



1. Who is the writer & speaker ?
2. When was it written & about what time ?
3. To whom was it written ?
4. What are the major natural divisions ?
5. What is the repeated key word ?
6. What simple phrase sums it all up ?
7. What is the application to life today ?

Survey of the Book of Jeremiah

1. **The writer :** Jeremiah [“appointed by Jehovah”] was both a priest (Jer1v1) and a prophet (Jer1v5,... 32x). He was thus anointed twice (Ex40v13 & 1 Ki19v16). Born of parents from the Tribe of Levi in Anathoth of Benjamin (1v1) he was a citizen of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. He resided in Jerusalem (Jer4v5, 5v1, 7v2, 11v2... 107x) the capital city (Jer17v19-21). Jeremiah was helped by a scribe named Baruc [“blessed”] (Jer36v8, 18, 27, 32 & 45v1). The last chapter was not dictated by Jeremiah (Jer51v64), but written much later around 561BC (cf. 2 Ki24v18-25v30 & Jer52v32 about the son of Nebuchadnezzar) probably by Jeremiah himself. The style is the same as the book of Lamentation where there is no more mention of Baruch. He is called “the weeping prophet” because of his personal reaction to the message. See notes on the books of the Kings. He is the second most prolific Bible writer, Moses being first and Paul being third.
2. **The date :** According to the list of kings in chapter 1v2-3 the date is from 627 to 586 BC when Jerusalem was destroyed. Jer40-45 continue the story under occupation from 586 to 565 BC.
3. **The readers :** He addresses the children of Israel of the southern kingdom left after the fall and exile of the northern kingdom (Je3v6-11) in 723BC. There is one short message of hope for the exiles of the northern kingdom (Jer3v12-18) when all Israel will repent and return as one nation. Jerusalem, the capital of the southern kingdom is mentioned 107 times, while Samaria, the capital of the northern kingdom appears only 3 times in this book.
4. **The divisions : Four messages –**
 - The Word of the LORD for the prophet, ch1
 - The Word of the LORD for the kingdom of Judah, ch2-45 (cf. Jer25v11-12 & 31v31)
 - The Word of the LORD for the nations, ch46-51
 - The Word of the LORD for the reader, ch52
5. **The key words :** “the LORD” (the I AM) 726x and “word” 204x / “thus says the LORD” 151x .
6. **The message :** The Lord watches over His Word to accomplish it (Je1v12).
Cf. Jer1v1, 2Ki22v8-13, 2Ch34v14-21 & Jer36v26-32
7. **The application :** I need to read the Bible every day because God’s Word is like food for my most inner being (Je15v16).

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS :

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