

Outline of Jeremiah

We hope this outline of Jeremiah will aid you in your study of God's letter to you.

Jeremiah is the second of the major writing prophets. He authored the books of Jeremiah and the small poetic book of Lamentations. He lived and prophesied around 100 years after Isaiah beginning in 627 B.C. until around 586 B.C. The final chapter of the book apparently was added by a scribe detailing events that most likely occurred after Jeremiah's death, around 560 B.C. Jeremiah began prophesying as a young man (Jeremiah 1:6). His prophetic ministry was not well accepted. The king asked for his advice and then did the opposite. In fact, at one time the king read Jeremiah's prophecy, section by section, cutting them out after they were read and throwing them in the fire that was on his hearth. The people asked for his advice and then did the opposite. The priests and religious prophets hated him and threw him into a dungeon. Yet, the message Jeremiah proclaimed was ultimately the right one.

Jeremiah tells us much about the character of God in the first 35 chapters.

Reference	Comment
Jeremiah 1:8, 19	The presence of God is enough to withstand all enemies.
Jeremiah 2:13	He is the fountain of living waters.
Jeremiah 3:12	He is merciful
Jeremiah 4:28	But there are times when He will not relent
Jeremiah 5:22	We should tremble at His presence
Jeremiah 6:30	God sometimes rejects people
Jeremiah 7:16; 11:14	And does not even want prayer on their behalf
Jeremiah 8:7	He is a God of judgment
Jeremiah 9:23-24	He is the God who exercises lovingkindness, Judgment, and righteousness in the earth
Jeremiah 10:7	He is the King of the nations
Jeremiah 10:10	the living God, the everlasting King
Jeremiah 10:12, 16	The Creator
Jeremiah 10:13	The Sustainer
Jeremiah 11:20	He tests the mind and the heart
Jeremiah 12:1	He is righteous
Jeremiah 12:7	He is endeared to His people
Jeremiah 13:16	He should be glorified
Jeremiah 14:8	He is the Hope of Israel
Jeremiah 15:6	But He becomes weary of relenting
Jeremiah 16:17	His eyes are on all their ways
Jeremiah 17:13	He writes in the earth those who depart from Him
Jeremiah 18:6	He is the potter
Jeremiah 19:3	His judgments are notable

Jeremiah 20:11	He is a mighty, awesome One
Jeremiah 20:12	He tests the righteous
Jeremiah 21:8	He gives a choice (life or death)
Jeremiah 22:24-26	God will not endure sin, even with those close to Him
Jeremiah 23:4-5	He will set up shepherds, a Branch of righteousness, and a King
Jeremiah 23:23-24	He is omnipresent
Jeremiah 23:29	His word is powerful
Jeremiah 24:9	He will deliver some to trouble
Jeremiah 25:31	He will plead with all flesh
Jeremiah 26:13	God seeks for repentance
Jeremiah 27:5	He gives the land to whomever it seems proper to Him
Jeremiah 28:16-17	God's judgment sometimes is swift
Jeremiah 29:11-13	God's thoughts for us are for peace and a future and a hope, and not for evil
Jeremiah 30:22	God is looking for a people
Jeremiah 31:3	He has loved us with an everlasting love
Jeremiah 32:17, 27	there is nothing too difficult
Jeremiah 32:18	He is the Great One
Jeremiah 32:19	He is great in counsel and mighty in work
Jeremiah 33:11	He is good
Jeremiah 34:13	He sticks to His covenant
Jeremiah 35:18-19	God blesses obedience

And Jeremiah tells us much about the character of man as well.

Reference	Comment
Jeremiah 2:23; 35	Man does not know his own depravity
Jeremiah 4:4, 14	Man needs to repent
Jeremiah 5:7	When fed to the full, men commit adultery
Jeremiah 5:25	Sin withholds good things from us
Jeremiah 5:30-31	People love false prophecy
Jeremiah 6:16	We should not stray from the old paths
Jeremiah 7:8	We often trust in lying words
Jeremiah 7:23-27	People will not obey
Jeremiah 8:9	Without God's wisdom, people are without wisdom
Jeremiah 9:6	They refuse to know God
Jeremiah 10:23-24	Man does not direct his own steps

Jeremiah 11:15	rejoice to do evil
Jeremiah 12:8	Men are like lions crying out against God
Jeremiah 13:23	It is impossible for those who are accustomed to evil to do good
Jeremiah 14:10	Men love to wander and not discipline themselves
Jeremiah 15:10	They curse God's servants
Jeremiah 16:11-12	They just do worse and worse
Jeremiah 17:9	The heart is weak above all
Jeremiah 17:14	We need to be healed
Jeremiah 18:12	Man thinks God's way is hopeless
Jeremiah 19:15	Stiffening the neck to not hear
Jeremiah 20:7-8	His people are derided
Jeremiah 21:13	Do not realize impending doom
Jeremiah 22:13-17	unrighteous and covetous people
Jeremiah 22:21	Do not listen in prosperity
Jeremiah 23:17	People like prophets who proclaim peace
Jeremiah 24:7	He will give a heart to know Him to those who go His way
Jeremiah 25:15-38	all nations shall be punished
Jeremiah 26:8	the religious ones will try to kill the messenger
Jeremiah 27:9	the religious ones may be telling lies
Jeremiah 28:15-16	Lying prophets teach rebellion against God
Jeremiah 29:16-19	Those who do not heed God's words will be punished
Jeremiah 29:24-28	men want to persecute the prophet
Jeremiah 30:14	Men forsake men in time of trouble
Jeremiah 31:22	They wander about
Jeremiah 32:33-35	they commit all types of abominations
Jeremiah 33:3	We are encouraged to call
Jeremiah 34:16	Men profaned God's name
Jeremiah 35:17	Men don't obey God

The book is strongly pro-life (Jeremiah 1:5; 20:17-18).

The book centers on the rebellion of Israel and the coming judgment. A great deal of emphasis is placed on the fact that Israel has violated the covenant of God. Yet, God continues to call for repentance. But finally, God has enough, and the destruction falls.

Date: 627-586 B.C.

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Key Idea:

Disobedience Brings Judgment. Predominate phrase is "Thus says the LORD." It's found 139 times in Jeremiah. It's only found 123 times in the rest of the Old Testament. The phrase "LORD of hosts", or "LORD of the armies," is found 72 times out of a total of 246 times in the Old Testament. God is speaking as the God of the armies of the world.

Key Passage: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Key Lesson: Turn to God before His Judgment falls.