

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 04 Jun 2023 Jeremiah 01 Prepares
- 2) 11 Jun Jeremiah 02-06 Judges
- 3) 18 Jun Jeremiah 07-10 Personal
- 4) 25 Jun Jeremiah 11-15 Exclusive
- 5) 02 Jul Jeremiah 16-18 Shapes
- 6) 09 Jul Jeremiah 19-25 Rules
- 7) 16 Jul Jeremiah 26-29 Present
- 8) 23 Jul Jeremiah 30-33 Redeems
- 9) 30 Jul Jeremiah 34-35 Worthy
- 10) 06 Aug Jeremiah 36-39 Speaks**
- 11) 13 Aug Jeremiah 40-45 Trustworthy
- 12) 20 Aug Jeremiah 46-52 Just
- 13) 27 Aug Lamentations 01-05 Good

INTRODUCTION

- If someone throws you under a bus or tosses you into a well, can you be content & still glorify God? cf [Phil 4:11](#); [1Peter 4:14-16](#)

Passage	Comments
36:1-32	<p>Every Generation Is Just One Generation Away from Apostasy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Josiah attempted to turn Judah around for God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Recall Josiah removed idolatrous priests, he also removed idols from God's Temple, and he destroyed the dwellings of the male cult prostitutes who worked and lived in the Temple complex.....2Kings 23 • vv24-25. However, Josiah's son, Jehoiakim, was not a godly king. He destroyed God's word by burning it after listening to its warnings. • Back to v3. PERHAPS Judah will listen, repent, and return to God and avoid God's pending wrath <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ God's wrath is totally conditional on one's behavior ♦ God has warned His people for generations → OBEY and be blessed or DISOBEY and perish • v7. And PERHAPS they will repent of their evil ways • v9. It is interesting that "ALL the People" proclaimed a fast before the Lord, not the King nor the Priests. They were ready to repent and return to the Lord. BUT... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Would such a fast be productive without the King? ♦ Recall the fasting and mourning initiated by the people of Nineveh, which was supported by their king. That government-sanctioned mourning transformed a nation for a generation or 2... Jonah 3 ♦ Unfortunately, we are only as good as our leaders • vv30-31. God declared that Jehoiakim "shall have no one to sit on the throne of David". <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Though, Jesus did descend through the line of Jehoiakim and his son, Jehoiachin (aka, Jeconiah and Coniah) as noted in Mat 1:11, Jehoiachin was captured and taken to Babylon, where he died.
37:1-21	<p>False Accusations Imprison an Innocent Man</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1. Zedekiah (another son of deceased King Josiah), was placed on the throne by Babylon • vv2-21. To Zedekiah's credit, he took measures to protect Jeremiah from harm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How should we seek to protect God's faithful ones? ♦ How should we challenge unfaithful ones? • vv14-15. Jeremiah is accused of being a traitor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Why would people want to harm a prophet of God? ♦ Even Jesus and His Apostles were frequently falsely accused ♦ Should we seek the demise of those who prophesy falsely, or should our response be to bless and pray for those who spitefully use us? Mat 5:44

Passage	Comments
38:1-28	<p>Jeremiah's Situation Goes from Bad to Worse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1-5. Jeremiah calls the baby ugly and prophesies gloom and doom to the southern kingdom of Judah. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How would you take such gloom & doom preaching? ♦ Jeremiah called the people's sins out (idolatry, immorality, murder, thievery, injustice, etc.) and stressed if no honest repentance God will need to nearly annihilate His people. • v6. Jeremiah is put into a cistern to die <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Where is God in all this? ♦ Does Jeremiah have any hope to place his faith in? • vv7-13. Ebedmelech seems to be one of Jeremiah's few converts after years of preaching for the Lord, and rescues Jeremiah from the cistern very carefully • vv14-28. And King Zedekiah also sought Jeremiah's welfare. So, Jeremiah was safe as long as Zedekiah was on his throne.
39:1-18	<p>Babylon captures Jerusalem and King Zedekiah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-7. The cruelty of war – Zedekiah's sons are killed before his eyes, then his own eyes are put out and he is sent into exile – away from his beloved homeland • vv8-15. Babylon burns Jerusalem and takes many into exile. Only the poorest of the poor and Jeremiah are allowed to stay in Judah. • vv16-18. A special prophesy of deliverance was aimed at Ebedmelech, who came to Jeremiah's rescue earlier

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- What would it take for us to become like King Josiah, who sought to restore God's place in society, or like King Zedekiah who sought to keep Jeremiah safe, or like Ebedmelech, who put his own life in jeopardy to rescue a true prophet of God?

SUPPORTING PASSAGES

[Phil 4:11](#). I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.
[1Peter 4:14-16](#). If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. Make sure none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler; but if [anyone suffers] as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

NEXT WEEK: Jeremiah 40-45. The last of the Judean kings to sit on a throne, King Zedekiah, is exiled to Babylon, and he and his sons are slain; and Jeremiah is taken to Egypt – Will the misery ever end?

