

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 05 JuneJeremiah 1Accept Your Commission
- 2) 12 JuneJeremiah 2-6Get Back on Track
- 3) 19 JuneJeremiah 7-10Live Above Board
- 4) 26 JuneJeremiah 11-15Rise above the Tide
- 5) 03 JulyJeremiah 16-18Never Say it is Hopeless
- 6) 10 JulyJeremiah 19-21Submit to Divine Discipline
- 7) 17 JulyJeremiah 22-25Keep Your Behavior in Line
- 8) 24 JulyJeremiah 26-29Settle Down
- 9) 31 JulyJeremiah 30-33Check Your Direction
- 10) 07 AugJeremiah 34-39Stay True
- 11) 14 AugJeremiah 40-45Follow Orders
- 12) 21 AugJeremiah 46-52Recognize the Lord's Authority
- 13) 28 AugLamentations 1-5Rely on the Lord's Love

INTRODUCTION

- God’s final judgment falls on each individual; however, in this life, God’s judgment also falls on nations
- Benevolent nations reap God’s protective blessings, while wicked nations often reap God’s wrath
 - ♦ God can invoke weather and geological phenomena such as severe storms, volcanoes, earthquakes, fire, floods, tornadoes, tsunamis/hurricanes, drought and a host of other elements to cause economic, political and social upheaval; not to mention war and war-induced famine
 - ♦ God can even use prosperity and greed to collapse an economy through excessive debt and run-away taxes
- In these last chapters of Jeremiah, we see Egypt will one day be destroyed then restored to a nation of prominence; Moab, Ammon, Elam (old Iran) will also be destroyed and restored; Nations such as Edom, Damascus (old Syria), and Babylon (old Iraq) will be annihilated forever; while Israel and Judah will be restored and forgiven
- The destruction of these nations was a result of how they treated God’s people. Their restoration was totally based on God’s mercy and game plan for the end of ages

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v10. A curse is pronounced against the warriors who chose not to obey God’s edict to annihilate the wicked and idolatrous Moabites ♦ Isn’t God a god of mercy and love? Why such harsh treatment? ♦ God’s mercy & patience do have an end date - Today is the day of salvation, not tomorrow
49:1-39	<p>Oppressors will be Oppressed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-6. Ammonites, like their cousins the Moabites (remember Lot and his 2 promiscuous daughters?) who harassed Israel for generations, they reap what they sowed, but God does “restore their fortunes” (v 6) • vv7-22. Edomites (descendants of Esau, other cousins of the Israelites) are not so fortunate. God has them wiped out utterly • vv23-27. Damascus (old Syria) is wiped out • vv28-33. Nomadic Kedarites to be wiped out • vv34-39. Elamites will be destroyed then restored. Recall Acts 2:9, Elamites were around to witness the Apostles speaking in tongues
50: 1-46 51:1-64	<p>The Powerful are Accountable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 chapters, over 100 verses against Babylon • vv15, 29. “...do to her (Babylon) as she has done to others” and “repay her according to her work” – Old Testament version of reaping what one sows • Babylon’s major problems included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Fighting against God 50:11 ♦ Arrogance against God (we can do anything we want with impunity)..... 50:29 ♦ They were cruel and showed no mercy . 50:42 • God’s character is highlighted – He is a God of recompense, repays fully for all wrongs ... 51:56
52:1-34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremiah actually ends on a positive note – King Jehoiachin enjoys dining with the King of Babylon instead of sitting in a prison cell

Passage	Comments
Jeremiah 46:1-28	<p>Prophecies against Egypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verse 2 highlights an historical marker – the Battle of Carchemish in 605 BC, where Babylon defeated the Egyptian army • It takes 24 verses to proclaim Babylon will conquer Egypt • v26. Then one verse to say Egypt will be restored “as before” sometime in the future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Ezekiel 29 tells us Egypt will be restored after a 40 year Babylonian exile – but they will be a “lowly kingdom” never to rule over another kingdom again ♦ Zechariah 14 tells us the people of Egypt will one day worship the God of Israel • vv27-28. Then 2 more verses Israel (Jacob) will also be restored and live peaceably in its land - BUT, first, they will be “properly” disciplined • God has His priorities mapped out • How should we make God a high priority in our lives? Or is He an afterthought? A leftover?
47:1-7	<p>Prophecy against the Philistines (Gaza)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No hope of restoration
48:1-47	<p>Prophecy against Moab</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 46 verses of destruction and annihilation, and 1 verse of restoration (v47)

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- God’s moral code transcends all national boundaries and all time periods making everyone everywhere accountable for their actions – for He repays fully for all wrongs done

NEXT WEEK: Lamentations 1-5. God is the cause of Israel’s sorrows, for their sins were greater than Sodom. And the wicked do not consider the consequences of their actions

CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN MCPHERSON



Why the Egyptians really lost to the Babylonians at the Battle of Carchemish in 605 BC