

A Study of the Prophets

O.T. Survey Lesson 161--Jeremiah 40:1-44:30

Introduction: This section concerns the events that occurred after the destruction of Jerusalem, and Jeremiah's part in them. Just as before the captivity of Judah, God also afterward revealed through Jeremiah how the people might save their lives from destruction, namely, by dwelling in the land and serving Nebuchadnezzar. However, the remnant of the Jews left in Judah and those gathered to them continued to insist upon resistance against Babylon and reliance upon Egypt as the way to their salvation. This unfaithfulness was to result in further destruction for the Jewish people.

Lesson aim: To show that those who do not learn the lessons of history are destined to repeat them to their destruction.

Jeremiah remains in Judah--Jeremiah 40:1-16

1.
1. To whom did Nebuzaradan attribute the destruction of Jerusalem? (v. 2-3) Why did he say it had occurred? What choice did he give to Jeremiah? (v. 4-5) Where did Jeremiah go? (v. 6)
2. Who had the king of Babylon appointed over the remnant in Judah? (v. 7) What did the commanders in the field do at this time? (v. 7-8) What did Gedaliah urge them to do? (v. 9-10) Who else returned? (v. 11-12)
3. Who did Johanan tell Gedaliah the king of Ammon had sent to take his life? (v. 13-14) Did Gedaliah believe this threat was real? (v. 13-16)

**Gedaliah is murdered by Ishmael but Johanan rescues the people from his control--
Jeremiah 41:1-18**

1. Describe how Gedaliah was murdered by Ishmael and his men (v. 1-3)
2. What did Ishmael do to the men who had come to serve Gedaliah? (v. 4-7) What did he do with their bodies? How did ten of them save their lives? (v. 8)
3. What did Ishmael do with the people who remained in Mizpah? (v. 10) Who rescued them? (v. 11-15) Where did Johanan intend to lead the people? (v. 17-18) Why?

Johanan leads a movement to leave Judah for Egypt--Jeremiah 42:1-22

1. What request did Johanan and those led by him make of Jeremiah? (v. 1-3) What did they promise to do? (v. 5-6) Do you think they were sincere in their request or looking for justification for their predetermined course? (cf. v. 20)
2. Write down the main details of Jeremiah's answer to them (v. 7-22).

Jeremiah warns of judgment for the Jews' disobedience to God in going to Egypt--Jeremiah 43:1-44:30

1. How did the leaders of the remnant respond to Jeremiah's message from the Lord? (v. 1-3) Why?
2. Where did Johanan lead the people? (v. 4-7) Were Jeremiah and Baruch forced to go also?
3. What symbolic action did God ask Jeremiah to perform in Egypt? (v. 8-9) What message was he to give to the people there? (v. 10-13)
4. What charges did God make against the remnant that had gone to Egypt? (44:1-10) What did God reveal would happen to them because of their disobedience? (v. 11-14)

5. How did the people respond to Jeremiah's warning? (v. 15-16) Why? (v. 17-19)
6. What things did God promise would happen to the Jews because of their refusal to hear Jeremiah's message? (v. 20-28) What sign did he give to confirm his word? (v. 29-30)
7. Since this is the last recorded event in Jeremiah's life we will study in Jeremiah, it might be well to consider what happened to Jeremiah late in life. How long had Jeremiah prophesied for the Lord? (Cf. Jer. 1:1) See if you can find out any information about Jeremiah's death.