. You will see chapter numbers and then a place to write down a theme (the main event or teaching) for each chapter. Write (in pencil) the theme of Jeremiah 1. The purpose of the At a Glance chart is to provide a compact visual chapter-by-chapter summary of the book you can return to for easy reference.



9. Now, if you have time, think through all you've observed in your study today. More application will come later. Right now you need to make sure you are getting all the facts: gaining knowledge about God, Jeremiah, and what God is up to. Whatever helps you review and remember what you've just observed, do it. This may mean just think, jot down some notes, or write a prayer to the Lord with respect to this study.

Great! You should be excited about what you have seen on your own. Don't be concerned about what you have not seen or do not understand. Observation is like peeling an onion—you do one layer at a time! So don't cry. Put the onion down. We'll get more tomorrow. You are going to be amazed at all you discover on your own.

DAY THREE

1. "The word of the Lord came to me" sounds awesome, doesn't it? And important! **"Word of the Lord" is a key repeated phrase in Jeremiah**, so add it to your bookmark. You can mark it a special way so it pops out on the page. Now read Jeremiah 1 and mark it.

2. Do you envy Jeremiah when you read that God gave him His Word directly? Do you wish it were you? Of course it would be easier if God *didn't* tell you that people won't want to hear your message and will oppose you!

Yet do you realize that God has given His Word to you directly—the Bible! What you have is even better than what Jeremiah had, because you have the complete Word of God, the recorded revelation of God to man, preserved so you can have everything you need for life and godliness. That's *way* more than Jeremiah had!

And as God chose Jeremiah for a purpose—to get out His message—so He's called you to do the same. Look up the following verses and note what you learn that relates to you if you've been born again into the family of God.



- a. 2 Timothy 4:1-4

- b. Matthew 28:16-20

Do you know that Precept Ministries International makes disciples in nearly 150 countries with Bibles studies in almost 70 languages? Jeremiah reached the nations with God's message and you can too by being a part of the Precept family. If you'd like information about opportunities to help, call (800)763-8280 or visit www.precept.org.

- 3. It's one thing to speak for the Lord and another to be sure you're speaking the truth. How sure was God's word to Jeremiah?
 - a. Read Jeremiah 1:12 and write out the answer to this question.

 - b. Read Jeremiah 1:11-12. If you read these verses in Hebrew, the language in which Jeremiah wrote them, you would see a play on words. "Almond" (1:11) in Hebrew is *shaged*, while "watching" (1:12) is *shoged*. What is God emphasizing to Jeremiah?

- 4. Now, how convinced are you when you speak God's Word? How convinced are you that the Bible is God's Word and what's recorded will come to pass? We are excited that you are studying with us—discovering TRUTH for yourself. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:13 and let it encourage you.



5. Before we go any further into Jeremiah, let's put ourselves into **context** historically.
 - a. **Context** is the setting: *con* is with—and so context is that which goes with the text. Context can be historical, geographical, cultural, grammatical. You already looked at the grammatical setting in the assignment you did discerning *they* and *them* in Jeremiah 1:15-16. Remember, we also pointed out that context is king; it rules interpretation. Therefore, whenever you want to make sure you are handling God's Word accurately, check out the context.
 - b. Review what you learned on Day Two about when the Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah. When in Israel's history did it come? List your insights—you'll remember what you write out. Note when the Word first came, when it occurs, how long it lasts, and when it ends. Also, say aloud what you write. Hearing something helps you remember, too.

6. Study the chart, "The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time" found in the Appendix. Find the kings' names mentioned in Jeremiah 1. Color each king's name the same color you used on your Key Word Bookmark. Note from the chart that some of the kings have more than one name. Add these to your bookmark beside their names used in Jeremiah.

7. Read 2 Chronicles 34 in your Bible and mark the various years of Josiah's reign. Then list them below chronologically, noting the major events that happened in those years.



When you list Josiah's eighteenth year, record the major things that occurred in that year. Don't get lost in the details and miss the big picture. Also, as you list the various years of Josiah's reign, insert the time of Jeremiah's ministry into the chronological sequence.

