



COMING UP... JULY 21: Jeremiah part 2 (chs. 34-52) JULY 28: Habakkuk AUG 4: Lamentations AUG 11: Obadiah AUG 18: Ezekiel part 1 (chs. 1-32)

JEREMIAH SUMMARIZED IN A WORD OR PHRASE: "Unconditional Surrender"

[See "Pre-Exilic Kings and Prophets in Israel and Judah" chart, p. 6]

THE TIMES ...

Josiah's reforms had removed the idols from people's homes ... but not from their hearts

Judah's repentance has been only "skin deep"

So Jeremiah along with Zephaniah have been sent "against the wind" to warn and to beg Judah to repent

The darkness is growing ...

The pressure is rising ...

THE BASICS ...

Who: Jeremiah ("YHWH establishes") **When:** pre-exilic (627-586 BC; 41 years) **Where:** primarily to Judah and Jerusalem

Why: "Jeremiah arranged his message in a logical pattern in developing the theme of God's judgment." –Charles Dyer

LESSON THEME: Stand firm under pressure



Diving bell

Jeremiah's Calling (1)

He's from a priestly line and a priestly city

He's a man of some means (e.g. 32:9 the field)

He's reluctant ...

Believes he's too young or too inexperienced

Believes he's not eloquent enough

But God has called him to serve

Approximately 627-586 BC; age 20 to age 61

God says *He* will strengthen him

Jeremiah's Message (2-10)

He warns an unrepentant people of coming judgment

Judah, like her wayward sister Israel, is an idolater and a spiritual adulterer

She's made alliances with Egypt and Assyria

She acts one way in the Temple and another way during the week

She's unteachable and unrepentant

Judgment is coming from the north, from Babylon

Jeremiah's Message (11-19)

He announces signs to awaken even their last-minute repentance

Chapter 11: a broken covenant

Chapter 13: a rotten linen cloth

Chapter 14: a terrible drought

Chapters 14-15: he's forbidden to pray

Chapter 16: he's forbidden to marry

Chapter 18: a still wet lump of clay

Chapter 19: a sun-dried clay jar

Jeremiah's Trials (20-28)

He suffers for his faithfulness

Chapter 20: Pashur, the Temple priest, has him arrested, whipped and put in stocks at the gate
Chapter 20: God won't answer his questions and complaints, so he laments to himself
Chapter 26: The Temple mob seeks to kill him (see 11:21 where his hometown wants him dead)
Chapters 32–33: He's imprisoned
Ignored & reviled; futility & discouragement

God's Promises (29–33)

Yet ... in spite of all this ... he announces God's hope and future for all Israel
Chapter 29: Sends a letter to the Babylonian exiles
Chapter 30: The Lord promises restoration and a reversal of fortunes for Israel and Judah
Chapter 31: God promises them a New Covenant
Chapter 32: He purchases a field in Anathoth
Chapter 33: God promises them future peace as well as prosperity

Summary (1–33)

God calls Jeremiah as His spokesman (1)
He warns an unrepentant Judah of her coming judgment (2–10)
He gives them signs—hopefully to awaken their last-minute repentance (11–19)
He suffers for his faithfulness (20–28)
Yet he announces God's hope and future for all Israel through a New Covenant (29–33)

Jeremiah Stood Firm

In spite of ...
Loneliness (no spouse or family 16:2)
Hardship, physical danger and even death threats
Repeated conflict and confrontation
Being reviled by his own family, hometown, etc.
Disappointment, discouragement, helplessness
Seeing no fruit from his ministry
He's often called "the weeping prophet"
He's an exceptional picture of the Lord Jesus

APPLICATION: Stand firm under pressure

What Strengthened Jeremiah?

His calling and commission
He was God's and bound up in His purposes
He knew Who he represented
Eph 1:3-14; Matt 28:19-20; 2 Tim 2:3-4
His quiet times
He talked with God frequently and consistently
He waited long enough in prayer to hear His voice
John 15:4-5
His "put spiritual things first" decisions
Not as a diplomat: "Is it safe?"
Not as a politician: "Is it popular?"
But based on the Word of God: "Is it right?"
He trusted God with the *outcomes* resulting from his "put spiritual things first" decisions
Matt 6:33
His undying confidence in God and His promises (Num 23:19-20)

Where Do You Need To Stand Firm?

What does your soul weep over, perhaps only to yourself, when you're alone?

A circumstance you didn't create ... and can't control ... or get out of?

A relationship ... particularly one in conflict?

A future that isn't what you expected?

Ridicule?

Disappointment and/or discouragement?

Feeling helpless to change anything in your life?

Stand Firm!

Whether he realized it or not, by standing firm under pressure—by being faithful to do what he knew to do—Jeremiah fulfilled God's will for his life ...

... and so will you!

