

The book of Jeremiah is the _____ longest book in the Old Testament.

The book of Jeremiah has three functions for those in exile: 1) Provide an e_____ of the past
2) Provide i_____ for the present
3) Provide h_____ for future transformation

Content of Jeremiah...

1. 1 Timothy 3:16-17 – *All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness so that the people of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*”
2. Content comes from: a) *Jeremiah’s spoken words from 627 to 605, which were written in a scroll*
b) *additional words added to a second scroll after first scroll was burned up*
c) *letters to and from exiles in Babylon*
d) *Jeremiah’s words spoken to many Judeans living in Egypt*
e) *some oral traditions passed down from his disciples about Jeremiah’s life*
3. Content preserved by: Baruch, Baruch’s brother Seraiah, other disciples & arranged after his death in both a Hebrew and Greek version (*1/6 shorter than Hebrew version, content arranged differently*)
4. Content not arranged chronologically – though there does seem to be clear sections of the book:

Section 1 (chapters 1-25:14)

- * *judgment on Israel & Judah*
- * *only a couple dates given*
- * *25:1-14 summarizes these judgments*
- * *25:15-38 introduces the oracles against the nations*
In chapters 46-52

Section 2 (chapters 25:15-52)

- * *subsection A (26-36,45) – c. 26 & 36 have the rejection of God’s word as their theme*
- * *subsection B (37-44) – narratives about the fall of Jerusalem and surviving remnants*
- * *subsection C (25:15-38;46-52) – oracles against and about others nations*

Chronology of the chapters in the Book of Jeremiah

(Adapted in part from Jeffrey Jackson, *Synopsis of the OT*; and from the chronology of Edwin R. Thiele)

627/6	1:1-3	The Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah in the 13 th year of Josiah’s reign
609/5	26:1-19,24	Early in the reign of Jehoiakim, Jeremiah was threatened with death by the priests and the prophets. But the officials of Judah, the people and Ahikam supported Jeremiah.
605		<i>king Nebuchadnezzar defeated Pharaoh Necho at the Battle of Carchemish and then invaded Judah.</i>
605	25:1-3	In the 4 th year of Jehoiakim the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah.
605	36:1-2	In the 4 th year of Jehoiakim... this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord; take a scroll and write on it all the words I have spoken to you concerning Israel, Judah and all the other nations from the time I began speaking to you in the reign of Josiah till now (so from 627/6 to 605).
605	45:1-5	in the 4 th year of Jehoiakim after Baruch had written on a scroll the words Jeremiah was dictating, Jeremiah spoke the word of the Lord to Baruch.

604	36:9	In the 5 th year of Jehoiakim a time of fasting before the Lord was proclaimed for all the people in Jerusalem and those who had come from the towns of Judah.
December 604	36:22-32	in the 9 th month Jehoiakim, sitting in the winter apartment with a fire burning... the king cut three or four columns of the scroll off at a time and threw them into the firepot, until the entire scroll was burned in the fire... Jeremiah took another scroll and dictated to Baruch all the words of the scroll Jehoiakim had burned in the fire. And many similar words were added to them.
604-598	35:1-19	v.1 "during the reign of Jehoiakim"; v.11 the Recabites refer to Nebuchadnezzar's invasion as in the past. Recabites did what was right.
<i>598-597</i>		<i>Jehoiachin was king of Judah for 3 months at which time the officers of Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem, king Jehoiachin surrendered to king Nebuchadnezzar. Jehoiachin was taken to Babylon along with the Temple treasures, the officers and fighting men in Jerusalem, craftsmen and artisans (see 2 Kings 24:8-17).</i>
597	52:28	in the 7 th year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign he took 3,023 Jews into exile
597	52:1-3	Zedekiah was 21 year's old when he became king
593	27:1-22	Early in the reign of Zedekiah (28:1 "of that same year, the 4 th year") the Lord said to Jeremiah, make a yoke... and put it on your neck.
Mid summer 593	28:1-16	In the 5 th month of that same year, the 4 th year, early in the reign of Zedekiah the (false) prophet Hananiah took the yoke off the neck of Jeremiah and broke it.
Early fall 593	28:17	in the 7 th month of that same year (4 th year), Hananiah the prophet died
593/2	29:1-32	Letter sent to the Babylonian exiles to settle down and not believe lies. Response from and reply to Shemaiah, and another message to the exiles.
593/2	51:59-64	Jeremiah gave a scroll with a message about the disasters coming upon Babylon, to Seraiah when he went to Babylon with Zedekiah in the 4 th year of his reign. Seraiah was to read all the words aloud, then tie a stone to it and throw it into the Euphrates as a sign against Babylon.
January 15 588	39:1; 52:4	on the 10 th day of the 10 th month in the 9 th year of Zedekiah's reign Nebuchadnezzar marched against Jerusalem with his whole army and laid siege to it.
Sept 29 588	34:8-10	Covenant made to free all Hebrew slaves
Oct 588	34:11-22; 37:5-21	Enslaving of Hebrew slaves again, Babylon temporarily withdraws from Jerusalem to fight the Egyptian Army. Jeremiah arrested and jailed in the house of Jonathan the secretary and then the courtyard of the guard.