8. Finally, read Jeremiah 52:1-16 (the entire chapter if you have time). You will find Jeremiah 52 at the end of your Observation Worksheets. As you read it, remember we are looking at the historical context—the time period of Jeremiah's ministry; therefore, mark just four things: time, geographical locations, *Zedekiah*, and *Babylon*. You might put a big red ***B*** over *Babylon* or *Chaldeans* (another name for *Babylonians*) and shade it black. When you finish, answer the following questions:
 - a. What year does Nebuchadnezzar begin to besiege Jerusalem? Who is ruling?
 - b. Why does Nebuchadnezzar do this?
 - c. What happens to Zedekiah?
 - d. According to Jeremiah 52:12-16, what happens in Jerusalem and to Jerusalem when Nebuzaradan (the captain of King Nebuchadnezzar's bodyguard) comes to Jerusalem?



9. Let's go back to Jeremiah 1 and look at the nations a little more closely.
 - a. What verses in Jeremiah 1 show you that God appointed Jeremiah not only to be a prophet to Judah but also to the nations?
 - b. From Jeremiah 1, who are the nations coming against?
 - c. Mark *evil* in verse 16 in a distinctive color or way. Some of us color it brown, the same way we color *sin*, *iniquity*, and *transgress*. Add this to your bookmark.
 - d. What is Judah's evil?
10. Finally today, how can you apply what you learned about God from Jeremiah 1? How will this help you live?

Thank you so much for joining us for this study. If you're determined to stick with this study, you'll be truly awed by what you learn and how relevant it is to the days we're living in. Your knowledge of God and His ways will deepen, making you far more confident to deal with the future—no matter what comes. Remember, when you know God, you are able not only to be strong but also to take action—to "stand firm and take action" (Daniel 11:32b). Now that's hero stuff!



DAY FOUR

Today we start observing Jeremiah 2. Since it is a long chapter, we are going to work on it for the next two days. Our emphasis today will be to observe the chapter as a whole, and then tomorrow we will start analyzing it. Just know this: the more you observe, the more you'll "get it"—know it, understand it. It helps to read through the text as many times as possible.

1. When you observe a chapter, do the following:
 - a. Search out answers to the **5 Ws and H questions** as you did for Jeremiah 1; mark all time phrases (**whens**) and all geographical locations (**wheres**). Look at the people (**whos**)—see what you learn about them.
 - b. Mark key words.
 - c. As you observe the text, make sure you “hang on God’s every word.” Remember, Jesus told the devil “man shall not live by bread alone, but by **every** word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4).
 - 1) Pray as you study. Keep seeking God’s help—the Spirit’s enlightenment. The Spirit of God is your “in-house” tutor.
 - 2) When you see *I, me, they, them, you, your, we, our*, make sure you know who is speaking or being referred to. The context will tell you.
 - 3) Until you become familiar with the geography of the region, check the maps in the Appendix to see where each place is. The “Map of Nations Surrounding Israel” will be helpful for chapter 2.
 - 4) Observe the flow of thought. Look at the text paragraph by paragraph. How does God take you through the text?
 - 5) Continually ask God how to live out what you’re learning day by day. He delights in such prayers . . . and answers them.
2. Add the following key words and phrases to your Key Word Bookmark and mark them as you observe Jeremiah 2. Check your bookmark for ideas for marking.
 - a. *the land of Israel*
 - b. *people* (when it refers to Israel, God’s people; however, marking pronouns might be too much)
 - c. *love*
 - d. *forsake*—a downward orange arrow
 - e. *evil*
 - f. *anger* (God’s)
 - g. *prophets* (other than Jeremiah)
 - h. *whore (whoredom)* with a big red **W**
 - i. *shame, ashamed*—you might color it red like someone blushing, and put a slash through it like this / if it is *not ashamed*



3. When you finish, analyze what you have observed and learned. List what you learn from marking key words.
4. Record the chapter theme for Jeremiah 2 on the “Jeremiah at a Glance” chart.

Have a great study time, modern-day Jeremiahs! Remember, people desperately need to hear the Word of the Lord and you are His spokesperson (2 Timothy 4:1-4).

