



THE BOOK OF JEREMIAH
by Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum

SUPERSCRPTION AND TITLE - 1:1-3

A. The Prophet - 1:1

B. The Date - 1:2

C. The Historical Setting - 1:3

1. Specific Years
2. The Family of Josiah
3. Josiah
4. Jehoahaz or Shallum
5. Jehoiakim or Eliakim
6. Jehoiachin, Jechoniah, or Coniah
7. Zedekiah or Mattaniah
8. Detailed Historical Background
9. Spiritual Conditions
10. The Chronology of Jeremiah
11. The Basic Structure of the Book
12. The Characteristics of the Book
13. The Theology of Jeremiah
14. Key Word

15. Jeremiah in the Scriptures

16. Theme: The Declaration of Judgment Upon Judah

I. INTRODUCTION: THE CALL OF JEREMIAH - 1:4-19

A. The Call - 1:4-10

B. The Visions of Confirmation - 1:11-16

1. The Vision of the Almond Tree - 1:11-12

2. The Vision of the Boiling Caldron - 1:13-16

C. The Charge - 1:17-19

II. THE PROPHECIES CONCERNING JUDAH - 2:1 - 45:5

A. The Messages of Judgment Against Judah and Jerusalem - 2:1 - 25:38

1. Israel's Guilt and Punishment - 2:1 - 6:30

a. Faithlessness of Israel - 2:1 - 3:5

(1) Israel's Past Faithfulness - 2:1-3

(2) Israel's Apostasy - 2:4-13

(a) Israel's Rejection of God - 2:4-8

(b) God's Legal Case Against Israel - 2:9-13

(3) The Consequences of Israel's Apostasy - 2:14-19

(4) Israel's Dedication to Idolatry - 2:20-28

(5) Israel's Judgment Deserved - 2:29-37

(6) Call to Israel to Repent - 3:1-5

- b. The Choice of Repentance or Judgment - 3:6 - 6:30
 - (1) The Fate of the Ten Tribes - 3:6 - 4:2
 - (a) The Comparison of Judah and Israel - 3:6-10
 - (b) Repentance Will Bring Restoration - 3:11-18
 - (c) The Necessity for Repentance First - 3:19-20
 - (d) Israel's Future Repentance - 3:21-25
 - (e) God's Response to the Future Repentance - 4:1-2
 - (2) The Judgments Upon Judah - 4:3 - 6:30
 - (a) The Call to Judah to Avoid the Wrath of God - 4:3-4
 - (b) The Calamity from the North - 4:5-31
 - i. The Declaration of Judgment - 4:5-9
 - ii. Jeremiah's Complaint - 4:10
 - iii. The Description of the Invasion - 4:11-18
 - iv. Jeremiah's Anguish - 4:19-22
 - v. A Vision of Total Chaos - 4:23-26
 - vi. The Explanation of the Vision - 4:27-28
 - vii. The Fulfillment of the Vision - 4:29-31
 - (c) The Corruption of Jerusalem - 5:1-31
 - i. The Search for a Just Man - 5:1-9
 - ii. The Invasion from Afar - 5:10-19
 - iii. Judah's Sins are the Cause of Judgment - 5:20-31
 - (d) Recapitulation: The Irrevocability of Judgment - 6:1-30
 - i. The Call to Flee from Jerusalem - 6:1-8

- ii. The Remnant of Israel to be Gleaned - 6:9-15
 - iii. Admonition to Seek the Old Paths - 6:16-21
 - iv. The Enemy from the North - 6:22-26
 - v. Jeremiah the Assayer of His People - 6:27-30
2. False Religions and Their Punishment - 7:1 - 10:25
- a. Denunciation of False Use of the Temple - 7:1 - 8:3
 - (1) The Temple Sermon - 7:1-15
 - (a) Admonition Against Vain Trust in the Temple - 7:1-7
 - (b) Israel's Sin in Regard to the Temple - 7:8-11
 - (c) The Lesson of Shiloh - 7:12-15
 - (2) The Worship of the Queen of Heaven - 7:16-20
 - (3) Obedience has Priority Over Sacrifice - 7:21-28
 - (4) The Sin and Judgment of Topheth - 7:29-34
 - (5) Astral Worship and its Punishment - 8:1-3
 - b. The Backsliding People and Their Ruin - 8:4 - 9:22
 - (1) The Continuation of Backsliding - 8:4-7
 - (2) The Rejection of the Law of Moses - 8:8-12
 - (3) The Horror of the Coming Doom - 8:13-17
 - (4) Jeremiah: The Weeping Prophet - 8:18 - 9:1
 - (5) Revulsion at Israel's Corruption - 9:2-9
 - (6) Jerusalem's Fall and Exile - 9:10-16
 - (7) The Call for the Lamenting Woman - 9:17-22

