

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

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

INTRODUCTION

- Israel is in bad shape. Sin is rampant, the weak are abused, there is no fear of God, and they refuse to repent and fix things – Yet God is willing to forgive and forget their sins if they would only repent

Passage	Comments
Jer 2:1-37	<p>God Calls the Baby Ugly!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v3. Evil came upon them • v8. The preachers and leaders were clueless • v9. God will contend with their grandchildren – it's a generational thing • v13. Israel committed 2 evils – 1) they forsook God; and 2) they chased after false gods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Hasn't America done the same? • vv15-17. All of Israel's woes (war, economic collapse, destruction, slavery) – were self-inflicted - "Have you not done this to yourself for forsaking God?" • v19. It's time to wake up – "your own wickedness will correct you" – "Know and See!" • v23. Self-denial – "How can you say 'I am not defiled?' – Americans say "There's nothing wrong with my lifestyle" • v27. Fox hole Christianity – "But in the time of trouble they will seek me" • v32. "My people have forgotten me days without number" – How long do people, even Christians, go without prayer or reading God's word? • v33. People put their energy into seeking after their sexual appetite – "How well you prepare your way to seek love" • v37. Conclusion: You will not prosper because of your sins
3:1-25	<p>God's Love Still Yearns For His People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1. Quoting Deut 24:4 – It is an abomination for a Jewish divorced woman who has remarried to go back to her 1st husband. This is a "who's your daddy" syndrome, and it curses the land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ God's main directive was to preserve the lineage of His people till the coming of Christ ♦ Yet God was still willing to show His love by fully accepting His adulterous bride • v3. But God's people refused to be ashamed of their sins, so "showers have been withheld" – economic failure on a national scale • vv13-14. "Only Repent"... "and I will take you 1 from a city and 2 from a family" – in other words, God was willing to save, but there wouldn't be many (1 or 2) who would want to repent • v15. But even if a few repent, God can give them godly leaders/shepherds to help turn a nation around • vv16-. In a future day the people will not be concerned about not having the ARK, because God will be directly and visibly in their midst, and Judah and Israel will be restored • vv19-21. God's desire is to bless His people, but they have perverted their way • vv22-24. Only "return" and "obey," then God can bless

Passage	Comments
4:1-31	<p>3 Key Words → Truth, Justice, Righteousness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-3. If Israel honestly repents and returns to God, then all nations will follow suit – WOW • vv3-4. Our Responsibilities: "Break up your fallow ground" → Fix what's broke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ ...and "circumcise yourself" → in other words, be willing to change/repent/cut off sin – or else ♦ v14. ...and "wash your heart from evil that you may be saved" – Does this mean salvation depends on us and what we must do? ♦ We will see next week God has done everything there is to do to coax Israel (and us) away from sin, but God expects Israel (and us) to willingly chose Him and obey Him • v27-28. God's mercy prevails – "Yet I will not execute a complete destruction" and "I will not change my mind nor turn from (destroying you)"
5:1-31	<p>Israel Refused to Repent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v3. Even after harsh discipline, Israel remains stubborn, refuses to repent • v25. "...and your sins have withheld good things from you" → God would rather bless than curse • v28. Social injustice reigns – poor are mistreated (Today's social care does more harm than good) • v31. "The prophets speak lies ...and my people love it so." What lies do people enjoy today? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → There is no absolute truth ← → All ways lead to God ← → God wouldn't want me to be unhappy ←
6:1-30	<p>Repent or Perish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v10. God's word is loathsome to people • v13. "Everyone is greedy for gain" or "the love of money is the root of all evil" 1 Timothy 6:10 • v14. "They have healed the brokenness of My people (the weak, poor, downtrodden) superficially." In other words, social care was either a band aid fix or it did more harm than good • v15. "They did not know how to blush" → Their sins were blatantly obvious with no remorse, no shame → How alike is this of our "free and open" society? • v16. The remedy for such social ills? Seek the "ancient paths" or turn back the clock to the 'good ole days' when Truth, Justice & Righteousness prevailed → But Israel refused → No society has ever succeeded in reversing a moral decline without near total or total collapse • v19,23. God's remedy if no repentance → "I will bring disaster on you because you would not listen to my word, and it will be cruel and merciless"

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- We need to ask 'do we see ourselves or our nation in Israel's situation?' If, so, then how do we fix it?REPENT!

NEXT WEEK: Jeremiah 7-10. What is left for God to do to get Israel to repent and follow after things He delights in, such things as Love, Truth, Justice, & Righteousness? And they refuse to turn from their evil ways!