DAY FIVE

As you begin today’s study, read through Jeremiah 2 again.

1. Follow the progression of reasoning. Who does God speak to? Give the verse(s) that supports your answer.

2. Now, analyze the chapter paragraph by paragraph. Write out, as briefly as possible, a summary statement of each paragraph.

2:1-3

2:4-8

2:9-13

2:14-19

2:20-25

2:26-28



Lesson 1, Chapters 1–2

3. At this point, how would you summarize in two or three sentences what Jeremiah 2 is about? What is the “main thing” that hit you?

4. Jeremiah 2:13 says God's people have committed two evils. What are they?

- 16



c. John 4:13-14

d. John 7:37-39

e. Revelation 22:17

6. Read Jeremiah 2:13-19.

a. How does Jeremiah 2:14-19 expand on Jeremiah 2:13?

b. What is the problem? What are the people turning to?

c. Do you see similar behavior in your nation?

d. What about you? What do you run to in times of “thirst,” need, want?



7. Observe how the Lord illustrates their sin.
 - a. How does He open Jeremiah 2? What's the picture? God's Word will expand on this even more in chapter 3.
 - b. How does He describe their behavior in 2:20-25?
 - c. How do the people respond to the Lord's admonition in 2:22-25?
 - d. Do you know people like this today? Do you realize the true consequences of walking this way? Do you think they, or you, can get away with it?
 - e. How can you use this chapter to witness and minister to people today?
8. The phrase "In your time of trouble" is used twice, in verses 27-28. Explain this phrase; what's God's point?



9. Look at verses 29-37: “O generation, behold the word of the Lord.” Does this remind you of our times? Are we sinning and saying, “I have not sinned”?
 - a. Where does this lead? What’s going to happen to Judah?
 - b. Does this happen? You’ve read the last chapter of Jeremiah. What did you see?
 - c. Do you think the people believed “you too will come away with your hands on your head”—that is, into captivity? Why or why not?
 - d. And what do you think people think today? Do you think they realize a holy God will bring upon them the consequences of forsaking Him? Walking their own way? Living without even thinking about God? What makes you think that?
 - e. What about you?



Jeremiah Part 1

Lesson 1, Chapters 1–2

How unimaginable! Israel, God’s chosen witness to the world, has become a nation of hypocrites! They say they love God, but they disobey His Word. They say they worship the true God, but in practice they worship idols. They say they are obedient, yet they refuse to confess and repent of their sin. Oh, beloved, have we, the Church, become hypocrites too? Now think about what you’ve learned this week. How can you use it in interacting with people? Why don’t you pray and ask God for opportunities to share these truths with people who need to hear them . . . who might truly listen and turn to God. Jot down your insights.

10. Feel free to consult your commentaries if you have time. However, please don’t read beyond Jeremiah 2; you don’t want to spoil your joy of discovery. Record pertinent insights below.

May this study help you say with the psalmist, “I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me” (Psalm 119:102).



JEREMIAH 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- THE words of Jeremiah, the son of Hilkiah, one of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,
- 2 to whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.
- 3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, and until the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the captivity of Jerusalem in the fifth month.
- 4 Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
- 5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”
- 6 Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.”
- 7 But the LORD said to me,
- “Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’;
for to all to whom I send you, you shall go,
and whatever I command you, you shall speak.
- 8 “Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
declares the LORD.”
- 9 Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me,
- “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.



- 10 “See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to break down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”
- 11 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Jeremiah, what do you see?” And I said, “I see an almond branch.”
- 12 Then the LORD said to me, “You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it.”
- 13 The word of the LORD came to me a second time, saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a boiling pot, facing away from the north.”
- 14 Then the LORD said to me, “Out of the north disaster shall be let loose upon all the inhabitants of the land.
- 15 “For behold, I am calling all the tribes of the kingdoms of the north, declares the LORD, and they shall come, and every one shall set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, against all its walls all around and against all the cities of Judah.
- 16 “And I will declare my judgments against them, for all their evil in forsaking me. They have made offerings to other gods and worshiped the works of their own hands.
- 17 “But you, dress yourself for work; arise, and say to them everything that I command you. Do not be dismayed by them, lest I dismay you before them.
- 18 “And I, behold, I make you this day a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls, against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land.
- 19 “They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, declares the LORD, to deliver you.”



