

INTRO REMARKS:

## Jeremiah

### A. Introduction

- Jeremiah makes up 5 ½ % of the Bible; one of the longer books.
  
- Word Count (Original Languages):<sup>2</sup>
  - 1 - Jeremiah: ~33,002 words
  - 2 - Genesis: ~32,046 words
  - 3 - Psalms: ~30,147 words
  - 4 - Ezekiel: ~29,918 words
  - 5 - Exodus: ~25,957 words
  
- 1. Title: “Jeremiah” (1:1, 11; 7:1; 11:1; 14:1; 18:1; 21:1; 25:1; 27:1; 29:1, 30; 30:1; 32:1, 6, 26; 33:1, 19, 23; 34:1, 8, 12; 36:1, 27; 37:2, 6; 39:15; 40:1; 42:7; 43:8; 46:1, 13; 47:1; 50:1)

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<sup>1</sup> Notes prepared with help of The Master’s Seminary BI 501 Bible Survey syllabus.

<sup>2</sup> <https://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/chapters.htm> Accessed 12/10/25.

2. Writing
  - a. By Jeremiah (51:60, 64)
  - b. Through Baruch (36:1-4, 27-32; 45:1-5)
3. Date: 627 B.C. (1:2) to 586 B.C. (1:3; 41:1-44:30) [561 B.C. (52:31-34)], see 2 Kings 22:1-25:30

He had a long ministry; about 5 decades with Judah's final 5 kings: Josiah 640-609 BC, Jehoahaz 609 BC, Jehoiakim 609-598 BC, Jehoiachin 598-597 BC, and Zedekiah 597-586 BC.

4. Focus: Jerusalem (107x) & Babylon (118x)

### C. The Literary Structure

1. Preparation of Jeremiah (1:1-19)
2. Proclamations to Judah (2:1-45:5)
  - a. Condemnation of Judah (2:1-29:32)
    - i. 14 messages of condemnation
  - b. Consolation of Judah and the New Covenant (30-33)
  - c. Calamity on Judah (34-45)
3. Proclamations of Judgment on the Nations (46-51)
4. The Final Fall of Jerusalem (52)

#### D. Major Themes

1. The Sovereignty of Yahweh (1:10; 5:15; 6:19, 21; 9:7-11, 15-16; 10:18; 13:9, 13; 16:9, 18; 18:6-12, 17; 19:3, 15; 21:3-7; 23:3-6; 25:8-13; 29:17-19, 31-32; 30:3, 8-11, 15, 17, 18-24; 31:1, 4, 8; 32:37-44; 33:5-9; 39:16-18; 50:18-20; 51:1-2)

- God sovereignly calls Jeremiah:

Jeremiah 1:4-5 Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, <sup>5</sup> “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

- God’s sovereign prerogative w/ people & nations:

Jeremiah 18:6 “Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter *does?*” declares the LORD. “Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel.”

- God’s sovereignty in the ultimate cause behind the judgment & restoration; behind the movement of history:

Jeremiah 16:13 So I will hurl you out of this land into the land which you have not known

Jeremiah 16:15 For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers.

- In 1400 BC God warned Israel, in the Old Covenant, that if they broke the covenant, that God would discipline them with a foreign nation (and this is a bit of the setting of Jeremiah’s ministry; warning that they failed the covenant and consequences are coming):

Deuteronomy 28:47-50 “Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things; <sup>48</sup> therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of all things; and He will put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you.” <sup>49</sup> “The LORD will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as the

eagle swoops down, a nation whose language you shall not understand, <sup>50</sup>  
a nation of fierce countenance who will have no respect for the old, nor  
show favor to the young.

Deuteronomy 28:58 “If you are not careful to observe all the words of this  
law which are written in this book, to fear this honored and awesome  
name, the LORD your God

Deuteronomy 29:9 “So keep the words of this covenant to do them, that  
you may prosper in all that you do.

## 2. The Sin and Judgment of Judah (2-29, 34, 38, 39)

Jeremiah 5:2-6 “And although they say, ‘As the LORD lives,’ surely they  
swear falsely.” <sup>3</sup> O LORD, do not Your eyes *look* for truth? You have smitten  
them, *but* they did not weaken; You have consumed them, But they refused  
to take correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; They have  
refused to repent. <sup>4</sup> Then I said, “They are only the poor, They are foolish;  
For they do not know the way of the LORD *Or* the ordinance of their God. <sup>5</sup>  
“I will go to the great And will speak to them, For they know the way of  
the LORD *And* the ordinance of their God.” But they too, with one accord,  
have broken the yoke *And* burst the bonds. <sup>6</sup> Therefore a lion from the  
forest will slay them, a wolf of the deserts will destroy them, a leopard is  
watching their cities. Everyone who goes out of them will be torn in pieces,  
because their transgressions are many, their apostasies are numerous.”

