

The Call of a Servant

Jeremiah, Part One
Jeremiah 1:1-3:10

Jeremiah was called under unusual circumstances for the most difficult of challenges. As far as we humans look at results, he failed miserably. God, however, would have concluded otherwise.

Geopolitical Context of the Day

Amon	642 – 640		
	Esarhaddon of Assyria	681 – 668	
Josiah	640 – 609		
Jehoahaz	609		
Jehoiakim	609 – 598 (Egyptian then Babylonian overlords)		
	Egypt / Psamtic	633 – 609	
	\ Necho	609 – 593	
	Jeremiah	626 – 585	
	Zephaniah	640 – 621	
	Habakkuk	612 – 606	
	Assyria falls to Babylon	626 – 609	
	1st captivity of Judah	605 (Daniel taken)	
Jehoiachin	598 – 597		
Zedekiah	597 – 586		
	2nd captivity of Judah	597 (Ezekiel taken)	
	3rd captivity of Judah	586	
		Jerusalem and temple the fall	
	Nebuchadnezzar	605 – 562	
	Daniel	605 – 534	
	Ezekiel	593 – 571	

Jeremiah Called to Confront His People with the Justice of God

- The Historical Setting (1:1-3)
- The Call (1:4-10)
 - God's foreknowledge is an aspect of His sovereignty.
 - Jeremiah called before he had done anything to commend himself—it was God's doing!
 - Jeremiah protests, but God promises to be with the young prophet.
 - Jeremiah's words would be God's words.

- Those with God's words have God's authority.
- Visions and Reassurance (1:11-19)
 - As the first to warn his people of coming destruction, he had a special duty.
 - He was the one who will point to the north to locate the nation to fear, rather than reinforce the peoples' fixation on Egypt.
 - He would stand because the Lord stood with him!
- The Dismal Future of Judah (2:1-3:10)
 - Apostasy had taken the land.
 - The people denied their guilt.
 - The people trusted in false gods and other nations.
 - Their sins would find them out!

Imagine the terrible condition of the people! Jeremiah was called at a time of much wickedness. Even the great Josiah's love for God would not turn the people back to God. Yet Jeremiah stayed the course and preached an unpopular message of judgment.

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