

“3 WAVES OF PROPHETS”

this whole series connects both the Historical Urgency and also the Poetic Intelligence of the 17 OT prophets in such a way that it helps unlock: (1) God’s actual “Personality” of deep-character, top-priorities, and intimate-feelings (2) the proper balancing of one’s spirituality & society-ethics, and (3) “shapes-of-the-future” that God keeps building His People towards

[study #14] JEREMIAH: Here is Some Prophetic-Help as you Experience your Disaster — covering Jeremiah 1-25 —

ACTION #1. **Jeremiah was appointed to help Judah experience its Babylonian disaster.** Think about that. From the moment when Judah heard of God’s coming wrath in “the lost book of the law” (627 BC) to when Judah actually got conquered by Babylon (586 BC), Jeremiah helped Judah do each of these 4 things:

- **DELAY THE DISASTER** by turning the nation back to Yahweh and doing “reforms” (Jeremiah’s 1st 20 yrs)
- **BRACE EVERYONE FOR IMPACT** by dispelling all the false prophecies of a coming “peace” (his next 20 yrs)
- **CREATE SOLE SURVIVORS** which meant “accept defeat” by Babylon vs. flee to Egypt (during the actual disaster)
- **PROPERLY RECOVER** by going through real-life Grief-Stages with God, by going into exile “altogether”, and by accepting 70 years of “exile-lessons” so the *next* generation could be readied for return (afterwards)

As a group, discuss:

- which of Jeremiah’s 4 phases of preaching do you think would serve his larger calling (in yellow) most?
- which of these 4 phases do you think people during his time might have “pushed back on” the most?
- which of these 4 phases of messaging do you think would be best for our world to hear today & why?

ACTION #2. Read **Jeremiah 19:14—20:11** and then discuss:

- re-describe in your own words what all happened here (both in the courtyard and in his prayer alone)
- what are all the feelings Jeremiah had about his calling from God (both positive and negative)

ACTION #3. Before Jeremiah, **THE JEWS’ MOST DEFINING EVENT IN THEIR ENTIRE HISTORY** was their escape from slavery in Egypt. Read **Jeremiah 16:14-15** and **23:7-8** and **24:1-7** and then discuss:

- according to these verses, what main thing did other nations *use to say* about the people of Judah/Israel?
- what will be *the new main thing* that other nations say about Judah/Israel?
- re-describe the “figs” story and how it stands for **God’s plan to totally redefine Judah/Israel’s reputation**

ACTION #4. For Jeremiah to help Judah through all its disaster, God had to make Jeremiah special. Read these additional passages about God’s call of him (**Jeremiah 1:17-19** and **15:15-16**) and then describe which characteristic of him might probably stand out the most if you got to meet him.

EXTRA... FOR THOSE MOTIVATED, DEVOTED, & WITH SOME SELF-COMMAND:

GOLD CHALLENGE ...read ahead (& maybe journal about) for next study: **Jeremiah 26-45**

PENGUIN CHALLENGE ...throughout this series read the kings-&-exile books (this wk’s portion: **1 Chronicles 10-17**)