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 46-52 ..........Recognize the Lord’s Authority
13) 28 Aug ..........Lamentations 1-5 .......... Rely on the Lord’s Love

INTRODUCTION
• God’s sovereignty reigns over every bullet on the battlefield; over every established ruler and kingdom; and over every other aspect of life without removing anyone’s ability to freely choose – WOW!
• If you were to conquer a nation who would you send into exile? The free-thinking entrepreneur upper class or the more docile poorer class who are more dependent upon others for their lively hood?

Passage | Comments
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Even the Non-Believing Enemy Recognized God’s Hand Against Judah
v2-3. “The Lord your God has done just as He promised because you sinned and did not listen – You got what you deserved!”
v4-5. Did Jeremiah do the right thing by not going to Babylon as dictated by God’s command for the vast majority of Judah?
• This is similar to did the Apostle Paul do the right thing to head for Jerusalem when there were prophecies galore telling him not to go?
• Scripture is silent about whether or not these situations were in the right or wrong, but sometimes silence is deafening.
• Though, Jeremiah was carted off to Egypt and Paul was carted off to Rome, both men still accomplished much for God’s Kingdom
• God is not handicapped because we may chose Door #2 instead of Door #1 – we often have that flexibility within God’s will
• Ephesians 2:10 says that God prepared beforehand the good works we should be doing on His behalf, so Jeremiah and Paul both accomplished what God had planned for them
• v7. The poorest of the land were left behind. Nebuchadnezzar took captive the entrepreneurs, the doctors, the mechanics, and other successful leaders and workers. He knew if a poor people could not make it in their own land they would be even worse off in a captive environment, and Babylon did not want those who could not fend for themselves and be profitable for the kingdom
• vv13-16. Sanctioned political assassinations – Is it right or wrong? Here, the Governor voted against assassinating a disgruntled political foe.

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS
• We have to acknowledge God’s sovereignty over nations and realize He has a purpose for each of us in these last days
• So let’s continue to serve and pray while it is still day, and watch out for those self-inflicting wounds and friendly fire

NEXT WEEK: Jeremiah 46-52. Not all is lost. Egypt will one day be restored to a nation of prominence; Moab, Ammon, Elam (Iran) will also be destroyed and restored; Edom, Damascus (Syria), and Babylon will be annihilated forever; and Israel and Judah will be restored and forgiven.