JEREMIAH 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THE word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the LORD,

“I remember the devotion of your youth,
your love as a bride,
how you followed me in the wilderness,
in a land not sown.

3 “Israel was holy to the LORD,
the firstfruits of his harvest.
All who ate of it incurred guilt;
disaster came upon them,
declares the LORD.”

4 Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the clans of the
house of Israel.

5 Thus says the LORD:

“What wrong did your fathers find in me
that they went far from me,
and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?

6 “They did not say, ‘Where is the LORD
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that none passes through,
where no man dwells?’

7 “And I brought you into a plentiful land
to enjoy its fruits and its good things.



- But when you came in, you defiled my land
and made my heritage an abomination.
- 8 “The priests did not say, ‘Where is the LORD?’
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the shepherds transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal
and went after things that do not profit.
- 9 “Therefore I still contend with you,
declares the LORD,
and with your children’s children I will contend.
- 10 “For cross to the coasts of Cyprus and see,
or send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has been such a thing.
- 11 “Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
for that which does not profit.
- 12 “Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked, be utterly desolate,
declares the LORD,
13 for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living waters,
and hewed out cisterns for themselves,
broken cisterns that can hold no water.
- 14 “Is Israel a slave? Is he a homeborn servant?
Why then has he become a prey?
- 15 “The lions have roared against him;
they have roared loudly.
They have made his land a waste;
his cities are in ruins, without inhabitant.
- 16 “Moreover, the men of Memphis and Tahpanhes
have shaved the crown of your head.



- 17 “Have you not brought this upon yourself
 by forsaking the LORD your God,
 when he led you in the way?
- 18 “And now what do you gain by going to Egypt
 to drink the waters of the Nile?
 Or what do you gain by going to Assyria
 to drink the waters of the Euphrates?
- 19 “Your evil will chastise you,
 and your apostasy will reprove you.
 Know and see that it is evil and bitter
 for you to forsake the LORD your God;
 the fear of me is not in you,
 declares the Lord GOD of hosts.
- 20 “For long ago I broke your yoke
 and burst your bonds;
 but you said, ‘I will not serve.’
 Yes, on every high hill
 and under every green tree
 you bowed down like a whore.
- 21 “Yet I planted you a choice vine,
 wholly of pure seed.
 How then have you turned degenerate
 and become a wild vine?
- 22 “Though you wash yourself with lye
 and use much soap,
 the stain of your guilt is still before me,
 declares the Lord GOD.
- 23 “How can you say, ‘I am not unclean,
 I have not gone after the Baals’?
 Look at your way in the valley;
 know what you have done—
 a restless young camel running here and there,



- 24 a wild donkey used to the wilderness,
in her heat sniffing the wind!
Who can restrain her lust?
None who seek her need weary themselves;
in her month they will find her.
- 25 “Keep your feet from going unshod
and your throat from thirst.
But you said, ‘It is hopeless,
for I have loved foreigners,
and after them I will go.’
- 26 “As a thief is shamed when caught,
so the house of Israel shall be shamed:
they, their kings, their officials,
their priests, and their prophets,
- 27 who say to a tree, ‘You are my father,’
and to a stone, ‘You gave me birth.’
For they have turned their back to me,
and not their face.
But in the time of their trouble they say,
‘Arise and save us!’
- 28 “But where are your gods
that you made for yourself?
Let them arise, if they can save you,
in your time of trouble;
for as many as your cities
are your gods, O Judah.
- 29 “Why do you contend with me?
You have all transgressed against me,
declares the LORD.
- 30 “In vain have I struck your children;
they took no correction;