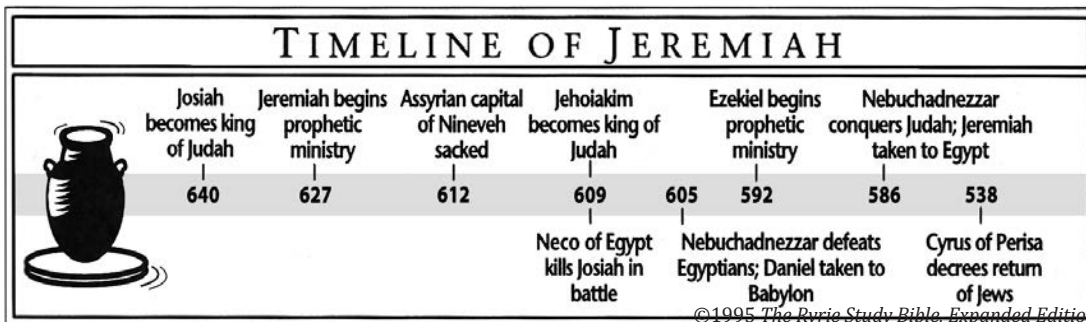
FOR NEXT TIME: _____

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YOUTUBE VIDEOS + HANDOUTS www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGhFjAlhYpqC2XYXZJXiwut_8g7P3qhF

PODCAST: <https://feeds.transistor.fm/old-testament-survey>



"Jeremiah" by James Tissot

JEREMIAH

Call of Jeremiah	Prophecies to Judah					Prophecies to Gentiles	Fall of Jerusalem
	before the fall				the fall	after the fall	
Prophetic commission	Judah's condemnation: 9 messages with repentance	Judah's condemnation: 4 messages without repentance	Jeremiah's personal conflicts with Judah	Future comfort for Israel and Judah	Present catastrophe of Judah	Condemnation of 9 nations	Historic conclusion
1:1 1:19	2:1 20:18	21:1 25:38	26:1 29:32	30:1 33:26	34:1 45:5	46:1 51:64	52:1 52:34

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GOD'S OBJECT LESSONS IN JEREMIAH

Reference	Object Lesson	Significance
1:11, 12	Branch from an almond tree	God will carry out his threats of punishment.
1:13	Pot of boiling water, spilling southward	God will punish Judah.
13:1-11	A rotten linen loincloth	Because the people refused to listen to God, they had become useless, good for nothing, like a useless linen loincloth.
18:1-17	Potter's clay	God could destroy his sinful people if he so desired. This is a warning to them to repent before he is forced to bring judgment.
19:1-12	Shattered clay jars	God would smash Judah just as Jeremiah smashed the clay jars.
24:1-10	Two baskets of figs	Good figs represent God's remnant. Bad figs are the people left behind.
27:2-11	Yoke	Any nation who refused to submit to Babylon's yoke of control would be punished.
43:8-13	Large rocks	The rocks marked the place where Nebuchadnezzar would set his throne when God allowed him to conquer Egypt.
51:59-64	Scroll sunk in the river	Babylon would sink to rise no more.

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The Broken Covenant (2:1-3:10)

A central issue in the Lord's relationship with the Israelite people was whether the covenant made at Sinai (see Exod 20:1-24:11), which the people of Israel had broken, was still valid. In the politics of the ancient Near East, covenant agreements were common. When one of the partners in a covenant broke the terms of the agreement, the result was usually war.

The Sinai Covenant was unique because the Lord was one of the covenant partners. Patterned after secular covenants, the covenant required the Lord and Israel to seal the covenant with solemn oaths of faithfulness (Exod 24:1-11; Deut 29-30; Josh 8:30-35; 24:1-28). The Lord always remained faithful to his covenant commitment, but the Israelite people repeatedly broke the covenant as Canaanite polytheism lured them away from the Lord. They broke the laws banning the worship of idols, engaged in immoral sex rituals, and ignored God's requirements for righteousness.

