

- Recap of last week: God through Jeremiah develops a metaphor of adultery with idolatry against Him culminating in divorce (**Jeremiah 3: 1-5**) Jeremiah delivers God's message to both Israel and Judah, urging them to fully and completely repent and maintain that commitment. (**Jeremiah 4:1-5**) God tells Jeremiah to preach in the temple. (**Jeremiah 7:1-29**) God explains that He will ultimately punish all nations, not just Judah and Israel. He also specifically instructs people not to boast except in the knowledge of God. (**Jeremiah 9**) God compares man-made idols to the living God and explains that there is no comparison. (**Jeremiah 10:1-22**)
- Jeremiah reiterates the fact that their forefathers entered into a covenant relationship with God and swore that they would keep this contract. They broke the covenant by become a nation of idolaters. (**Jeremiah 11:1-13**)
- God tells Jeremiah not to weep for the people because not even sacrifice can help them. (**Jeremiah 11:14-15**).
- God compares Israel to an olive tree which was once alive and giving forth good fruit, but had died and now needed to be burned down. (**Jeremiah 11:16-20**)
- There a bunch of men in the city of Anathoth warning Jeremiah not to prophesy anymore, especially if it is bad news. (**Jeremiah 11:21-23**) This is significant because Anathoth is the city where Jeremiah is from (**Jeremiah 1:1**)
- Jesus had much the same thing experience preaching in His hometown. (**Luke 4:16; Luke 4:28-30**)
- Jeremiah asks God why the wicked prosper and asks God to punish them instead. (**Jeremiah 12:1-4**).
- God answers Jeremiah and says that things are going to get a lot worse and that then everyone is going to be conquered. (**Jeremiah 12:5-13**)
- God tells Jeremiah he is going to punish Israel, but then he will have mercy on them again and eventually return each of the people to their families' land. (**Jeremiah 12:14-17**)
- God tells Jeremiah to take a loincloth and wear it, then bury it, then dig it up again. He does so, and it is ruined. God tells Jeremiah it is like that with He and Israel because once He clung onto them and then they cast Him away. (**Jeremiah 13:1-11**)
- God tells Jeremiah to make sure people have jars full of wine so they will be drunk and turn on each other when they are invaded because they are not going to repent. (**Jeremiah 13:12-27**)
- God tells Jeremiah that there will be a strong drought in the land before they are destroyed and not to pray for them. (**Jeremiah 14:1-12**)
- God tells Jeremiah that some will prophesy that things will be okay but they are false prophets. (**Jeremiah 14:13-22**)
- We even have to be on guard against false prophets today. We can recognize them by their fruit. (**Matthew 7:15-16**)
- God tells Jeremiah that he will have "four kinds of destroyers": 1) the sword to kill 2) dogs to tear 3) birds of air and 4) beasts of the earth (numbers three and four here are "to devour and destroy." (**Jeremiah 15:1-9**)

- Jeremiah appeals to God and God tells him He will not deliver Jeremiah into the hands of the enemy. (Jeremiah 15:19-21)
- God again tells Jeremiah that things will get really bad but that He will eventually bring Israel back out of captivity in the North, and He will become known as the God who delivered them from the North instead of the God who delivered them from Egypt. (Jeremiah 16)
- God recounts for Jeremiah Judah's long history of idolatry and says that it is engrained in them now. (Jeremiah 17:1-4)
- God says that a man is cursed if he does not believe in God, but is blessed if he does, and he compares that man of a tree planted by water. (Jeremiah 17:5-13)
- A tree planted by the water is a famous metaphor in the Bible. There is even a old hymn based on this theme which was sung by people engaged in non-violent protest during the civil rights movement while they were being carried off to jail. (Psalms 1:3)
- Jeremiah again prays for deliverance, and God tell Jeremiah to go the People's Gate in the city and tell everyone about the importance of keeping the Sabbath. (Jeremiah 17:19-27)
- God tells Jeremiah to go observe a person making pottery who reforms and remolds things if it doesn't turn out like he wants the first time. He tells Jeremiah to use this image to explain to Israel how he will mold them and remold them if he wants. (Jeremiah 18)
- God then tells Jeremiah to buy a flask, take it out and break it publicly and explain that this is how God will break Israel. (Jeremiah 19)
- Jeremiah was beaten and put in stocks overnight by a priest named Pashtur who does not like Jeremiah prophesying destruction. When released, Jeremiah tells him he and his house will be carried away into slavery too. (Jeremiah 20)
- God tells Jeremiah to say that those who do survive drought, famine, and disease will be carried away or killed by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (Jeremiah 21:1-10)
- God has Jeremiah prophesy that he will destroy the house of David. (Jeremiah 21:11-14)
- God tells Jeremiah to go prophesy in the King's Palace and say that no innocent blood will be shed and he specifically mentions three groups: 1) orphans 2) widows 3) resident aliens. (Jeremiah 22:1-4)
- God mentions these groups as examples because they usually have no one to defend them or champion their cause. Two of these are specifically mentioned in James 1:27.
- God tells Jeremiah to deliver the message that men will pass by Jerusalem and ask "what happened to this city" and people will tell that this is what happens when you don't follow God and practice idolatry. This is how the word will get out to all nations. (Jeremiah 22:5-20)
- God tells Jeremiah to reference the sons and grandsons of Josiah specifically and tell of their coming destruction. (Jeremiah 22:11-30)
- God again has some specific condemnations for prophets who lie to the people, says they will be punished even more greatly and promises that He will be known for redemption eventually. (Jeremiah 23)