- your own sword devoured your prophets
like a ravening lion.
- 31 “And you, O generation, behold the word of the LORD.
Have I been a wilderness to Israel,
or a land of thick darkness?
Why then do my people say, ‘We are free,
we will come no more to you’?
- 32 “Can a virgin forget her ornaments,
or a bride her attire?
Yet my people have forgotten me
days without number.
- 33 “How well you direct your course
to seek love!
So that even to wicked women
you have taught your ways.
- 34 “Also on your skirts is found
the lifeblood of the guiltless poor;
you did not find them breaking in.
Yet in spite of all these things
- 35 you say, ‘I am innocent;
surely his anger has turned from me.’
Behold, I will bring you to judgment
for saying, ‘I have not sinned.’
- 36 “How much you go about,
changing your way!
You shall be put to shame by Egypt
as you were put to shame by Assyria.
- 37 “From it too you will come away
with your hands on your head,
for the LORD has rejected those in whom you trust,
and you will not prosper by them.



JEREMIAH 52

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

ZEDEKIAH was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

2 And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

3 For because of the anger of the LORD it came to the point in Jerusalem and Judah that he cast them out from his presence.

And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

4 And in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem, and laid siege to it. And they built siegeworks all around it.

5 So the city was besieged till the eleventh year of King Zedekiah.

6 On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land.

7 Then a breach was made in the city, and all the men of war fled and went out from the city by night by the way of a gate between the two walls, by the king's garden, and the Chaldeans were around the city. And they went in the direction of the Arabah.

8 But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho. And all his army was scattered from him.

9 Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, and he passed sentence on him.

10 The king of Babylon slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and also slaughtered all the officials of Judah at Riblah.



- 11 He put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him in chains, and the king of Babylon took him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.
- 12 In the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month—that was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon—Nebuzaradan the captain of the bodyguard, who served the king of Babylon, entered Jerusalem.
- 13 And he burned the house of the LORD, and the king's house and all the houses of Jerusalem; every great house he burned down.
- 14 And all the army of the Chaldeans, who were with the captain of the guard, broke down all the walls around Jerusalem.
- 15 And Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive some of the poorest of the people and the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon, together with the rest of the artisans.
- 16 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left some of the poorest of the land to be vinedressers and plowmen.
- 17 And the pillars of bronze that were in the house of the LORD, and the stands and the bronze sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces, and carried all the bronze to Babylon.
- 18 And they took away the pots and the shovels and the snuffers and the basins and the dishes for incense and all the vessels of bronze used in the temple service;
- 19 also the small bowls and the fire pans and the basins and the pots and the lampstands and the dishes for incense and the bowls for drink offerings. What was of gold the captain of the guard took away as gold, and what was of silver, as silver.
- 20 As for the two pillars, the one sea, the twelve bronze bulls that were under the sea, and the stands, which Solomon the king had made for the house of the LORD, the bronze of all these things was beyond weight.



- 21 As for the pillars, the height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits, its circumference was twelve cubits, and its thickness was four fingers, and it was hollow.
- 22 On it was a capital of bronze. The height of the one capital was five cubits. A network and pomegranates, all of bronze, were around the capital. And the second pillar had the same, with pomegranates.
- 23 There were ninety-six pomegranates on the sides; all the pomegranates were a hundred upon the network all around.
- 24 And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest and the three keepers of the threshold;
- 25 and from the city he took an officer who had been in command of the men of war, and seven men of the king's council, who were found in the city; and the secretary of the commander of the army, who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land, who were found in the midst of the city.
- 26 And Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah.
- 27 And the king of Babylon struck them down and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was taken into exile out of its land.
- 28 This is the number of the people whom Nebuchadnezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year, 3,023 Judeans;
- 29 in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem 832 persons;
- 30 in the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Judeans 745 persons; all the persons were 4,600.
- 31 And in the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth day of the month, Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, graciously freed Jehoiachin king of Judah and brought him out of prison.



- 32 And he spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat above the seats of the kings who were with him in Babylon.
- 33 So Jehoiachin put off his prison garments. And every day of his life he dined regularly at the king's table,
- 34 and for his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king, according to his daily needs, until the day of his death, as long as he lived.