Jeremiah 13:23 “Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots? Then you also can do good who are accustomed to doing evil.”

Jeremiah 25:4-9 “And the LORD has sent to you all His servants the prophets again and again, but you have not listened nor inclined your ear to hear, <sup>5</sup> saying, ‘Turn now everyone from his evil way and from the evil of your deeds, and dwell on the land which the LORD has given to you and your forefathers forever and ever; <sup>6</sup> and do not go after other gods to serve them and to worship them, and do not provoke Me to anger with the work of your hands, and I will do you no harm.’ <sup>7</sup> “Yet you have not listened to Me,” declares the LORD... <sup>8</sup> “Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘Because you have not obeyed My words, <sup>9</sup> behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,’ declares the LORD, ‘and *I will send* to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land and against its inhabitants and against all these nations round about; and I will utterly destroy them and make them a horror and a hissing, and an everlasting desolation.”

### 3. The Broken Love of God for His People (2-3)

Jeremiah 2:1-5 Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, <sup>2</sup> “Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth, the love of your betrothals, Your following after Me in the wilderness, through a land not sown. <sup>3</sup> “Israel was holy to the LORD, The first of His harvest. All who ate of it became guilty; evil came upon them,” declares the LORD.’ ” <sup>4</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD, “What injustice did your fathers find in Me, That they went far from Me And walked after emptiness and became empty?

Jeremiah 2:11-13 “Has a nation changed gods when they were not gods? But My people have changed their glory for that which does not profit. <sup>12</sup> Be appalled, O heavens, at this, and shudder, be very desolate,” declares the LORD. <sup>13</sup> “For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water.”

Jeremiah 2:20-25 “For long ago I broke your yoke *And* tore off your bonds; but you said, ‘I will not serve!’ For on every high hill and under every green tree you have lain down as a harlot. <sup>21</sup> Yet I planted you a choice vine, a completely faithful seed. How then have you turned yourself before Me into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine? <sup>22</sup> “Although you wash yourself with lye *And* use much soap, the stain of your iniquity is before Me,” declares the Lord GOD. <sup>23</sup> “How can you say, ‘I am not defiled, I have not gone after the Baals’? Look at your way in the valley! Know what you have done! You are a swift young camel entangling her ways, <sup>24</sup> A wild donkey accustomed to the wilderness, that sniffs the wind in her passion. In *the time of* her heat who can turn her away? All who seek her will not become weary; In her month they will find her. <sup>25</sup> “Keep your feet from being unshod and your throat from thirst; but you said, ‘It is hopeless! No! For I have loved strangers, and after them I will walk.’”

Jeremiah 3:1-2 *God* says, “If a husband divorces his wife and she goes from him and belongs to another man, will he still return to her? Will not that land be completely polluted? But you are a harlot *with* many lovers; yet you turn to Me,” declares the LORD. <sup>2</sup> “Lift up your eyes to the bare heights and see; where have you not been violated? By the roads you have sat for them like an Arab in the desert, and you have polluted a land with your harlotry and with your wickedness.”

Jeremiah 3:12-13 “Go and proclaim these words toward the north and say, ‘Return, faithless Israel,’ declares the LORD; ‘I will not look upon you in anger. For I am gracious,’ declares the LORD; ‘I will not be angry forever. <sup>13</sup> ‘Only acknowledge your iniquity, that you have transgressed against the

LORD your God and have scattered your favors to the strangers under every green tree, and you have not obeyed My voice,' declares the LORD."

4. The False Prophets (5:30-31; 14:13-16; 23:9-40; 27-29)

Jeremiah 5:30-31 "An appalling and horrible thing Has happened in the land: <sup>31</sup> The prophets prophesy falsely, And the priests rule on their *own* authority; And My people love it so! But what will you do at the end of it?

