

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE PROPHET JEREMIAH

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PART 1: GOD'S PROPHET TO JUDAH

When Israelites possessed the Promised Land, the kings were officially in charge but God ruled Abraham's descendants through the prophets. It was the prophets who corrected the injustice of kings when they became evil and led the people into sin.

HISTORICAL FACTS

Jeremiah identified the year in which he was called by God as 626 B.C. The Northern Kingdom of Israel had been destroyed 101 years earlier in 727 B.C.

Jeremiah knew about the destruction of Israel and its capital of Samaria, how King Shalmaneser of Assyria defeated the army of Israel and systematically removed all the people from the northern kingdom and scattered them throughout his kingdom. **2 Kings 18:9-12**

The destruction of Israel had a deep impact upon the prophet. **Lamentations 2:5**

JEREMIAH'S BACKGROUND

Jeremiah was the son of Hilkiah, a priest, who settled in Anathoth, the tribal land of Benjamin. **Jeremiah 1:1-3**

Jeremiah remained in Anathoth as a prophet until the men of the city attacked him and he was forced to flee or be killed. **Jeremiah 11:21-23**

Satan was determined to crush Jeremiah and used his father and siblings against him. **Jeremiah 12:6-8**

JEREMIAH BECOMES A NATIONAL PROPHET

Jeremiah moved to Jerusalem and became involved with the revival movement under King Josiah. **2 Chronicles 34:1-7**

Jeremiah was greatly grieved when King Josiah was killed in battle. **2 Chronicles 35:20-27**

POLITICAL BATTLES IN JERUSALEM

After Josiah's death, his son Jehoahaz was made king. He only reigned for three months before he was removed from the throne by Egypt and carried off as a prisoner to Egypt where he subsequently died. Judah was made a vassal state of Egypt and forced to pay tribute. The Egyptians appointed Jehoiakim as the new king; he was another son of Josiah but he would prove to be an evil king. **2 Kings 23:30-37**

The princes of Judah (political leaders) and the people were divided into two parties. One group favored an alignment with Babylon and another that favored the alignment with Egypt. God told Jeremiah judgment was imminent and that Jehoiakim and the people needed to repent. As a result, Jeremiah was arrested and tried for treason, but he was protected by the princes. **Jeremiah 26:1-24**



In the fourth year of King Jehoiakim, God scolded the king for his evil ways, but Jehoiakim did not heed the message. The princes told Jeremiah and his scribe, Baruch, to hide themselves since they knew Jehoiakim would be angry and want to kill them.

Jeremiah 36:1-32

Jehoiakim was an opportunist, and when the king of Babylon sent his army and defeated the Egyptians, Jehoiakim became a vassal king to Babylon. He died after reigning over Judah for 11 years. **2 Kings 24:1-6**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?