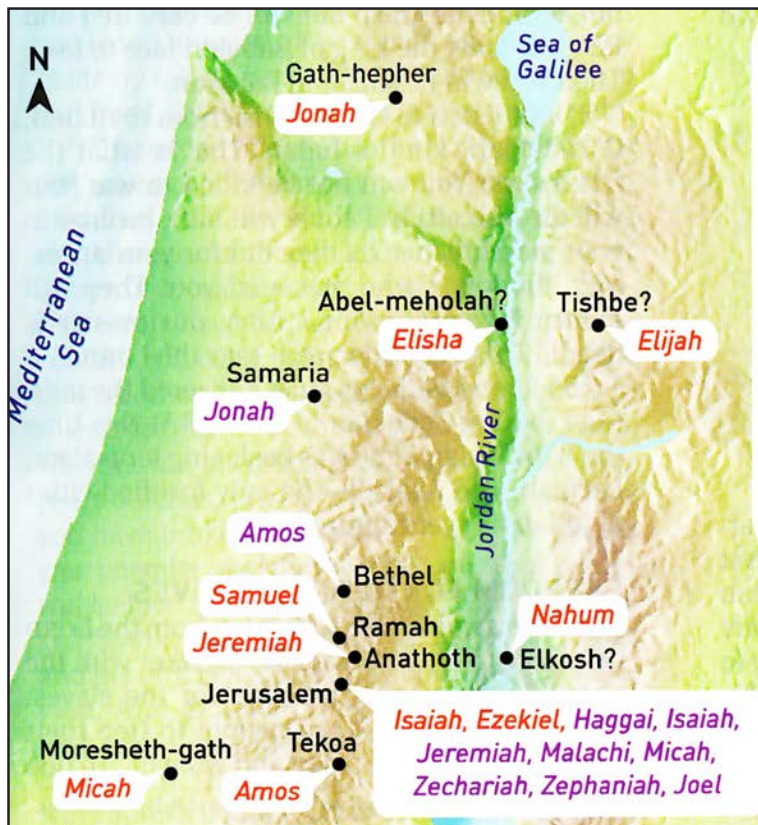
For centuries, the Israelites swung back and forth between worship of the Lord God and worship of Baal. Whenever they repented and returned to the Lord, he mercifully took them back into the covenant relationship. However, by the mid-700s BC, the Israelites of the northern kingdom of Israel had become so determined in their idol worship that the Lord let the

Assyrians destroy the kingdom and take many people into captivity.

At the time of Jeremiah's ministry, over 100 years later, Judah was headed down the same road. In Jer 2-3, Jeremiah likened this tragedy to the break-up of a marriage relationship, much as Hosea had pictured it earlier for Israel (Hos 1-2). Israel's bond with the Lord is portrayed as a marriage in which the bride forsook her husband and took up with other lovers. The Lord charged Israel with violating the marriage bond by being a prostitute (3:1), and he warned the nation to return to the Lord or face destruction. The Lord was also like a father whose relationship with his son had been broken because the son had turned his back on him. God could no longer say of the Israelites, "I will be their God, and they will be my people" (31:33; see also Exod 6:7; Hos 1:9).

Just as breaking the covenant had cost the northern kingdom its existence, so it later destroyed the southern kingdom of Judah. Jerusalem was torn apart, and the Temple was destroyed. This punishment cut deeply and painfully into God's heart. The ever-merciful Lord promised a new covenant to replace the broken Sinai Covenant (31:31-34).

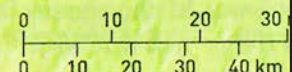
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ISRAEL'S PROPHETS

The prophets of the Old Testament were all locals—Jewish men who had families and personal relationships to God's people. They lived throughout Israel and sacrificed personal comfort and social status to challenge the beliefs and practices of their friends and relatives. Because these men surrendered themselves to God's Spirit, they became powerful agents of change, restoration and revival. Their sacrifice brought many people back to God.

Prophet's hometown
Prophet's ministry



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JEREMIAH

MESSENGER OF GOD'S JUSTICE AND GRACE

THE MAKING OF JEREMIAH (Ch. 36)

SCRYMERS
POETRIES
ESSAYS

STORIES ABOUT JEREMIAH!

THIRTY YEARS!

26-45 JUDGMENT & HOPE FOR ISRAEL

20-29 JEREMIAH REJECTED BY ISRAEL'S LEADERS

30-33 HOPE FOR ISRAEL'S FUTURE

AFTER EXILE, GOD WILL REBUILD THE GOVERNMENT AND REINFORCE ISRAEL'S HEARTS (Continuation of 1) **POSSIBLES**

"I WILL TAKE MY TORCH FROM THEM, AND BURN THEM, AND I WILL TAKE THEM AWAY FROM THEIR HEARTS." **POSSIBLES**

34-45 SIEGE & DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

46-51 JUDGMENT & HOPE FOR THE NATIONS

46-47 GOD WILL USE BABYLON TO JUDGE THE NATIONS AROUND ISRAEL

48-49 GOD WILL JUDGE BABYLON

50-51 GOD WILL JUDGE BABYLON

52 DESTRUCTION & EXILE (FROM 2 KINGS 25)

53 BUT HOPE FOR DAVID'S LINE

54 PROMISE OF HOPE

FULFILLMENT OF JUDGMENT...

25 BABYLON - CUP OF GOD'S JUST ANGER

ISRAEL HAS BROKEN THE COVENANT

WORSHIP OF OTHER GODS INSTEAD OF ANOTHER

ACCUSATION OF ISRAEL'S LEADERS PRIESTS, KINGS, PROPHETS

RAMPAANT SOCIAL INJUSTICE GORRONS, ORPHANS, IMMIGRANTS

GOD WILL DESTROY HIS OWN TEMPLE BY SENDING AN ENEMY FROM THE NORTH! (BABYLON)

ISRAEL'S NATIONS

RETURN TO THE LAND! MESSIAH!