Jeremiah 23:25-32 "I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy falsely in My name, saying, 'I had a dream, I had a dream!' <sup>26</sup> "How long? Is there anything in the hearts of the prophets who prophesy falsehood, even these prophets of the deception of their own heart, <sup>27</sup> who intend to make My people forget My name by their dreams which they relate to one another, just as their fathers forgot My name because of Baal? <sup>28</sup> "The prophet who has a dream may relate his dream, but let him who has My word speak My word in truth. What does straw have in common with grain?" declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup> "Is not My word like fire?" declares the LORD, "and like a hammer which shatters a rock? <sup>30</sup> "Therefore behold, I am against the prophets," declares the LORD, "who steal My words from each other. <sup>31</sup> "Behold, I am against the prophets," declares the LORD, "who use their tongues and declare, 'The Lord declares.' <sup>32</sup> "Behold, I am against those who have prophesied false dreams," declares the LORD, "and related them and led My people astray by their falsehoods and reckless boasting; yet I did not send them or command them, nor do they furnish this people the slightest benefit," declares the LORD.

➤ **A few observations of false teachers:**

- 1) They can carry official spiritual titles (prophet, pastor, teacher) (1a)

Jeremiah 28:1-17 Now in the same year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year, in the fifth month, Hananiah the son of Azzur, the prophet, who was from Gibeon,

- 2) They can usually get a decent hearing (1b)

<sup>1b</sup> spoke to me in the house of the LORD in the presence of the priests and all the people, saying,

- 3) They claim to speak God's word (2a)

<sup>2</sup> "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel,

- 4) They tend to avoid hard truths & instead usually have a friendly, feel-good message (2b-4)

'I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. <sup>3</sup> 'Within two years I am going to bring back to this place all the vessels of the LORD'S house, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon. <sup>4</sup> 'I am also going to bring back to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and all the exiles of Judah who went to Babylon,' declares the LORD, 'for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.' "

***Jeremiah responds:***

<sup>5</sup> Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and in the presence of all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, <sup>6</sup> and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD confirm your words which you have prophesied to bring back the vessels of the LORD'S house and all the exiles, from Babylon to this place. <sup>7</sup> "Yet hear now this word which I am about to speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people! <sup>8</sup> "The prophets who were before me and before you from ancient times prophesied against many lands and against great kingdoms, of war and of calamity and of pestilence. <sup>9</sup> "The prophet who prophesies of peace, when the word of the prophet comes to pass, then that prophet will be known *as* one whom the LORD has truly sent."



5) They can wow & move people emotionally (10-11)

<sup>10</sup> Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from the neck of Jeremiah the prophet and broke it. <sup>11</sup> Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, "Thus says the LORD, 'Even so will I break within two full years the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all the nations.'" Then the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

6) They need to be publicly called out & corrected (12-15)

<sup>12</sup> The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah after Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying, <sup>13</sup> "Go and speak to Hananiah, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "You have broken the yokes of wood, but you have made instead of them yokes of iron."' <sup>14</sup> 'For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, "I have put a yoke of iron on the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they will serve him. And I have also given him the beasts of the field."' " <sup>15</sup> Then Jeremiah the prophet said to Hananiah the prophet, "Listen now, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, and you have made this people trust in a lie.

7) They eventually will be judged by God (16-17)

<sup>16</sup> "Therefore thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I am about to remove you from the face of the earth. This year you are going to die, because you have counseled rebellion against the LORD.'" <sup>17</sup> So Hananiah the prophet died in the same year in the seventh month.

Jer 29:4-12 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon, <sup>5</sup> 'Build houses and live in them; and plant gardens and eat their produce. <sup>6</sup> Take wives and become the fathers of sons and daughters, and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; and multiply there and do not decrease. <sup>7</sup> Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.' <sup>8</sup> For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Do not let your prophets who are in your midst and your diviners deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams which they dream.' <sup>9</sup> 'For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them,' declares the LORD. <sup>10</sup> "For thus says the LORD, 'When 70 years have been completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup> 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. <sup>12</sup> 'Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you."

5. The Faithfulness of Jeremiah (1, 26)

Jeremiah 1:6–10 Then I said, “Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, Because I am a youth.” <sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ because everywhere I send you, you shall go, and all that I command you, you shall speak. <sup>8</sup> “Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you,” declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup> “See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Jeremiah 1:17 “Now, gird up your loins and arise, and speak to them all which I command you. Do not be dismayed before them, or I will dismay you before them.”

Jeremiah 17:15–16 Look, they keep saying to me, “Where is the word of the LORD? Let it come now!” <sup>16</sup> But as for me, I have not hurried away from *being* a shepherd after You, Nor have I longed for the woeful day; You Yourself know that the utterance of my lips Was in Your presence.

Jeremiah 26:7–8 The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. <sup>8</sup> When Jeremiah finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded *him* to speak to all the people, the priests and the prophets and all the people seized him, saying, “You must die!”