- c. Contrast Between Jehovah and False Gods - 9:23 - 10:25
 - (1) The Only Ground for Boasting - 9:23-24
 - (2) The Warning to the Uncircumcision - 9:25-26
 - (3) God and Idolatry Compared - 10:1-16
 - (a) A Satire on Idolatry - 10:1-5
 - (b) The Greatness of God - 10:6-16
 - i. The Majesty of God - 10:6-10
 - ii. The Power of God - 10:11-16
 - (4) The Coming Judgment - 10:17-25
 - (a) The Exile - 10:17-18
 - (b) The Lamentation of Jeremiah - 10:19-22
 - (c) The Intercession of Jeremiah - 10:23-25
- 3. The Broken Covenant and the Resulting Judgment - 11:1 - 13:27
 - a. The Broken Covenant - 11:1-17
 - (1) Exhortation to Obey the Covenant - 11:1-5
 - (2) The Disobedience to the Covenant - 11:6-14
 - (a) Past Disobedience - 11:6-8
 - (b) Present Disobedience - 11:9-13
 - (c) Jeremiah Admonished Not to Pray - 11:14
 - (3) The Perversion of the Covenant - 11:15-17
 - b. The Resulting Judgment - 11:18 - 12:17
 - (1) The Conspiracy of the Men of Anathoth - 11:18-23
 - (a) The Conspiracy Against Jeremiah - 11:18-19

- (b) The Judgment of the Conspirators - 11:20-23
- (2) Jeremiah's Complaint - 12:1-4
- (3) God's Answer - 12:5-6
- (4) The Judgment of Judah: A Lamentation of Jehovah - 12:7-13
- (5) The Message to the Gentiles - 12:14-17
- c. The Symbolic Action - 13:1-27
 - (1) The Linen Girdle - 13:1-11
 - (a) The Act - 13:1-7
 - (b) The Interpretation - 13:8-11
 - (2) The Parable of the Wine Jars - 13:12-14
 - (3) The Warning Against Pride - 13:15-17
 - (4) The Lament for the Royal Family - 13:18-19
 - (5) The Judgments of Jerusalem - 13:20-27
- 4. God's Determination to Punish Judah - 14:1 - 17:27
 - a. Prophecies Arising from the Drought - 14:1 - 15:21
 - (1) The Great Drought - 14:1-6
 - (2) Jeremiah's Intercessions - 14:7 - 15:4
 - (a) The First Intercession - 14:7-9
 - (b) The Rejection - 14:10-12
 - (c) The Second Intercession - 14:13
 - (d) The Rejection - 14:14-18
 - (e) The Third Intercession - 14:19-22
 - (f) The Rejection - 15:1-4

- (3) Jerusalem's Destruction - 15:5-9
- (4) Jeremiah's Dialogue with God - 15:10-21
 - (a) Jeremiah's First Complaint - 15:10
 - (b) God's Answer - 15:11-14
 - (c) Jeremiah's Second Complaint - 15:15-18
 - (d) God's Answer - 15:19-21
- b. The Message of Jeremiah's Lifestyle - 16:1 - 17:27
 - (1) Jeremiah's Self-Denial as a Message to the Nation - 16:1-13
 - (a) The First Self-Denial - 16:1-4
 - (b) The Second Self-Denial - 16:5-7
 - (c) The Third Self-Denial - 16:8-9
 - (d) The Application to the Nation - 16:10-13
 - (2) The New Exodus - 16:14-15
 - (3) The Judgment Must First Precede the Final Restoration - 16:16-18
 - (4) The Conversion of the Gentiles - 16:19-21
 - (5) Judah's Indelible Sin - 17:1-4
 - (6) Contrast Between Trust in Man and Trust in God - 17:5-8
 - (7) The Heart of Man - 17:9-11
 - (8) The Hope of Israel - 17:12-13
 - (9) The Prayer of Jeremiah - 17:14-18
 - (10) The Sabbath and National Survival - 17:19-27