ALL NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGE ISRAEL'S GOD!

JERUSALEM

2 KINGS 24-25

1 JEREMIAH'S CALLING

2 JEREMIAH'S TEMPLE SERMON

3 JEREMIAH'S ACCUSATION

4 JEREMIAH'S PROPHECY

5 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

6 JEREMIAH'S SIEGE

7 JEREMIAH'S DESTRUCTION

8 JEREMIAH'S EXILE

9 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

10 JEREMIAH'S RETURN

11 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

12 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

13 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

14 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

15 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

16 JEREMIAH'S HOPE

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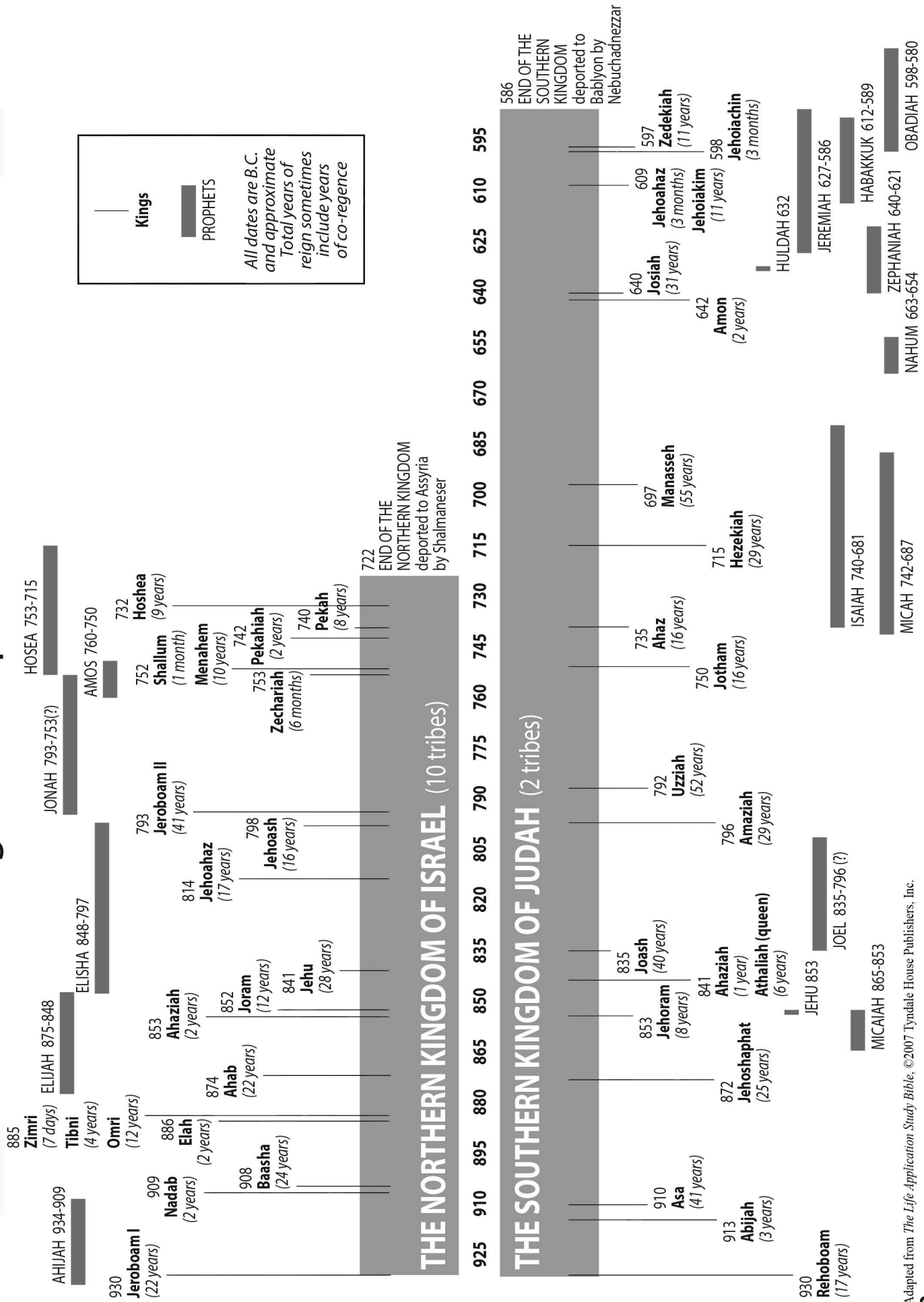
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FULFILLMENT OF JUDGMENT...

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Pre-Exilic Kings and Prophets in Israel and Judah



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