- Faithfully preached an unpopular message: he steadily proclaimed a consistent message to the people of Judah and the residents of Jerusalem: turn from your wicked ways and idolatry, or face destruction and seventy years of Babylonian captivity.
- Speaking out against false teachers: Jeremiah's message was in direct opposition to false prophets who tickled people's ears ("Peace, peace," when there was no peace). God clarified the distinction: true prophets must speak His word faithfully, which differs from false dreams like wheat differs from straw (Jer 23:28).

- Preaching a message that resulted in hardship: Jeremiah's faithful preaching came at a personal cost. He was mocked, tried, imprisoned, and his own community plotted against him.
- 6. The Persecution of Jeremiah (1:18-19; 11:18-21; 20:1-2; 26:7-24; 36:1-26; 37:13-16; 38:1-6; 43:1-4)

Jeremiah 1:18-19 "Now behold, I have made you today as a fortified city and as a pillar of iron and as walls of bronze against the whole land, to the kings of Judah, to its princes, to its priests and to the people of the land. 19 "They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you," declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 19:14-20:2 Then Jeremiah came from Topheth, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court of the LORD's house and said to all the people: <sup>15</sup> "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I am about to bring on this city and all its towns the entire calamity that I have declared against it, because they have stiffened their necks so as not to heed My words.' " <sup>1</sup> When Pashhur the priest, the son of Immer, who was chief officer in the house of the LORD, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things, <sup>2</sup> Pashhur had Jeremiah the prophet beaten and put him in the stocks that were at the upper Benjamin Gate, which was by the house of the LORD.

Jeremiah 20:7-9 O LORD, You have deceived me and I was deceived; You have overcome me and prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; Everyone mocks me. <sup>8</sup> For each time I speak, I cry aloud; I proclaim violence and destruction, Because for me the word of the LORD has resulted In reproach and derision all day long. <sup>9</sup> But if I say, "I will not remember Him Or speak anymore in His name," Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; And I am weary of holding *it* in, And I cannot endure *it*.

Jeremiah 20:14-15 Cursed be the day when I was born; Let the day not be blessed when my mother bore me! <sup>15</sup> Cursed be the man who brought the news To my father, saying, "A baby boy has been born to you!" *and* made him very happy.

Jeremiah 38:3-6 Thus says the LORD, 'This city will certainly be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon and he will capture it.' " <sup>4</sup> Then the officials said to the king, "Now let this man be put to death, inasmuch as he is discouraging the men of war who are left in this city and all the people, by speaking such words to them; for this man is not seeking the well-being of this people but rather their harm." <sup>5</sup> So King Zedekiah said, "Behold, he is in your hands; for the king can *do* nothing against you." <sup>6</sup> Then they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchijah the king's son, which was in the court of the guardhouse; and they let Jeremiah down with ropes. Now in the cistern there was no water but only mud, and Jeremiah sank into the mud."

7. The Breaking of the Old Covenant & Making of the New Covenant (31:31-34)

➤ The Old Covenant

Jeremiah 4:3-4 For thus says the LORD to the men of Judah and to Jerusalem, "Break up your fallow ground, and do not sow among thorns. <sup>4</sup> Circumcise yourselves to the LORD and remove the foreskins of your heart, men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, or else My wrath will go forth like fire and burn with none to quench it, because of the evil of your deeds."

(11:1-13)

- The New Covenant will regenerate the unregenerate / uncircumcised heart (4:4; 6:10; 9:25-26; cf. Deut. 10:16; 30:6)

Jeremiah 30:11 'For I am with you,' declares the Lord, 'to save you; For I will destroy completely all the nations where I have scattered you, Only I will not destroy you completely. But I will chasten you justly And will by no means leave you unpunished.'

Jeremiah 30:18 "Thus says the Lord, 'Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob And have compassion on his dwelling places; And the city will be rebuilt on its ruin, And the palace will stand on its rightful place.

Jeremiah 31:3 The LORD appeared to him from afar, *saying*, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness...<sup>9</sup> "With weeping they will come, And by supplication I will lead them; I will make them walk by streams of waters, On a straight path in which they will not stumble; For I am a father to Israel, And Ephraim is My firstborn."

Jeremiah 31:31-34 "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup> not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup> "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. <sup>34</sup> "They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

- How certain is it that Israel will continue to exist as a nation? How certain is it that they have a future & blessing in the Millennial Kingdom?

Jeremiah 31:35-36 Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for light by day And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; The LORD of hosts is His name: <sup>36</sup> “If this fixed order departs From before Me,” declares the LORD, “Then the offspring of Israel also will cease From being a nation before Me forever.”

