

## Jeremiah

Jeremiah started prophesying during the reign of Josiah. God planned special work for Jeremiah before he was even born! Jeremiah told God that he didn't know how to speak because he was too young. God told Jeremiah that He would tell Jeremiah where to go and what to say. Jeremiah was not to be afraid because God would deliver him from danger. Danger would come from the north and destroy Judah because they had turned from God and worshipped idols. Jeremiah was not to be upset when the people of Judah were against him because God would be with him!

Judah had seen God punish Israel for turning from Him and worshipping idols. Did Judah learn her lesson from this? **NO!** God said that Judah's punishment was coming like a lion from a thicket. The land would be made a wreck. Because of this destruction, God tells Jeremiah to quickly go out into the city and find a man who does right so the city could be forgiven. Jeremiah could not find anyone who did right. How sad!

Jeremiah tried to get the people to change their ways, but they would not listen. The prophets told lies and the priests were not ruling fair. Because the people loved evil and not good, punishment was on its way. The temple of God was in Jerusalem, but it would not save them. They would only be allowed to stay in the land if they would repent and learn to obey. Jeremiah cried for the wickedness of his people.

God told Jeremiah to not pray for wicked Judah because He would not listen. They had broken their covenant with God to obey His word so He would be their God and they would be His people. Judah and all her wicked neighbors would be plucked up out of the land and punished. The punishment would be very severe and the people would die horrible deaths. Because of this, God commanded Jeremiah not to marry.

God commanded Jeremiah to go to a potter's house and watch him work. If the clay didn't turn out right, the potter would wad it up and start over. God was like a potter and Judah like clay. If Judah could not be shaped to God's will, she would be cast away.

Jeremiah felt as though he preached violence and destruction all the time. He was so sad. If he didn't preach, he became tired from holding it all in. Jeremiah was a faithful servant who preached to wicked Judah for over 40 years even though he suffered and was treated badly by his people.

**Main Points:**

1. We can do the work God had planned for us even if we are young.
2. God will punish the wicked.
3. God will be with us IF we obey Him.
4. We must obey God even when it is difficult.

**Jeremiah Song: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"**

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!  
Thou art the Potter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after Thy will,  
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

## Lesson 15 Questions: Book of Jeremiah

1. When did God plan His special job for Jeremiah?  
Before he was born                      When he was old
2. Why did Jeremiah feel he didn't know how to speak?  
He was too young                      He was too old
3. Who would be with Jeremiah and protect him?  
Josiah                                      God
4. Did Judah learn her lesson by watching God punish Israel?  
Yes                                      No
5. Could Jeremiah find any people in the city of did right?  
Yes                                      No
6. Was Jeremiah supposed to get married?  
Yes                                      No
7. What did God compare Himself and Judah to?  
Potter and Clay                      Baker and flour
8. How did Jeremiah feel about preaching to wicked Judah all the time?  
Happy                                      Sad

9. Are we too young to do God's work?

Yes

No

10. Will God punish the wicked?

Yes

No

11. Will God be with us if we obey Him?

Yes

No

12. Do we have to obey God even when it is hard?

Yes

No

## 149. CLAY IN THE POTTER'S HAND (JEREMIAH 18:1-11)



"And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it." JEREMIAH 18:4

"O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel." JEREMIAH 18:6



# 150. JEREMIAH'S SCROLL

(JEREMIAH 36:1-32)



Therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD'S house upon the fasting day; and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities:

**JEREMIAH 36:6**