



JEREMIAH

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM - CHAPTERS 37-39

CHRONOLOGY OF JEREMIAH

- The chronology of Jeremiah is at most times confusing and requires one to pay careful attention to context and rely heavily on the associated history given in The Book of Kings and the Chronicle of the Kings.
- This chart helps to arrange most of Jeremiah chronologically.

CHRONOLOGICAL ARRANGEMENT OF JEREMIAH'S PROPHECIES

Date:	Jeremiah:	Criterion for assignment:	Notes:
I. JOSIAH (639-608 B.C.)			
626	1	#1, 1:2 and 25:3, 13th yr of Josiah	Oct. 627-Oct. 626 B.C.
	2-6	#2. 5:16-17a, 6:22-24; #4, 3:6, Josiah	Scythian raids, 628-626
626-621	7-10	#5, 7:18, 31, heaven-goddess: #6	Idolatry, pre-621
621	11:1-8	#2, 11:3, 6, Josiah's reform	Covenant, II Kgs 23:2
620-608	11:9-13:17	#3, 11:10, post-621 disillusionment; #6	Josiah's reform cools, 11:9
	14-20	#5, 14:13, 20:7-8, false assurance	Still peacetime, 14:13
II. JEHOIAKIM (608-598)			
608	22:1-19	#2, 22:10; #4, v. 18; #5, v. 4 hopeful	Josiah dead, Jehoahaz exiled, Jehoiakim king
	26	#4, 26:1, beginning of the reign	The 21 chapters to date
604	36:1-8	#1, 36:1, Baruch writes Jer, 1st ed.	4th of J.-Oct. 605-4
	25	#1, 25:1, 1st of Nebu.-Apr. 604-3	LXX has at 25:13
	46-51 (ex 49:34-9)	#2, 46:2, post-Carchemish, 605; #3:	But before reading it, 36:9
	45	#1, 45:1, after B's 1st writing, 4th yr	2nd ed. adds 9 chs. more
	36:9-22	#1, 36:9, 22, 5th yr, 9th mo.-Dec. 604	Syrians, II Kgs 24:2
600	35	#2. 35:11, danger; #4, 35:1, J-kim	
III. JEHOIACHIN (Dec. 598 - March 597)			
598-597	22:20-30	#4, 22:24, reign of Coniah	C=Jehoiachin
	13:18-27	#2, 13:18, queen mother=22:26	13:20 parallels 22:22
IV. ZEDEKIAH (597-586)			
597	23-24	#2, 24:1; #5, 23:2, same exile as 24	Soon after Jeconiah's carrying away, March 97
	29-31	#2, 29:2, same; #5-6, 30:3 follows	Accession yr, pre-Oct.
	49:34-39	#4, 49:34, beginning of the reign	LXX om 27:1 (MT crpt)
593	27-28	#1, 28:1, #4, 27:3, 12 (vs. 27:1), Zed; #5	Supplement, on Babylon
	51:59-64	#1, 51:59, 4th yr of Zedekiah	Dated 39:1, 52:4
588	34:1-10	#2, 34:7, siege, Jan. 15, 588, on	34:4-5 before 21:5
	21	#2, 21:4, siege; #3, Jer. still free	Reenslavement, 34:10-11
	34:11-22	#2, 34:22. Nebuchadrezzar leaves	Jer. 1st imprisoned
	37	#2. 37:5. N. leaves: #3. 37:15. 21	J in prison, 32:2, 33:1
587	32-33	#1, 32:1, 18th yr of N. Apr. 587-6	So near end of siege
586	38	#3, 38:28, down to Jerusalem's fall	Result of 38:7-13
	39:15-18	#3, 39:16, a response to Ebed-Melech	Cf. 52:5-7
	39:1-14	#1, 39:2, city fell July 19, 586	
V. GEDALIAH and after (July 586 B.C. and on)			
586	40-43:6	#1, 41:1, 7th month, Gedaliah dead	Month began Oct. 7
	43:7—ch. 44	#3, 43:7, cf 42:7, 10 days later	In Egypt
Post-56152		#2, 52:30, after 582, v. 31, after 561	52 not by Jeremiah, 51:64

Josiah

King of Judah for 31 years

Son

Jehoahaz (1)

Made king at the age of 23 by the people after Josiah's death at the hands of the Pharaoh of Egypt. reigned for 3 months before he rebelled against the pharaoh and was carried into Egyptian captivity

Son |

Eliakim (Jehoiakim) (2)

Made king of Judah by Pharaoh at age 25 and forced to pay tribute to Egypt as a buffer zone between Egypt and Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem and put him under tribute to Babylon having crushed Egypt. Jehoiakim rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar and was carried into Babylonian captivity

Son

Mattaniah (Zedekiah) (4)

Given his kingship by Nebuchadnezzar at the age of 21 and was a puppet king who ruled at the whim of the king of Babylon for 11 years. He rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar and tried to flee from the Babylonian army. He was captured in the plains of Jericho. He was brought back to Jerusalem and tried by the Babylonian authorities. His children were killed before his eyes, then his eyes were put out and he was led away to Babylon in bronze chains

Son

Jehoiachin (Jeconiah, Coniah) (3)

Inherited the throne by line of succession from his father Jehoiakim at age 18. He reigned 3 months until Babylon came up against Jerusalem. He surrendered and was carried away into Babylonian captivity along with the rich and powerful in Jerusalem and temple gold and articles.

