

SUMMER BIBLE JAM '18

WEEK 6

Jeremiah: A Call to Faithfulness if not Fruitlessness

Reading Plan

- Mon: Jeremiah 1; 2:1-13
- Tues: Jeremiah 8: 4-12,18-22; 9:1-3
- Wed: Jeremiah 17:1-18; Lamentations 3:1-3, 19-26
- Thurs: Jeremiah 19:14-15; 20:1-18
- Fri: Jeremiah 24:1-10; Jeremiah 25:1-7
- Sat: Catch-up Day

Discussion Questions

- A key feature to remember when reading the Old Testament prophets is that their message focused on calling people to back to faithfulness to God. What does faithfulness to God look like today? How is it similar to Jeremiah's time? In what ways does Jeremiah's "lament" over Israel's unfaithfulness speak to your life?

- For 23 years, Jeremiah faithfully preached a message of repentance and it appears only 2 people responded. Was his faithfulness fruitless? Or was his faithfulness fruit in itself? How do you measure spiritual success? Do you think it's different than how God measures it?
- (After the Wednesday reading) - Did you notice how different the prayers in Jeremiah 17 and Lamentations 3 are? What does this teach you about prayer? When should you come to God in prayer? What should you sound like when you pray?

Resource - "How to read the book of Jeremiah"

Jeremiah was called to speak to the people of Jerusalem during a revival under King Josiah and continued to speak to them during that city's final fall to the Babylonians. His task was to hammer home the message that Jerusalem's fall was not due to any lack on God's part but was due entirely to their unfaithfulness toward God, specifically by listening to false prophets rather than true ones.

Most of the material in the book is prophetic, much of it in the form of poetry. This material does not always follow a historical sequence and its arrangement is sometimes topical rather than chronological.

It may be helpful to think of the book of Jeremiah as a notebook or scrapbook of things written by the prophet about his ministry. Jeremiah includes enough "news clippings" to piece together the story of his life, but just as important are the prophetic poems he wrote to address the spiritual needs of his generation and to express the emotions of his own suffering soul.

- ESV Study Bible