- There were some people already gone into captivity. These were largely good people like Ezekiel ([Ezekiel 1:1](#)). God shows Jeremiah two baskets. One contains extraordinarily good figs and one contains really bad figs. God says the good figs are like the people who have already gone into captivity and he will eventually bless many of them. The bad figs are like the people who have not yet gone into captivity, who are still in the land, and they are all rotten and will be destroyed. ([Jeremiah 24](#)).
- God tells Jeremiah to tell the people that since they haven't listened, they will go into captivity for 70 years and then their captives will be overrun. ([Jeremiah 25:1-14](#))
- God gives Jeremiah a cup of wine and tells him to make everyone drink from it so they will become drunk, fall down, vomit and be destroyed. God even tells Jeremiah that if people try to refuse to tell them that they must drink. ([Jeremiah 25:25-38](#))
- Jeremiah is put on trial for prophesying destruction. The elders at first pronounce a sentence of death, but the sentence is commuted when Jeremiah reminds them he is just speaking for the Lord and the elders remember precedent when prophets (like Micah) speaking in the name of the Lord weren't killed. ([Jeremiah 26](#))
- God tells Jeremiah to make a yoke (like the thing farmer put on cattle or oxen to lead plows), strap it on to himself, and tell the envoys sent from many nations that they will need to bear the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar of Syria or face destruction. ([Jeremiah 27](#))
- A false prophet named Hannaniah lied to the people and said that God said he would break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar after two. He even breaks the yoke off Jeremiah. God tells Jeremiah to tell the Hannaniah that he is deceiving the people and for that he will die that year, so he does. ([Jeremiah 28](#))
- Jeremiah writes a detailed letter to the people in exile. In it he tells the people to settle in – build houses, plant gardens, marry and multiply because they will be there for seventy years and not to believe false messengers. ([Jeremiah 29:1-23](#))
- Jeremiah delivers God message that He knows the plans He has for them, for good. ([Jeremiah 29:10](#))
- Things must have seemed very bleak at that point, but still God is reassuring them. God cares about us today, even when things seem bleak, God means well for us. Do not fear anything on this earth that can harm you, only have healthy fear for Satan because your soul is all that matter in the end and God cares about you. ([Matthew 10:28-30](#))
- God specially tells Jeremiah to stand up to a false prophet named Shemaiah. ([Jeremiah 29:24-32](#))

Questions

1. What is the word for contract which is used in the Bible?
2. How did the people of Israel (in both Kingdoms) break this contract?
3. Why does God tell Jeremiah not to weep for the people?
4. Explain the metaphor God uses to describe Israel.

5. What is the significance of the men of Anathoth?
6. What does Jeremiah ask of God?
7. What does God tell Jeremiah regarding the punishment of the wicked?
8. What will God do after the Israelites go into captivity?
9. What is the significance of the ruined loincloth?
10. Why does God tell Jeremiah to make people's jars are full of wine?
11. What does God say will happen in the land of Israelites before they are destroyed?
12. What were the false prophets of Jeremiah's time saying?
13. How do we recognize false prophets?
14. What are the "four destroyers" God mentions?
15. Why does Jeremiah appeal to God and what is God's answer?
16. How was God known to Israel before this time and how will He be known after this time?
17. What has the long history of idolatry done to Judah?
18. Why is God like a potter and Israel like the clay on the potter's wheel?
19. What is the significance of the fact that Jeremiah smashed a flask?
20. Who was Pashtur, what did he do to Jeremiah, and what does Jeremiah tell him?
21. What will happen to the Israelites who happen to survive drought, famine and disease?
22. What does God say will happen to the House of David?
23. Where does God tell Jeremiah to prophesy in Jeremiah 22?
24. How will the word get out to all nations about the dangers of idolatry?
25. What three groups does Jeremiah mention as examples of innocent people?
26. What is the meaning of the good and bad figs?
27. How long will the people of Judah be in captivity?
28. Why was Jeremiah put on trial? Why was his sentence commuted?
29. What is the significance of the yoke and why does God tell Jeremiah to put that on?
30. Who was Hannaniah, what did he tell the people, and what happened to him?
31. What does Jeremiah tell the exiled people in his letter?
32. Does God have a plan for us? What is it?
33. What should we be afraid of and why?
34. What false prophet does God specifically tell Jeremiah to stand up to in chapter 29?