An Old Testament Glance
The Major Prophets Books – Jeremiah, Part 1

Name Meaning	Dates of Service	Home Town	# of Chapters	Kings Reigning	Audience Targeted	Theme or Subject
"God Exalts"	627-580 BC	Anathoth	52	Josiah-Zedekiah (South)	Jews in Judea & Captivity	Judah in Captivity

Prophets Ministering at the same time:	Nahum, Daniel, Habakkuk
Scripture References:	2 Kings 22-25; 2 Chr. 35:25; 36; Ezra 1:1; Jeremiah 1-52

1. When was Jeremiah serving as a prophet to Judah? (Jeremiah 1:1-3)
   a. Started the _____th year of King Josiah.
   b. Also in the days of _____, son of Josiah
   c. Until the end of the _____th year of _____
   d. Until the _____ _____ of Jerusalem _____

It appears that Jeremiah was on duty during the reigns of the last 5 kings of Judah before the Babylonians wiped them out. He continued his preaching during the exile too.

2. The **calling by God of Jeremiah** to be a prophet:
   a. When did God decide this? (1:5) _____
   b. Whose words will He use? (1:7,9) _____
   c. He was scared. What should he remember? (1:8) _____
   _____

3. Describe Jeremiah's personal life. (10:1-3) _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

4. How did the Judah leadership receive Jeremiah's message?
   a. (18:18) _____
   b. (20:2) _____
   c. (26:8) _____
   d. (32:2-5) _____
   e. (36:25-26) _____
   f. (37:11-21) _____
   g. (38:5-6) _____

Being a prophet of the Lord is no easy job, especially when Kings Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah (the last 3 kings) did not want to hear anything Jeremiah had to say.

King Zedekiah & Jeremiah connected several times; Zedekiah refused to listen.

5. What sins did Jeremiah mention?
   a. (7:4) _____
   b. (7:5) _____
   c. (7:6) _____
   d. (7:6) _____
   e. (7:7) _____

Let's look at 2 Kings & get a summary of these last years of Judah's government.

KING JEHOIKIM'S REIGN
He is conquered by King Nebuchnezzar (2 Kings 23:35-37)
He dies (2 Kings 24:1-7)
Daniel was taken to Babylon at this time (Daniel 1:6-7) **(They wanted young leaders to work in the Babylonian government.)**

KING JEHOICHIN'S REIGN
   6. Who is he conquered by? (2 Kings 24:8-9) _____
   7. Where was he taken? (2 K. 24:13-16)   _____
Ezekiel was taken to Babylon at this time (Ezekiel 1:2) **(A priest in training)**

KING ZEDEKIAH'S REIGN (Last king of Judah)
He is surrounded by Babylonian armies for 2 years (2 K. 25:1)
He is finally defeated. (2 K. 25:4)
He is taken to Babylon; his sons were killed; his eyes were removed (2 K. 25:6-7)
The rest of the city Jews were taken to Babylon; the poor were left in Judah (25:11)

Remember King Jehoiachin? The Babylonian king released him from prison after serving a 37-year sentence. He spent the rest of his life in the Babylonian palace, and treated rather well. (25:27-29).

8. If you a Jew in Babylon, you might have wondered why you did not pay attention to God's warnings all those years. How have you responded to warnings & circumstances that happened to get your attention?

   _____
   _____
   _____

   _____

9. Comment on Jeremiah 29:11-12. Jeremiah wrote this to Jews in exile.

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

An Old Testament Glance
The Major Prophets Books – Jeremiah, Part 2

Name Meaning	Dates of Service	Home Town	# of Chapters	Kings Reigning	Audience Targeted	Theme or Subject
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BRIEF OUTLINE OF JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 1:1-3	Introducing Jeremiah
Jeremiah 1:4-19	Jeremiah is Called & Hired as the Prophet
Jeremiah 2:1 – 24:10	Jeremiah Preaches the Bad News – Judgment
Jeremiah 25:1 – 51:64	Jeremiah Gives us a History Lesson
Jeremiah 52:1-34	Jeremiah says goodbye to Jerusalem

Speaking of history lessons, what happened to Jeremiah during these sad days.

10. Match the event with the Jeremiah verses.
    a. Jeremiah imprisoned by King Zedekiah.
    b. Jeremiah is in prison when Jerusalem falls.
    c. Jeremiah released by Babylonian king.
    d. Jeremiah remains in Jerusalem.
    e. Jeremiah's Governor Gedaliah is assassinated.
    f. Jeremiah preaches to Jews still in Jerusalem.
    g. Jeremiah's message is rejected by these same Jews.
    h. Jeremiah sent to Egypt for punishment.
    i. Jeremiah preached to voluntary exile Jews in Egypt.
    j. Jeremiah probably died in Egypt

    ___ 51:64
    ___ 39:11-12
    ___ 39:12
    ___ 43:2
    ___ 37:21
    ___ 41:4
    ___ 38:5-6
    ___ 44:20
    ___ 39:28
    ___ 43:7
    ___ 42:1-3

So, at this point in time, the Jews are scattered throughout that known world: **Either still in Judah (Jerusalem)**
Exiled in the Assyrian territory (controlled by Babylonians)
Exiled in Babylon (Later to be controlled by Persia)
Still in Egypt.

The next steps in the story of returning to the Land of Israel will be promised by **Ezekiel & Daniel**. *We will be taken there on a guided tour by the prophets* **Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi, priest Ezra, and Leader Nehemiah.**

Word studies *in a book many times tell us what the focus of the writer is.*

Jeremiah had a compassionate heart, a tender personality; he was in tears as he ministered.

11.   He cried as he reached out to people. The word "people" appears over 200 times in the book. The word "tears" appears 31 times.
   a. He hurt when he talked to "dying" people. (9:1)
   b. He agonized when he addressed "sad" people. (9:18)
   c. He inwardly wept when pleading with "stubborn" people. (13:17)
   d. He just plain cried openly thinking of "punished" people. (14:17)

How do you feels about Jeremiah's style? _____

_____

_____

_____

12.   He loved his people, his leaders, his neighbors, the elderly, the hard-working, the kids. You can tell; he used "Jerusalem" over 100 times and "Judah" over 200 times. These were God's words; oh, how He loved His people. Now He had to punished them. Can you imagine the pain in God's heart? I have caused God pain too. How about you? Comment. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

13.   Jeremiah knew the situation was desperate. The years left for the Southern Kingdom were winding down. The people were not believing him; he knew the truth but they would not listen. Over 300 times, he said, "Thus saith the Lord". Please listen; It's not me talking; God is speaking from Heaven to you. **God has talked to me and warned me for years. I would not listen. How about you?**

_____

_____

_____

_____

14.   Write out this great verse: Jeremiah 33:3. _____

_____

_____

_____