



JEREMIAH

RESTORATION OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH - CHAPTERS 30&31

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
	26	#4, 26:1, beginning of the reign	exiled, Jehoiakim king
604	36:1-8	#1, 36:1, Baruch writes Jer, 1st ed.	The 21 chapters to date
	25	#1, 25:1, 1st of Nebu.-Apr. 604-3	4th of J.-Oct. 605-4
	46-51 (ex 49:34-9)	#2, 46:2, post-Carchemish, 605; #3:	LXX has at 25:13
	45	#1, 45:1, after B's 1st writing, 4th yr	But before reading it, 36:9
	36:9-22	#1, 36:9, 22, 5th yr, 9th mo.-Dec. 604	2nd ed. adds 9 chs. more
600	35	#2, 35:11, danger; #4, 35:1, J-kim	Syrians, II Kgs 24:2
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
	29-31	#2, 29:2, same; #5-6, 30:3 follows	carrying away, March 97
	49:34-39	#4, 49:34, beginning of the reign	Accession yr, pre-Oct.
593	27-28	#1, 28:1, #4, 27:3, 12 (vs. 27:1), Zed; #5	LXX om 27:1 (MT crpt)
	51:59-64	#1, 51:59, 4th yr of Zedekiah	Supplement, on Babylon
588	34:1-10	#2, 34:7, siege, Jan. 15, 588, on	Dated 39:1, 52:4
	21	#2, 21:4, siege; #3, Jer. still free	34:4-5 before 21:5
	34:11-22	#2, 34:22, Nebuchadrezzar leaves	Reenslavement, 34:10-11
	37	#2, 37:5, N. leaves; #3, 37:15, 21	Jer. 1st imprisoned
587	32-33	#1, 32:1, 18th yr of N. Apr. 587-6	J in prison, 32:2, 33:1
586	38	#3, 38:28, down to Jerusalem's fall	So near end of siege
	39:15-18	#3, 39:16, a response to Ebed-Melech	Result of 38:7-13
	39:1-14	#1, 39:2, city fell July 19, 586	Cf. 52:5-7
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-561	52	#2, 52:30, after 582, v. 31, after 561	52 not by Jeremiah, 51:64

JEREMIAH WRITES OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH'S RESTORATION

- What was Jeremiah to write in a book
 - All the words YHWH had spoken to him
 - The end of captivity



"IN THAT DAY" THEY WILL BE DELIVERED AND SERVE THE LORD AND DAVID THEIR KING

- "In that day" what would the Lord break and burst for Israel and Judah?
 - The yoke of the Babylonian king
 - The bonds of captivity

JACOB WILL BE PUNISHED, BUT NOT A COMPLETE END

- What was the difference about the fate of Jacob and the nations where they were scattered?
- YHWH would make a full end of those conquering nations, whereas He would not make a full end of His people

JACOB'S INCURABLE WOUND

- Why had the Lord brought affliction and wounds upon Judah?
 - Because their wrongdoing was great and their sins were numerous

THE CONDITION OF JACOB WHEN THEY ARE BROUGHT BACK

- After their return, what would the Lord cause Jacob to do?
 - Come near to Him.
 - They will be His people and He shall be their God



THE WHIRLWIND OF THE LORD

- Upon whom would the whirlwind of the Lord fall?
 - The wicked
 - The anger of the Lord will not turn back until He has performed and accomplished the intent of His heart

ISRAEL WILL AGAIN BE REBUILT

- "At the same time" who would Jehovah be the God of?
 - All families of Israel - God will accept back both Judah AND Israel
- What would watchmen cry on Mount Ephraim?
 - "Arise, and let's go up to Zion, to the LORD our God."

JACOB WILL SING WITH GLADNESS

- Who was the Lord's firstborn?
 - Ephraim (Israel)

The Battles of Megiddo and Carchemish

Following the defeat of the Assyrians at the hands of the Babylonians in 612BC, Ashuruballit III, the last King of Assyria, called on Egypt to support him against the rising superpower Babylon. Perhaps realising the threat of Babylon to his own kingdom, Pharaoh Neco (Necho II), the recently crowned King of Egypt, led his army along the Way of the Sea to assist the King of Assyria in a final showdown against the Babylonians.