Line of David ends

Thus ends the line of David on a physical throne in Jerusalem. City was burned, walls torn down and temple destroyed

ZEDEKIAH HOPES IN VAIN FOR HELP FROM EGYPT

- After the Chaldeans departed from besieging Jerusalem because Egypt was coming, what message was Jeremiah instructed to give to King Zedekiah?
 - The Egyptian army that caused the Babylonians to stop their siege will turn around and go home.
 - The Chaldeans will return and capture the city and burn it with fire.
 - Don't deceive yourselves. You cannot win. Even if your army conquered the Chaldean army and only wounded soldiers were left, they would still defeat you.

JEREMIAH IMPRISONED IN THE HOUSE OF JONATHAN THE SCRIBE

- What false accusation did Irijah make when Jeremiah was in the gate of Benjamin?
 - Jeremiah was defecting to the Chaldeans
 - Who took Jeremiah out of the prison and why?
 - King Zedekiah - so he could ask him about the Lord's message
 - After their conversation where did Zedekiah commit Jeremiah to?
 - The court of the guardhouse and he was given bread daily until there was none left in the whole city

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EVIL MEN REQUEST PERMISSION FROM ZEDEKIAH TO PUT JEREMIAH TO DEATH

- What reasons did the princes give to the king for permission to putt Jeremiah to death?
 - Jeremiah's prophecies were discouraging the men of war who are left in the city, and he is seeking the harm rather than the well-being of the people of Jerusalem
- How deplorable was the place described where Jeremiah was placed?
 - A deep water cistern with no water in it - just deep mud.



JEREMIAH IS RESCUED FROM THE DUNGEON BY EBED-MELECH

- Who was Ebed-Melech?
 - An Ethiopian eunuch, who asked Zedekiah to rescue Jeremiah from the cistern



ZEDEKIAH GIVEN TWO OPTIONS BY JEREMIAH

- What options did Jeremiah give to the king when he spoke with him at the third entrance of the house of the Lord?
 - Surrender, live and save the city from destruction
 - Resist Babylonian captivity, be captured, and watch the city burn

JEREMIAH TOLD TO KEEP HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE KING QUIET

- Where was Jeremiah when the city of Jerusalem was taken?
 - The court of the guardhouse

THE CITY OF JERUSALEM IS PENETRATED BY NEBUCHADNEZZAR

- When was the city of Jerusalem penetrated by the Babylonians?
 - 11th year 4th month 9th day of the month of Zedekiah's reign -586 BC

ZEDEKIAH AND HIS MEN ARE CAUGHT AND CARRIED AWAY TO BABYLON

- When Zedekiah was caught in the plains of Jericho by the Chaldeans, how was he judged?
 - By Nebuchadnezzar personally
 - He watched his sons slain before his eyes then had his eyes put out and was bound in brass chains and taken away to Babylon
- Who did the Babylonians leave in the land of Judah as they carried away the captives of the city?
 - The poorest of the poor who had nothing



JEREMIAH IS RELEASED FROM PRISON AND COMMITTED TO GEDALIAH

- What instructions were given to Nebuzaradan concerning Jeremiah?
 - Look after him and do nothing harmful to him, and deal with him just as he tells you
- What message did Jeremiah have for Ebed-Melech?
 - God will deliver him from the calamity because he trusted in the Lord

LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- 37:4-5. When Egypt came to Jerusalem and the Chaldeans left, the city thought they were saved. We must guard against putting our hopes of deliverance in men. They cannot EVER thwart God's plans
- When we consider the imprisonments of Jeremiah in our text we can see one who has had to endure so much more than we. How often do we take for granted our blessings and freedoms. What would you be willing to endure for the cause of Christ?

LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- 37:17 - Zedekiah wanted to know if there was any word from the Lord. There are times when everyone, even the wickedest of society, want answers from one who will tell them the truth. It may not be what they want to hear, but they know they need to hear it. Do we have the courage to tell others what they need to hear?
- 38:19 - A fearful king. Zedekiah is afraid of what would happen to him if he surrendered to the Chaldeans. So he doesn't listen to Jeremiah. His end was worse than had he taken Jeremiah's advice.

LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS

- Jeremiah is delivered from his dungeons three different times in our text, each from different people. You don't know where your friends are until you need them.
- In chapter 39 we read of Jerusalem's fall and the fate of Zedekiah. We have discussed all these things before. Let us learn from this that what the Lord says He WILL do!
- 39:11-12 - Just as Jeremiah is finally delivered by Nebuchadnezzar, so we must always remember that others are watching.