

Discipleship University Bible Reading Guide

Hebrew Prophets 1: Jeremiah 1-6, 14-17, 7-11, 26, 2 Kings 22-23, 2 Chron. 34-35

(For class to be held on June 17, 2017)

Read 2 Kings 22:1-2, 2 Chron. 34:1-7, and Jeremiah 1:1-4:4 – King Josiah and Jeremiah the Prophet

1. How old was Josiah when he became king and how long was his reign? _____. In what year of his reign did Josiah begin efforts to purge idolatry from the land? _____
2. In what year of Josiah's reign did Jeremiah receive his prophetic call? _____. Where was Jeremiah from? _____. What stands out to you in God's call to Jeremiah? _____
3. What does the seething or boiling pot facing the north represent? _____. What does it mean when the enemy sets up his throne in the gates of Jerusalem? _____
4. Jeremiah 2 covers Israel's history of unfaithfulness to God. How does verse 13 sum it up? _____
5. What verse in Jeremiah 3 makes clear that many people were not experiencing a changed heart under the early reforms of King Josiah? _____. God makes stirring appeals to Israel. What two verses describe what Judah must specifically do to return to God? _____

Read Jeremiah 4:5-6:30 – Coming Judgment by an Invading Nations

1. Why does God say, “I will bring evil from the north”? _____. What animal is used to describe the invader from the north? _____. Why will God allow the cities and land of His people to be laid waste? _____
2. What is the immediate context of Jer. 4:23-27? _____. How do we know that it also applies to the destruction of the earth when Jesus comes the second time? _____
3. Whose words would be made like fire in Jer. 5:14? _____. What would cease to come to Israel because of their iniquities (24-25)? _____. What do birds represent in verse 27? _____
4. After reading Jer. 3:1-9, why is Jer. 6:2 surprising? _____. What specific sins are evident in Jer. 6:13-15? _____. What does God say the people should ask for? _____. Why won't they ask? _____

Read Jeremiah 14-16 – Manasseh's Apostasy/Calamity Continues in Judah during the Early Reign of Josiah

1. What is the “dearth” mentioned in Jer. 14:1? _____. What was God's answer to those prophets saying there would be no famine or sword, but only peace? _____
2. How does Jeremiah's frustration with God, the situation, and the people show in 4:17-22? _____
3. Does Jer. 15:11 bring any names to mind that will fit the historical context? _____. What seems to be Jeremiah's state of mind in verses 17-18? _____. How does God encourage him in verse 20? _____
4. Why was Jeremiah told not to marry and have children? _____. What did God say He would do after Judah was recompensed for their iniquity? _____. Because of all that God would do, who would be gathered to Israel and know His name is the LORD? _____

Read 2 Kings 22:3-23:30 and 2 Chron. 34:8-35:27 – Revival under King Josiah

1. When Josiah set men to repair the Temple, what great discovery was made? _____
2. What was Josiah's immediate reaction after hearing the words of this book? _____. Why? _____
3. To whom did the king inquire and receive the message that God was going to bring evil upon Judah for their idolatry? _____. Why would Josiah die in peace first? _____
4. What did Josiah do first to make a fresh start for a revival? _____
_____. What is the work from 2 Kings 23:4-20? _____
5. When the Temple services were reinstated, which feast day was commemorated? _____. In what year of Josiah's reign did this take place? _____. Which book and chapter gives the most detail of the feast? _____. As great a revival event as it was, how do we know the revival didn't go far enough? _____

*****Suggested Reading, *Prophets and Kings*, Chapter 33** (pages 392-406)

Read 2 Kings 23:31-24:1 and 2 Chron. 36:1-7 – King Jehoahaz and King Jehoiakim

1. Why was the reign of Jehoahaz so short? _____. While Jehoiakim was king, who invaded Judah and took Jerusalem? _____. Besides taking the vessels of the temple, what else did he take to Babylon (see Daniel 1:1-7)? _____

Read Jeremiah 17, 7-11 and 26 – Challenges in the Reign of Jehoiakim before Nebuchadnezzar's 1st Invasion

1. How does Jer. 17:9 fit the context of verses 1-10? _____. Who knows a person's heart? _____. How safely then can anybody follow their own heart? _____. So, what person is especially blessed according to verse 7? _____
2. What sin did God try to correct with Jeremiah's message at the gate of Jerusalem? _____. What very specific punishment would face Jerusalem if they hearkened not? _____
3. Where did God send Jeremiah to proclaim his message in Jer. 7? _____. Where does Jeremiah indicate they have put their trust? _____. What was to become of the temple? _____
4. What are the saddest verses in Jer. 8? _____. According to Jer. 9, where were God's people to be after Jerusalem was to be left in heaps "without an inhabitant"? _____. How does 9:25-26 help give understanding for how a Judean was saved or lost compared to the heathen? _____
5. What is the key point of Jer. 10:1-13? _____
6. Of what are the people of Judah being reminded in Jer. 11? _____. How had Israel broken the covenant? _____. What was to be the consequences for breaking the covenant with God? _____
7. What did God reveal to Jeremiah in 11:18-21? _____
8. How did the prophets, priests, and people respond to Jeremiah's message (Jer. 26) in the court of the temple? _____. What example from history did the princes use to convince the people that instead they should listen to Jeremiah? _____
_____. What prince was named as one who protected Jeremiah? _____. Is it possible that this prince was grandfather, father, or uncle of Daniel or one of his three friends? _____

*****Suggested Reading, *Prophets and Kings*, Chapter 34** (pages 407-421)