**What was it like to be Jeremiah?**

Jer 1:17 "As for you, get ready! Stand up and tell them everything that I've commanded you. Don't be frightened as you face them, or I'll frighten you right in front of them.

Jer 1:18 "As for me, today I'm making you a fortified city, an iron pillar, and a bronze wall against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against its princes, against its priests, and against the people of the land.

Jer 1:19 They'll fight against you, but they won't prevail against you, because I am with you," declares the LORD, "to deliver you."

Jer 18:20 Should good be repaid with evil? Yet they have dug a pit to take my life. Remember! I stood before you and spoke good on their behalf in order to turn your wrath away from them.

**If Jeremiah was here today, who would he be speaking to?**

Jer 2:4 Hear the Word of Jehovah, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

**Jer 28:1** And it happened in that year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year, in the fifth month, Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, of Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of Jehovah, in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying,

Jer 36:22 And the king sat in the winter house in the ninth month; also with the burning fire-pan before him.

Jer 36:23 And it happened when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the scribe's knife and threw *it* into the fire in the fire-pan, until all the scroll was burned up in the fire-pan.

Jer 36:24 Yet the king and all his servants who heard these words were not afraid, *nor* did they tear their garments.

Jer 36:25 But Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had pleaded with the king that he should not burn the scroll, but he would not hear them.

Jer 36:26 And the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of Hammelech, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to seize Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet. But Jehovah hid them.

**Did Jeremiah tell them things they already knew?**

Yes, it was known by all the nations that the Babylonians were advancing towards the south, into Israel (**just like in the Middle East today**)

**Did Jeremiah tell them things they didn't want to hear?**

Jer 18:11 Now then, please speak to the men of Judah and to those living in Jerusalem, saying, So says Jehovah, Behold, I am forming evil against you, and devising a plan against you. Now each one turn from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.

Jer 19:9 I'll cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and daughters, and people will eat the flesh of their neighbors in the siege and in the distress to which their enemies and those seeking their lives will subject them."'"

**What does it mean that Jeremiah 'lived among his own people'?**

Jer 39:11 Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon gave orders concerning Jeremiah through Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard:

Jer 39:12 "Take him, look after him, and don't do anything to harm him. Rather, do for him whatever he tells you."

Jer 39:13 So Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, Nebushazban, the high official, Nergal-sar-ezer, the chief official, and all the officials of the king of Babylon sent for Jeremiah.

Jer 39:14 They had Jeremiah taken out of the Temple yard where he had been under the guard of the king of Judah. They turned Jeremiah over to Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan. Gedaliah had orders to take Jeremiah back home. So Jeremiah was taken home, **and he stayed among [in the midst of] his own people**.

**Was Jeremiah a prophet to the nations?**

**Jer 1:10** Behold! I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

Jer 39:15 While the guards were watching Jeremiah in the Temple yard, a message from the LORD came to him. This was the message:

Jer 39:16 "Jeremiah, go and tell Ebed Melech the Ethiopian this message: 'This is what the LORD All-Powerful, the God of the people of Israel, says: Very soon I will make my messages about this city of Jerusalem come true. My messages will come true through disaster, not through something good. You will see everything come true with your own eyes.

Jer 39:17 But I will save you on that day, Ebed Melech.' This is the message from the LORD. 'You will not be given to the people you are afraid of.

Jer 39:18 I will save you, Ebed Melech. You will not die from a sword, but you will escape and live. That will happen because you have trusted in me.'" This message is from the LORD.

**Jer 40:1** This is the message that came to Jeremiah from the LORD after Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had released him from Ramah, when he was bound in chains, along with all the exiles from Jerusalem and Judah who were being taken into exile in Babylon.

Jer 40:2 The captain of the guard took Jeremiah and told him, "The LORD your God has predicted this disaster on this place.

**The sad consequences of false prophecy & betrayal**

**Jer 40:11 All the Judeans who were in Moab, those with the people in Ammon, those in Edom, and those in all the other countries also heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant for Judah and that he had appointed Ahikam's son Gedaliah, the grandson of Shaphan, over them.**

Jer 40:12 So all the Judeans returned from all the countries where they had been scattered. They came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah at Mizpah, and they gathered wine and summer fruit in great abundance.