JEREMIAH, A MAN APPOINTED BY GOD



Jeremiah Part 1

“Jeremiah, a Man Appointed by God”

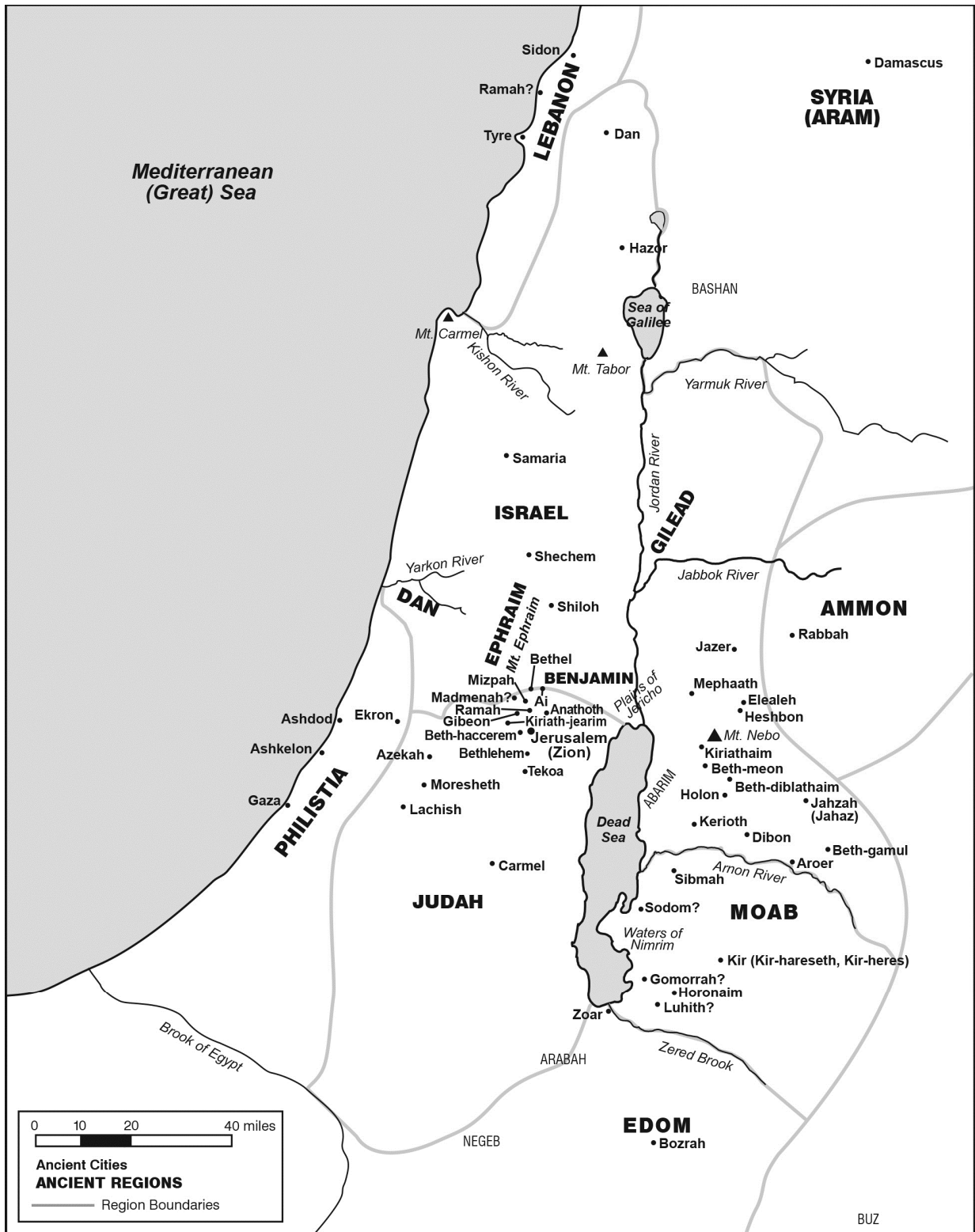


JEREMIAH AT A GLANCE

Segment Divisions		Chapter Themes
Author:		1
		2
		3
		4
Date:		5
		6
		7
		8
Purpose:		9
		10
		11
		12
Key Words:		13
		14
		15
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		23
		24



