

Jeremiah: Outline¹ and Walkthrough

God will Watch Over His Word to Judge Jerusalem via Babylon, But Restoration is Promised

The prophet, ch 1a-d

Set over kingdoms to break down and build.

Judah will fight against you but not prevail.

The 2 themes:

- ◆ Almond rod = God “watching” (“almond”) (here, 31:28, 44:27) over His word to do it, ch 1b
- ◆ The boiling pot, **BP**, from the north = Northern, Babylonian conglomerate) vs. Jerusalem, ch 1c

Almond 1: **Prosecutorial** case vs. bride, Jerusalem (and all Israel), ch 2

But the **Prosecutor** was husband, still with desire! ch 3 [v 18 previews Center, chs 30-33]

But the **Prosecutor** is just, ch 4a, **BP**, v 6 • The Prophet feels and sees it, ch 4b (v 19)

The **Prosecutor's** case continues, ch 5, **BP**

The **Prosecutor** sentences to war, warning, and deafness, 6, **BP**, v 1, 22

The **Prosecutor** specifies crimes, 7-10 (Adultery-7, Idolatry-8-10), **BP**, 10:22

The Husband feels it, 8-9 • The Prophet feels and sees it, 8b, 9

The **Prosecutor** reads the Law, 11 *The Prosecutor includes the Prophet* (persecution), 11b

• THE TARGETED PROPHET JOINS THE PROSECUTION, 12

Prosecutor: Exhibit 1: Sash on the Prophet stashed & trashed- Israel spoiled to Him, 13a

Ironic full wine jars (stupor & destruction, not blessing), 13b

The shames of the **Prosecutor's** wife, 13c

Court convenes on site: Famine, 14a Wife's witnesses (*False Prophets*) unmasked, 14b

Confession taught, 14c

Prosecutor's inflexibility & sentencing guidelines, 15a • The Prophet feels and sees it, 15b

The Prosecutor includes the Prophet (no wife/family), 16, continues His case, **BP**, v 15

(Restoration hint, v 15, as 3:18)

The case per man's rotten soul, 17a

• THE PROPHET JOINS THE PROSECUTION, 17b

The **Prosecutor** reads the Sabbath, 17c, including its blessings for obedience

Court convenes on site: + Exhibit 2: Potter & clay: God redresses nations, 18a

• THE PROPHET JOINS THE PROSECUTION, 18b

¹ Loosely chiasmic outline, with chaps. 30-33 as the center.

Exhibit 3: Clay Jar, broken at idolatrous Tophet, where Israel would be buried, 19

False Prophet/ defense attorney punishes the Prophet, who pronounces his captivity, 20a

BP, v 5-6

• THE PROPHET BOTH COMPLAINS AND JOINS THE PROSECUTION, 20b

Almond 2: **K**ing Zedekiah inquires. Jerusalem to be overthrown, 21a. Mitigation offered, 21b,
BP- The same dooms & mitigations had been offered to the 3 previous kings, 22

Prosecutor denounces *False Prophets* and contrasts them to true prophets, 23, **BP**, v 8

Good and rotten figs. Good = preserved post-Captivity; bad = everyone else, including those left in the land, 24

Prosecutor's sentence of 70 years, **BP**, v 9, then Babylon judged, 25a

Prosecutor vs. other nations, 25b (Preview of ch 46-52)

Prosecutor sends the Prophet to warn of judgment to provoke repentance. Ahikam saves him from the Priest & *False Prophet* faction's death threat, 26

Exhibit 4: Restraints & harnesses on the Prophet's neck, returned with foreign envoys:

All serve Neb or else. Surrender and live, 27a. Temple vessels won't return; more will go, 27b

Hanani, *False Prophet*, breaks *wood* harness. God: "*Iron* harness now. Hanani dies this year," 28

Letter to early captives: "Long stay. God's peace." To Shemaiah, *False Prophet*: "Not to you," 29

c { Almond 3 (31:28, "watch"): Israel & Judah promised to return when judgment complete, 30
e { God will richly restore them from captivity and be their God. New Covenant promised, 31²
n { The prophet jailed, from where he buys/redeems land. Exhibit 5: Deed into storage, 32a
t { Prayer questioning **BP**. God confirms judgment & restoration, 32b. God alleviates
e { Jeremiah's doubt over destruction, 33a.
r { God assures David's throne + Levites until Messiah King, 33b

Almond 4: **P**rosecutor: **K**ing Zedekiah will die in Babylon. Freed slaves had been re-enslaved, 34

The Rechabites *obeyed* their father (no wine, houses, or gardens); Israel *disobeyed* God, 35

King Jehoiakim cuts & burns Jeremiah's scroll of judgments that had made many leaders think. Jehoiakim's line to end. **BP**, v 29, ch 36

King Zedekiah inquires. Same message, **BP**. Zedekiah moves Jeremiah to less dangerous jail, 37

² 31:40, the permanent *attachment* of judgment to redemption.

The prophet thrown into miry prison. Ethiopian Ebed Melech saves him, 38a

Zedekiah inquires: City ~~burned~~ if he'll surrender! Zedekiah's cover story for the session, 38b

BP fulfilled! Jerusalem falls. Jeremiah favored. Good forecast for Ebed Melech, 39

Almond 5: Jeremiah with Gedaliah, governor of the remaining poor. Hidden Jews return, 40

Ishmael kills Gedaliah and others. Johanan rescues hostages. They prepare to *go to Egypt*, 41

They ask Jeremiah what God wants them to do. **The Prosecutor** tells him their deceit, 42

They revoke Jeremiah's counsel to *stay in the land*, 43a

Exhibit 6: Large stones placed in a royal Egyptian pavement = Neb will be king here, **BP**, 43b

The Prophet to all the Jews throughout Egypt: Judgment for continued idolatries follows you, 44a

They justify worship to Queen of Heaven, 44b. God "watches over" them for evil, v 27

God corrects/ comforts Baruch's complaints. His life is a large enough prize, 45

Almond 6: God's word to other nations, 46-51, **BP**, and recap to Jerusalem, 52

Egypt, Moab, Ammon, and Elam to experience some degree of restoration.

Old *Egypt*: Yahweh's vengeance on her gods & kings through Neb, but repopled, 46a

but Israel will return from exile, 46b

The **BP** will bald *Philistia*, 47

Moab will be ashamed of god Chemosh and destroyed, but prisoners restored "end of days," 48

Post war, Israel will inherit *Ammon*, then Ammonite prisoners restored, 49a

Edom/ Esau will be stripped, 49b *Damascus* to be overcome, 49c

Neb to strike *Kedar* and *Hazor*. They're left empty, 49d

Elam to be destroyed & scattered. Yahweh's throne there. Latter days, captivity returned, 49e

Babylon's fall and Israel's restoration- alternating themes throughout 50-51

Babylon captured, gods Bel and Merodach undone, by nations to her north (none at that time).

Israel to be restored (50:4-8; 17-20; 33-34). Complete success of Babylon's enemies, 50

Babylon's enemies encouraged. Israel/ Judah not forsaken 51:5, God's hammer, v 20-23.

Nothing left of Babylon, 51

Exhibit 7: Seraiah to read this in Babylon, bind it, and throw it into the Euphrates, as Babylon will sink to rise no more, 51:59-64

Almond 7: Recap- Judah torn down + hint of its rebuilding (ch 1 fulfilled). Inventory of Temple furnishings taken. Those killed vs. those taken. Jehoiachin's eventual promotion in prison, 52