Jer 40:13 **Kareah's son Jonathan** and all leaders of the forces who were in the field came to Gedaliah at Mizpah.

Jer 40:14 They told him, "Are you aware that Baalis, the king of the people of Ammon, has sent Nethaniah's son Ishmael to take your life?" But Ahikam's son Gedaliah did not believe them.

Jer 40:15 Then Kareah's son Jonathan spoke privately to Gedaliah at Mizpah: "Let me go kill Nethaniah's son Ishmael, and no one will know. Why should he take your life? Otherwise all the Judeans who have gathered around you will be scattered, and the remnant of Judah will perish."

Jer 40:16 Ahikam's son Gedaliah replied to Kareah's son Jonathan, "Don't do this! You're lying about Ishmael!"

Jer 41:11 **Kareah's son Jonathan** and all the military leaders who were with him heard about all the terrible things that Nethaniah's son Ishmael had done.

Jer 41:12 So they took all the men and went to fight Nethaniah's son Ishmael, and they found him at the large pool that is at Gibeon.

Jer 41:13 When all the people who were with Ishmael saw Kareah's son Jonathan and all the military leaders who were with him, they were glad.

Jer 41:14 All the people whom Ishmael had taken captive from Mizpah turned around and went back to Kareah's son Jonathan.

Jer 41:15 But Nethaniah's son Ishmael and eight other men escaped from Jonathan and went to the Ammonites.

Jer 41:16 Kareah's son Jonathan and all the military leaders who were with him took all the rest of the people from Mizpah whom he had rescued from Nethaniah's son Ishmael after he had killed Ahikam's son Gedaliah, including the young men, the soldiers, women, children, and eunuchs whom he had rescued from Gibeon.

Jer 41:17 They traveled and then stopped at Geruth Chimham near Bethlehem on their way to Egypt

Jer 41:18 because of the Chaldeans. They were afraid of the Chaldeans because Nethaniah's son Ishmael had killed Ahikam's son Gedaliah, whom the king of Babylon had appointed over the land.

**Jer 42:1** Then all the military leaders, **Kareah's son Jonathan**, Hoshaiah's son Jezaniah, and all the people from the least to the greatest approached Jeremiah.

Jer 42:2 They told Jeremiah the prophet, "Please listen to what we have to ask of you. Pray to the LORD your God for us and for all these survivors. Indeed, only a few of us remain out of many, as you can see.

Jer 42:7 At the end of ten days a message from the LORD came to Jeremiah.

Jer 42:9 He told them, "This is what the LORD God of Israel says, to whom you sent me to take your request:

Jer 42:10 'If you will just remain in this land, I'll build you up and not pull you down. I'll plant you and not uproot you, for I'm sorry about the disaster I've brought on you.

Jer 42:11 Don't be afraid of the king of Babylon as you have been. Don't fear him,' declares the LORD, 'because I am with you to save you and deliver you from his control.

Jer 42:12 I'll show you compassion, so he will have compassion on you and return you to your land.

Jer 42:13 But if you disobey the LORD your God by saying, "We won't stay in this land,"

Jer 42:15 then hear this message from the LORD, remnant of Judah. This is what the LORD of the Heavenly Armies, the God of Israel, says: "If you are really determined to go into Egypt, and you go there to settle,

Jer 42:16 the sword that you fear will overtake you there in the land of Egypt. The famine that you dread will pursue you into Egypt, and there you will die.

Jer 42:17 All the people who are determined to go into Egypt to settle there will die by the sword, by famine, and by the plague. No one will survive the disaster that I'll bring on them."

Jer 42:18 For this is what the LORD of the Heavenly Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'Just as my anger and my wrath were poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so my wrath will be poured out on you when you enter Egypt. You will be a curse and an object of horror, ridicule, and scorn, and you will never again see this place.'

Jer 42:19 The LORD has told you, remnant of Judah, 'Don't go to Egypt!' So be fully aware that I've warned you, today,

Jer 44:27 'Look, I'm watching over them to bring disaster rather than good. Every person of Judah in the land of Egypt will be brought to an end by the sword and by famine until they're completely gone.

Jer 44:28 The ones who escape the sword will return from the land of Egypt to the land of Judah, few in number. Then all the remnant of Judah who have come into the land of Egypt to settle will know whose message will stand, mine or theirs.