5. The Potter's Vessel and the Broken Bottle - 18:1 - 20:18
 - a. The Potter's Vessel - 18:1-23
 - (1) The Parable of the Potter's Vessel - 18:1-12
 - (a) The Symbolic Act - 18:1-4
 - (b) The Interpretation - 18:5-12
 - (2) The Application to Judah - 18:13-17
 - (3) A Plot Against Jeremiah - 18:18-23
 - b. The Symbol of the Broken Bottle - 19:1 - 20:18
 - (1) The Symbolic Act - 19:1-15
 - (a) The Proclamation of Doom - 19:1-9
 - (b) The Breaking of the Bottle - 19:10-13
 - (c) The Conclusion of the Symbolic Action - 19:14-15
 - (2) The Rejection of the Message - 20:1-6
 - (3) The Lamentation of Jeremiah - 20:7-18
 - (a) Jeremiah's Despair - 20:7-10
 - (b) Jeremiah's Trust - 20:11-13
 - (c) The Cursing of the Day of His Birth - 20:14-18
6. Jeremiah Against the Kings and Prophets - 21:1 - 24:10
 - a. Against Zedekiah - 21:1-14
 - (1) Zedekiah's Inquiry - 21:1-2
 - (2) Jehovah's Answer Concerning Zedekiah - 21:3-7
 - (3) Jehovah's Answer Concerning the People - 21:8-10
 - (4) Jehovah's Answer Concerning the House of David - 21:11-14

- b. Against the House of David - 22:1-9
- c. Against Shallum - 22:10-12
- d. Against Jehoiakim - 22:13-19
- e. Against Jerusalem - 22:20-23
- f. Against Jehoiachin - 22:24-30
- g. The Reign of the Righteous King - 23:1-8
- h. Against the Prophets - 23:9-40
 - (1) The Adulterous State of the Nation - 23:9-12
 - (2) The False Prophets of Jerusalem - 23:13-15
 - (3) The Message of the False Prophets - 23:16-22
 - (4) The Straw and the Wheat - 23:23-32
 - (5) The Burden of Jehovah - 23:33-40
- i. The Vision of the Good Figs and the Bad Figs - 24:1-10
 - (1) The Vision - 24:1-3
 - (2) The Interpretation - 24:4-10
 - (a) The Good Figs - 24:4-7
 - (b) The Bad Figs - 24:8-10
- 7. The Seventy Years of Captivity - 25:1-14
 - a. The Reason for the Captivity - 25:1-7
 - b. The Means of Judgment - 25:8-11
 - c. The Judgment of Babylon - 25:12-14

8. The Cup of Wrath Against the Nations - 25:15-38
 - a. The Presentation of the Cup - 25:15-29
 - (1) The List of the Nations - 25:15-26
 - (2) The Command to Drink - 25:27-29
 - b. The Interpretation - 25:30-38

B. The Conflict with the False Prophets - 26:1 - 29:32

1. The Temple Sermon and Its Consequences - 26:1-24
 - a. The Temple Sermon - 26:1-7
 - b. The Consequences - 26:8-24
 - (1) The Charge Against Jeremiah - 26:8-11
 - (2) Jeremiah's Defense - 26:12-15
 - (3) The Acquittal of Jeremiah - 26:16-19
 - (4) The Story of Uriah the Prophet - 26:20-23
 - (5) Jeremiah Released - 26:24
2. Admonition to Submit to Babylon - 27:1-22
 - a. The Message to the Foreign Ambassadors - 27:1-11
 - b. The Message to Zedekiah - 27:12-15
 - c. The Message to the Priests - 27:16-22
3. The Conflict with Hananiah - 28:1-17
 - a. Hananiah's False Prophecy - 28:1-4
 - b. Jeremiah's Response - 28:5-11
 - c. Jehovah's Response - 28:12-17

4. Jeremiah's Letters to the Captivity - 29:1-32
 - a. The Seventy Years of Captivity - 29:1-14
 - b. The Misery of Those Left in Judah - 29:15-20
 - c. The Message to Ahab and Zedekiah - 29:21-23
 - d. The Message to Shemaiah - 29:24-32