8. The Future Restoration of Judah/Israel (1:10; 3:11-4:2; 12:15; 16:14-15; 23:1-8; 24:4-7; 30:1-33:26; 46:27-28)

- Conditions of that future Mill Kingdom:

### 1) Unprecedented and Lasting Joy

Jeremiah 31:1-13 “At that time,” declares the LORD, “I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.” ... <sup>3</sup> The LORD appeared to him from afar, *saying*, “I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness. <sup>4</sup> “Again I will build you and you will be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel! Again you will take up your tambourines, And go forth to the dances of the merrymakers. <sup>5</sup> “Again you will plant vineyards On the hills of Samaria; The planters will plant And will enjoy *them*. <sup>6</sup> “For there will be a day when watchmen On the hills of Ephraim call out, ‘Arise, and let us go up *to* Zion, To the LORD our God.’ ” <sup>7</sup> For thus says the LORD, “Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, And shout among the chief of the nations; Proclaim, give praise and say, ‘O LORD, save Your people, The remnant of Israel.’ <sup>8</sup> “Behold, I am bringing them from the north country, And I will gather them from the remote parts of the earth, Among them the blind and the lame, The woman with child and she who is in labor with child, together; A great company, they will return here. <sup>9</sup> “With weeping they will come, And by supplication I will lead them; I will make them walk by streams of waters, On a straight path in which they will not stumble; For I am a father to Israel, And Ephraim is My firstborn.” <sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, And declare in the coastlands afar off, And say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him And keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.” <sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob And redeemed him from the hand of him who was stronger than he. <sup>12</sup> “They will come and shout for joy on the height of Zion, And they will be radiant over the bounty of the LORD— Over the grain and the new wine and the oil, And over the young of the flock and the herd; And their life will be like a watered garden, And they will never languish again. <sup>13</sup> “Then the virgin will rejoice in the dance, And the young men and the old, together, For I will turn their mourning into joy And will comfort them and give them joy for their sorrow.

## 2) The Return & Righteous Reign of Christ

Jeremiah 23:5-6 “Behold, *the* days are coming,” declares the LORD, “When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup> “In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell securely; And this is His name by which He will be called, ‘The LORD our righteousness.’”

### COMPARISONS BETWEEN JEREMIAH AND JESUS (Charles Fienberg)

- TURN TO Matthew 16:13-14. Jesus asks, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answer, “Jeremiah.”
- So, it’s understandable that they might answer, “John the Baptizer” – b/c he had been martyred, & perhaps he rose from the dead ... or Elijah, b/c Elijah did many miracles, as Jesus did
- But why might they say Jeremiah?
- Perhaps b/c there are some fascinating similarities between the 2

#### 1) Similar Historical Settings

- Jerusalem about to Fall
- Temple soon to be Destroyed
- Formalism in Worship

#### 2) Both Had a Message for a People They Loved (Jer 8:18-21)

#### 3) Both Wept over Jerusalem (Jer 9:1; Luke 19:41)

Jeremiah 9:1 Oh that my head were waters And my eyes a fountain of tears, That I might weep day and night For the slain of the daughter of my people!

Luke 19:41 When He approached *Jerusalem*, He saw the city and wept over it



- 4) Both Condemned the Commercialism of Temple Worship (Jer 7:11; Matt 21:13). Both preached often on judgment.
- 5) Both Accused of Political Treason (Jer 26:7-11)
- 6) Both Were Tried, Persecuted, and Imprisoned (Jer 37:14-16)
- 7) Both Foretold the Temple's Destruction (Jer 7:14; Mark 13:2)
- 8) Both Were Rejected by their People (Jer 12:6; John 1:11)
- 9) Both Were Tenderhearted (Jer 8:18-21)
- 10) Both Knew Loneliness & the lack of a wife (Jer 16:2)
- 11) Both Enjoyed Unusual Fellowship with God (Jer 20:11-12)

✠ Despite these traits, the people did not respond to Jeremiah anymore than they responded to Jesus.

9. The Nations (1, 25, 46-51)

✠ Judgment: in chpt 46-51, Pharaoh/Egypt; Philistia, Moab ("b/c of your trust in your own achievements, 48:7); Ammon; Babylon

✠ However, the nations will also find blessing in YHWH

C. Purpose: Jerusalem will be destroyed by the Babylonians because of Judah's spiritual adultery; nevertheless, Yahweh's rule & future Millennial blessing is assured through the New and Davidic Covenants

E. Bibliography

- *Jeremiah and Lamentations: Judgment and Grace*, MacArthur
- *Jeremiah (in the Bible Knowledge Commentary Set)*, Charles Dyer