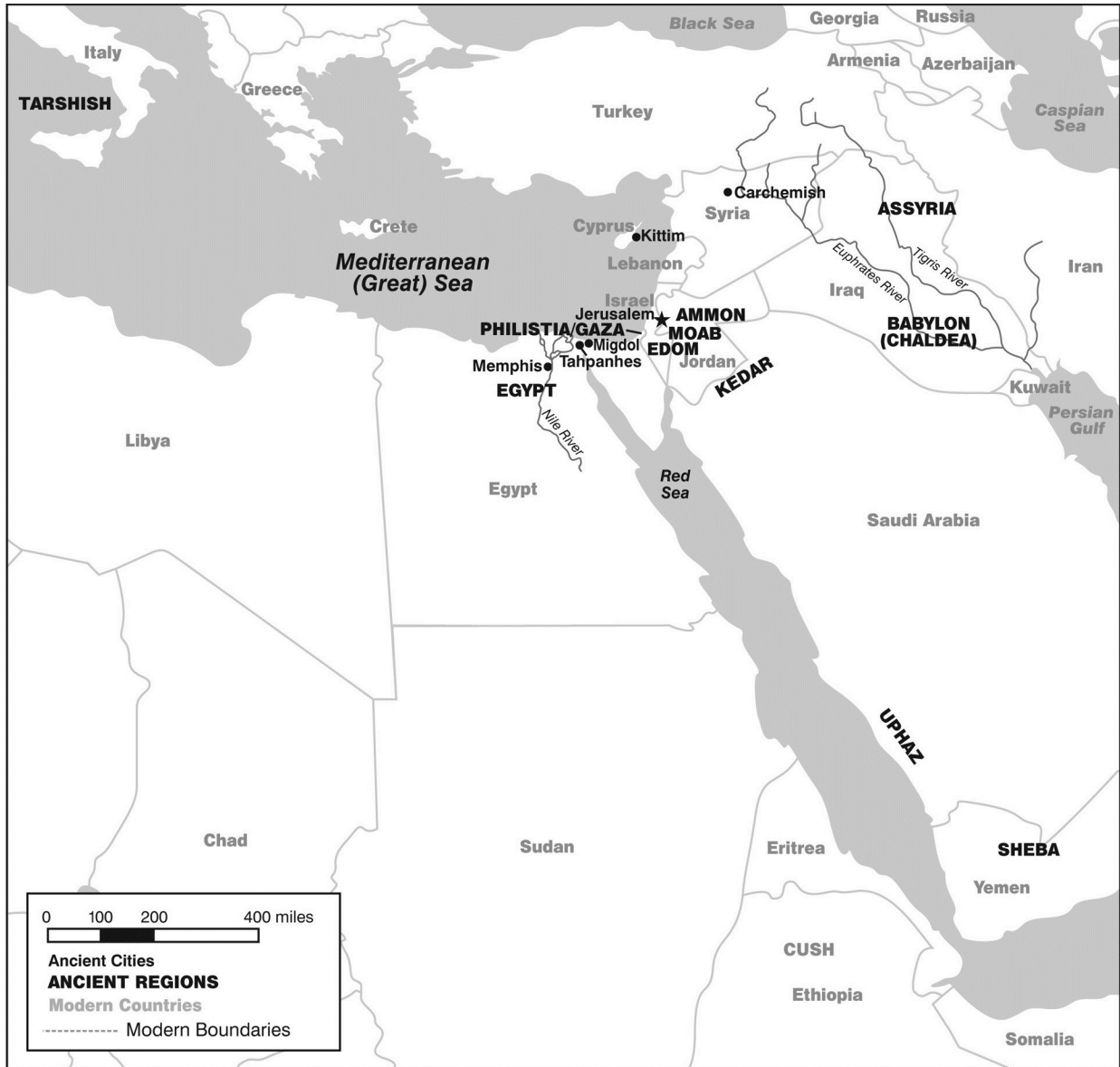
Jeremiah Part 1
Map of Israel





Jeremiah Part 1

Map of Nations Surrounding Israel





Jeremiah Part 1

The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time

The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah's Time