C. The Book of Consolation - 30:1 - 33:26

1. The Restoration of Israel and Judah - 30:1 - 31:40
 - a. The Superscription - 30:1-3
 - b. The Time of Jacob's Trouble - 30:4-11
 - c. The Healing of Zion's Wounds - 30:12-17
 - d. The Restoration of Jacob - 30:18-22
 - e. The Wrath of God - 30:23 - 31:1
 - f. God's Love and Promises to Israel - 31:2-6
 - g. The Return of the Remnant - 31:7-14
 - (1) The Regathering of the Remnant - 31:7-9
 - (2) The Rejoicing of the Remnant - 31:10-14
 - h. The Comforting of Rachel - 31:15-22
 - i. The Future Prosperity of Israel - 31:23-26
 - j. The Building and Planting of Israel - 31:27-30
 - k. The New Covenant - 31:31-34
 - l. The Indestructibility of Israel - 31:35-37
 - m. The New Jerusalem - 31:38-40

2. The Restoration of Judah and Jerusalem - 32:1 - 33:26

a. The Purchase of Hanamel's Field - 32:1-44

(1) The Occasion - 32:1-5

(2) The Command - 32:6-8

(3) The Purchase - 32:9-15

(4) Jeremiah's Prayer - 32:16-25

(5) God's Answer - 32:26-44

(a) The Destruction of Jerusalem - 32:26-35

(b) The Restoration of Jerusalem - 32:36-44

b. The Interpretation of the Symbolic Action - 33:1-26

(1) The Restoration of Jerusalem - 33:1-9

(2) The Return of Peace and Joy to Jerusalem - 33:10-11

(3) The Flocks Will Flourish - 33:12-13

(4) The Reconfirmation of the Davidic Covenant
and the Levitical Priesthood - 33:14-26

(a) In Relationship to Jerusalem - 33:14-18

(b) In Relationship to Covenant - 33:19-22

(c) In Relationship to Perpetuity - 33:23-26

D. The Conflict with the Kings - 34:1 - 39:18

1. The Prophecy Against Zedekiah - 34:1-22

a. The Message to Zedekiah - 34:1-7

b. The Violation of a Solemn Covenant - 34:8-22

(1) The Covenant - 34:8-11

- (2) The Violation of the Law of Moses - 34:12-16
- (3) The Judgment of God - 34:17-22
- 2. The Example of the Rechabites - 35:1-19
 - a. The Symbolic Action - 35:1-11
 - b. The Interpretation of the Symbolic Action - 35:12-17
 - c. The Promise to the House of Rechab - 35:18-19
- 3. The Story of the Scroll - 36:1-32
 - a. The Writing of the First Scroll - 36:1-4
 - b. The Reading of the First Scroll - 36:5-10
 - c. The Response of the Princes of Judah - 36:11-19
 - d. The Destruction of the First Scroll - 36:20-26
 - e. The Writing of the Second Scroll - 36:27-32
- 4. The Fall of Jerusalem - 37:1 - 39:18
 - a. Introduction - 37:1-2
 - b. Zedekiah's First Inquiry of Jeremiah - 37:3-10
 - c. Jeremiah's Imprisonment - 37:11-15
 - d. Zedekiah's Second Inquiry of Jeremiah - 37:16-21
 - e. The Attempt to Kill Jeremiah - 38:1-6
 - f. The Rescue of Jeremiah - 38:7-13
 - g. Zedekiah's Third Inquiry of Jeremiah - 38:14-28a
 - h. The Capture of Jerusalem - 38:28b - 39:10
 - i. The Release of Jeremiah - 39:11-14
 - j. The Prophecy Concerning Ebed-Melech - 39:15-18

E. After the Fall - 40:1 - 44:30

1. In Judah - 40:1 - 43:7
 - a. The Release of Jeremiah - 40:1-6
 - b. Gedaliah's Governorship - 40:7-12
 - c. The Murder of Gedaliah - 40:13 - 41:3
 - d. Other Atrocities - 41:4-10
 - e. The Rescue of the Remnant - 41:11-18
 - f. The Flight to Egypt - 42:1 - 43:7
 - (1) Jeremiah Consulted - 42:1-6
 - (2) God's Answer - 42:7-22
 - (3) The People's Rejection of the Message - 43:1-7
2. In Egypt - 43:8 - 44:30
 - a. Prophecy of the Babylonian Conquest of Egypt - 43:8-13
 - b. Jeremiah's Last Message - 44:1-30
 - (1) The Warning Against Idolatry - 44:1-14
 - (a) The Review of the Past - 44:1-6
 - (b) The Spiritual State of the Jews in Egypt - 44:7-10
 - (c) The Judgment Upon the Jews of Egypt - 44:11-14
 - (2) The People's Rejection of Jeremiah - 44:15-19
 - (3) Jeremiah's Final Warning - 44:20-30
 - (a) The True Interpretation of History - 44:20-23
 - (b) The Jews of Egypt Under Judgment - 44:24-30

