

Week 24: Jeremiah / Lamentations

Author: Jeremiah/Baruch (the scribe).

Setting: Jeremiah is actually a collection of writings arranged by Baruch (Chap. 36) during the decline of Judah before the deportation to Babylon.

Trivia:

- This is the longest prophetic book in the OT: 1,364 verses.
- We learn a lot about his life from the book itself. (CSB Study Bible Notes)
- The book is not in chronological order, but more of a collection of Jeremiah's writings and prophecies.

Outline:

1 - Jeremiah's Call to Ministry (1:1-19)

Jeremiah 1:1-19 Read - Call to Ministry

2 - The Lord Accuses and Warns Judah (2:1-2:10)

Jeremiah 17:7-10 Read - The Heart

Jeremiah 18:1-17 Read - Potter and Clay

3 - Seventy Year Captivity Promised (25:1-38)

Read Jeremiah 25:8-14 - Captivity Promised

4 - God Gives Judgment and Hope to Judah (26:1-45:5)

Read 29:1-14 - Flourishing in the midst of exile

- Jas. 1:1-2; 1 Pet 1:1-2

Read 31:3, 31-37 - The New Covenant (see also Heb. 8:8-12, 10:16-17)

Read 32:28-35 - Moloch (see also 7:31, 19:5)

5 - God's Judgment on the Nations (46:1-51:64)

6 - Destruction and Exile (52:1-34)

Lamentations - "Alas!"

Overview: A book about mourning the utter destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon. Tradition links this book to Jeremiah. Lamentations helps us understand that grief over the destruction of our country is real. The first 4 chapters are 4 acrostic poems about grief. The poems show the balance of acknowledging God's justice in judgement but also the grief of the result.

Outline:

5 Lament Poems - One for each chapter; most agree the middle chapter is the apex of the collection

Read 1:1-10

Read 3:22-33 - the Lord's faithfulness in the midst of tragedy - the only hope in the book.

Read 5:19-22 - God reigns and a plea for restoration.