

LESSON 7: THE PROPHECY OF JEREMIAH (JEREMIAH-LAMENTATIONS) · · · · REVIEW

MEMORY. Memorize Lam 3:22-24. (You may find it helpful to consider the hymn "The Steadfast Love of the Lord," which uses the RSV rendering of Lam 3:22-24, as melody sometimes fix the words in the mind.)



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READING. If possible, read Jeremiah and Lamentations over the course of a few days. (If time does not permit, read Jer 1-2 and 30-33.) After doing your reading, in the space below write down something that you found to be interesting or important. It can be something that you have never noticed before or something that you want to remember and apply.



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DISCUSSION.

1. *Background*. Jeremiah began to prophesy during whose reign and concluded after what event? (Jer 1:1-3) What is the primary theme of Jeremiah (and Lamentations)? (Optional: What does the name "Jeremiah" mean?)



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DISCUSSION.

2. Jeremiah. How did God prepare Jeremiah for his task of prophesying to wicked Judah? (Jer 1:4-19) How did God intend to punish Judah, and why? (5:14-31) But what would happen for Israel and Judah in future days? (30:1-3; 31:27-34; 33:14-18) Describe the judgment and hope of Jer 52:1-34.



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3. Lamentations. Lamentations is an inspired record of the heartbreak of the people of God after the destruction of Jerusalem. It is emotional poetry: grief (or loneliness; Lam 1), anger (Lam 2), emptiness and hope (Lam 3), anguish (or desperation; Lam 4), and weariness (Lam 5). What does Lamentations teach you about God, his people, and yourself?



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CONNECTION. The Old Testament (OT) points forward to Christ and the New Testament (NT). Record any significant OT-NT connections that you observe in Isaiah. In addition, answer the following question and be ready to discuss: In what way(s) does Jer 23:1-8 find its ultimate fulfillment in the Lord Jesus?



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APPLICATION. The people of Judah assumed that they were accepted because they possessed the word of God, though they were rejecting it in practice (Jer 8:8-9). We must not make light of Scripture in word or deed. Thank God for his word. Then read (and apply) it every day this week.