588/87	38:1-28	Jeremiah is lowered into the cistern in the courtyard of the guard and he sank down into the mud. Ebed-Melech took men to rescue Jeremiah. King Zedekiah questioned Jeremiah. Jeremiah remained in the courtyard until the day Jerusalem was captured.
587/86	39:15-18	While Jeremiah had been confined in the courtyard of the guard, the word of the Lord came to him. Go and tell Ebed-Melech I am about to fulfill my words against this city through disaster... at that time they will be fulfilled before your eyes. But I will rescue you on that day. You will not be handed over to those you fear. I will save you; you will not fall by the sword but will escape with your life, because you trust in me.
<i>April 29, 587</i>		<i>Babylon defeats Egypt's army and resumes the siege of Jerusalem</i>
587	32:1-2	in the 10 th year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the 18 th year of Nebuchadnezzar. The army of Babylon was then besieging Jerusalem.
587/6	52:29	the 18 th year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign he carried 832 people into exile
586	52:5	Jerusalem was kept under siege till the 11 th year of king Zedekiah
July 18 586	39:2-7; 52:6-11	on the 9 th day of the 4 th month in the 11 th year of Zedekiah, a breach was made in the wall of the city (Jerusalem). Zedekiah fled, pursued, overtaken by army of Babylon, Zedekiah's sons and the nobles of Judah were slaughtered, Zedekiah's eyes put out and he was taken to Babylon.
Aug 14/17 586	39:8-10; 52:12-16	Nebuzaradan, entered Jerusalem, burned the king's house and the other houses, broke down the walls, carried into exile the rest of the people, left some of the poorest people to be vinedressers and plowmen.
586	52:21-27	Babylonians broke up the bronze pillars, stands, bulls, and Sea that were at the Temple and carried the bronze to Babylon. Took away the articles made of bronze, silver and gold in the Temple. Took the priests, officers and secretary to the king of Babylon who had them executed.
586	39:11-14	Nebuzaradan, was ordered by Nebuchadnezzar to look after Jeremiah, being careful not to harm him but to do for him whatever he asked. He had Jeremiah taken out of the courtyard of the guard and turned over to Gedaliah to take him back to his home.
586	40:1	But apparently in the transfer from courtyard to Gedaliah, Jeremiah must have gotten swept up with all the other captives of Jerusalem and sent to Ramah – the place all captives from Jerusalem were assembled before being exiled to Babylon.
586	40:2-6	When Nebuzaradan (the commander of the guard) found Jeremiah in Ramah he freed him, giving Jeremiah the choice to come with him to Babylon where he would take care of him or to go live with Gedaliah or anywhere else in Judah he pleased. Nebuzaradan then gave Jeremiah provisions and a present. Jeremiah went to Gedaliah to stay among the people who were left behind in the land.
586	40:7-41:3	Gedaliah is assassinated by Ishmael

586	41:4-15	Ishmael captured the people of Mizpah and fled toward the Ammonites. But Johanan and the army officers caught up with Ishamel. The people were glad and went to Johanan; Ishmael and eight of his men escaped to the Ammonites.
586	41:16-43:7	Johanan and the army officers led all the people of Mizpah away to escape the Babylonians. They stopped near Bethlehem and asked Jeremiah to pray for them as to where they should go. Jeremiah told them the word of the Lord ten days later – they were not to fear Babylon and they were to stay in the land and be blessed. But if they escape to Egypt they will die there. All the arrogant men told Jeremiah he was lying. They took all the people including Jeremiah and Baruch to Egypt.
	43:8-44:30	The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah in Egypt. God will strike Egypt and judge all the Judeans who went to Egypt, who worship the idols in Egypt. God will punish them in Egypt and will give Pharaoh into the hands of his enemies.
	<i>Jewish Encyclopedia.com</i>	<i>Jeremiah probably died in Egypt. Whether his countrymen killed him, as tradition says, can be neither affirmed nor denied. But his assassination does not seem impossible in view of the anger that the men and women, exiled in Egypt with Jeremiah, had toward him.</i>

	<u>FOES</u>		<u>FRIENDS</u>
26:8-15 (Jerusalem)	The priests The prophets The people	26:16-19, 24 (Jerusalem)	The palace officials/people Elders of the land Akikam, son of Shaphan
36:20-31 (Jerusalem)	King Jehoiakim attendants	36:25, 27-32 (Jerusalem)	Elnathan, Delaiah, Gemariah Baruch
28:1-17 (Jerusalem)	Hananiah, the prophet	29:3 (to Babylon)	Elasah son of Shaphan, Gemariah
29:20-23, 24-28 (Babylon)	Ahab Zedekiah Shemaiah	29:29 (Jerusalem)	Zephaniah the priest
37:11-15; 38:1-6 (Jerusalem)	Irijah, captain of the guard city/palace officials Jonathan, the secretary Shephatiah Gedaliah Jehucal Pashur King Zedekiah	38:7-13; 39:15-18	Ebed-Melech