

JEREMIAH

AN OVERVIEW

Purpose

Jeremiah asks the people over 100 times to “turn around” or “repent” and to turn from their sins and back to Yahweh, their God. He promises that when they do they will receive God’s forgiveness and healing.

Author

Jeremiah.

Date

Written c.627-586 BC during Jeremiah’s ministry in Judah.

Audience

The people of Judah.

Setting

Judah as the nation was sliding quickly toward destruction by the Babylonians in 586 BC.

Special Features

This book is an anthology or collection of writings drawn from a lifetime of prophetic ministry. It is a combination of history, poetry, biography and symbolism. 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.



Key Verses

“Know and see that it is evil and bitter for you to forsake the LORD your God; the fear of me is not in you.” (2:19b ESV)

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.” (23:5 NIV)

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (29:11 NIV)

“Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” (33:3 NASB)

Key People

Judah’s kings, Baruch, Ebed-Melech, King Nebuchadnezzar, the Recabites.

Key Places

Anathoth, Jerusalem, Ramah, Egypt.