King Josiah of Judah foolishly tried to bar the Egyptian king's way at Megiddo and was killed at the Battle of Megiddo in 610BC. The delay resulted in Assyria being soundly defeated by the Babylonians. Pharaoh Neco returned to Egypt, deposing Josiah's son Jehoahaz en route, and installing his brother Jehoiakim (610-598BC) as a vassal king in his place, to act as a buffer against Babylon.

Following the intervention of Egyptian forces, the Babylonians were determined to get their revenge on Egypt, and in 606BC, Pharaoh Neco was defeated by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon at the Battle of Carchemish (Karkemiş, near Barak, on the southern border of Turkey) See Jeremiah 46:2). Nothing then stood in the way of Babylon claiming all the land between the Euphrates and the Nile.

2 Kings 24:1-9 The following year (605BC), King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon invades Judah and King Jehoiakim is forced to become a vassal king.

After three years (in 602BC), Pharaoh Neco of Egypt re-takes Gaza from the Babylonians (see Jeremiah 47:1), and Jehoiakim rebels against his overlord, Nebuchadnezzar. In December 599BC, Babylonian, Aramean, Moabite and Ammonite forces are deployed against Judah. Jehoiakim is killed and is succeeded by his son Jehoiachin in 598BC.

2 Kings 24:10-20 Later in 598BC, Nebuchadnezzar beseiges Jerusalem. King Jehoiachin surrenders in March 597BC and ten thousand Judaeans (including the prophet Ezekiel) are taken captive to Babylonia. Nebuchadnezzar strips the Temple of all the gold articles made by King Solomon. Jehoiachin is taken to Babylon and Zedekiah is installed in his place as a puppet king for eleven years (597-587BC).

In 589BC, Zedekiah rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar and Jerusalem was besieged again for over a year and a half before finally falling in 587BC. The Temple was destroyed and the population was taken into exile in Babylonia (see 2 Kings 25:1-10).

Nebuchadnezzar then proceeded to conquer Phoenicia in 585BC and to invade Egypt in 567BC. The dominance of Babylonia only came to an end when King Cyrus of Persia captured Babylon in 539 BC, and Babylonia became part of the Persian Empire (see Ezra 1:1).

THERE IS HOPE IN THE FUTURE FOR EPHRAIM - THE LORD'S HEART IS WITH HIM

- Where was lamentation and bitter weeping heard? Why?
 - Ramah
 - Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children because they are no more.
- What was the virgin of Israel to do?
 - Return to the cities given her by YHWH

THE SORROWFUL SOUL OF JUDAH WILL BE REPLENISHED

- “In those days” what would be said no more?
 - “The father has eaten sour grapes, but it is the children’s teeth that have become blunt.”
 - The sins of the father will not necessarily lead to the negative consequences/death for his children.

A NEW COVENANT IS COMING

- How is the New Covenant described that the Lord would make with the house of Judah and Israel?
- A covenant where YHWH will be known by ALL men, and where the LORD will forgive wrongdoing and sin and remember it no more.



THE SURETY OF THE LORD'S PROMISE TO RESTORE ISRAEL

- Upon what condition would the Lord cast off all the seed of Israel
- If the natural order of the universe ceases, if the heavens (universe) can be measured, if the foundations of the earth searched out, then YHWH will reject all the descendants of Israel for everything they have done.

LESSONS AND APPLICATION

- Where in the New Testament is Jeremiah 31:15 quoted and what does it have reference to?
- 31:29-30 is an example of personal accountability. While we may suffer the consequences of the sins and indiscretions of our ancestors, ultimately we will give account for what **WE OURSELVES** have done.
- Note that the New Covenant mentioned in 31:31-34 has reference to the time when Jesus would come. Let's discuss this New Covenant...