F. Postscript: The Prophecy Concerning Baruch - 45:1-5

III. THE PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE GENTILE NATIONS - 46:1 - 51:64

A. Superscription - 46:1

B. Egypt - 46:2-28

1. The First Prophecy: The Defeat of Carchemish - 46:2-12
 - a. The Topic - 46:2
 - b. The First Strophe - 46:3-6
 - c. The Second Strophe - 46:7-12
2. The Second Prophecy: The Conquest of Egypt - 46:13-26
 - a. The Topic - 46:13
 - b. The First Strophe - 46:14-19
 - c. The Second Strophe - 46:20-26
3. The Comfort of Israel - 46:27-28

C. The Philistines - 47:1-7

1. The Topic - 47:1
2. The Invasion of Philistia - 47:2-4
3. The Devouring Sword - 47:5-7

D. Moab - 48:1-47

1. The Destruction of Moab - 48:1-10
2. The Complacency of Moab - 48:11-17
3. The Calamity on the Cities of Moab - 48:18-25
4. The Punishment of the Pride of Moab - 48:26-35
 - a. The Pride - 48:26-30
 - b. The Punishment - 48:31-35

5. The Dirge over Moab - 48:36-39
6. The Doom of Moab - 48:40-46
7. The Restoration of Moab - 48:47

E. Ammon - 49:1-6

1. The Destruction of Ammon - 49:1-5
 - a. The Basis of the Judgment - 49:1-2
 - b. The Judgment - 49:3-5
2. The Restoration of Ammon - 49:6

F. Edom - 49:7-22

1. The Certainty of Judgment - 49:7-13
2. The Destruction of Edom - 49:14-19
3. The Purpose of God - 49:20-22

G. Damascus (Syria) - 49:23-27

H. Kedar and Hazor (Arab Tribes) - 49:28-33

1. The Topic - 49:28a
2. The Destruction of Kedar - 49:28b-29
3. The Destruction of Hazor - 49:30-33

I. Elam - 49:34-39

1. The Topic - 49:34
2. The Destruction of Elam - 49:35-38
3. The Restoration of Elam - 49:39

J. Babylon - 50:1 - 51:64a

1. The Topic - 50:1

2. Babylon's Fall and Israel's Deliverance - 50:2-10
3. The Desolation of Babylon - 50:11-16
4. The Restoration and Regeneration of Israel - 50:17-20
5. Babylon's Hammer of Power Destroyed - 50:21-28
6. The Pride of Babylon Humbled - 50:29-32
7. Jehovah: Israel's Redeemer - 50:33-34
8. The Sword Upon Babylon - 50:35-40
9. The Invasion from the North - 50:41-46
10. The Winnowing of Babylon - 51:1-4
11. Concerning Israel - 51:5-6
12. Babylon the Golden Cup - 51:7-10
13. The Key Nation - 51:11-14
14. The Greatness of the God of Israel - 51:15-19
15. Babylon the Shattering Hammer of God - 51:20-24
16. Babylon the Destroying Mountain - 51:25-26
17. Babylon the Threshing Floor - 51:27-33
18. Israel's Complaint and God's Answer - 51:34-40
19. The Desolation of Babylon - 51:41-44
20. The Fall of Babylon - 51:45-49
21. The Message to Jewish Exiles - 51:50-53
22. Babylon to be Recompensed in Full - 51:54-58
23. The Symbolic Action - 51:59-64a

K. The Conclusion of the Prophecies of Jeremiah - 51:64b

IV. POSTSCRIPT: THE FALL OF JERUSALEM - 52:1-34

A. The Reign of Zedekiah - 52:1-3a

B. The Fall of the City - 52:3b-16

1. The Judgment of Zedekiah - 52:3b-11

2. The Judgment of the Land and the People - 52:12-16

C. The Sacking of the Temple - 52:17-23

D. The Execution of the Leadership - 52:24-27

E. The Deportation to Babylon - 52:28-30

F. The Release of Jehoiachin - 52:31-34