



Pursuing Kingdom Excellence

Summary of the book of Jeremiah

“² The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, ³ and through the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, down to the fifth month of the eleventh year of Zedekiah son of Josiah king of Judah, when the people of Jerusalem went into exile.” 1:2-3



Three Kings

Three Empires

Three waves of Exile

Structure of Jeremiah chapter 1

Introduction 1-3

Jeremiah's Call 4-5

Jeremiah's Fear 6

God's Reassurance 7-8

God's Equipping 9-10

Two equipping visions 11-16

More reassurance 17-19

Jeremiah's Call

“**4** The word of the LORD came to me, saying, **5** “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.” **1:4-5**



***I knew you;
I formed you;
I set you apart;
I appointed you.***

Our Call



***Go in my
authority
Go with my
constant
presence***

“18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Mt. 28:18–20

“10 For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” **Eph. 2:10**



Jeremiah's Fear

“6 Alas, Sovereign LORD,” I said, **“I do not know how to speak; I am too young.” Jer. 1:6**

A tonne of assurance!

Introduction 1-3

Jeremiah's Call 4-5

Jeremiah's Fear 6

God's Reassurance 7-8

God's Equipping 9-10

Two equipping visions 11-16

More reassurance 17-19

God's Reassurance



“**7** But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. **8** Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.” **Jer. 1:7-8**



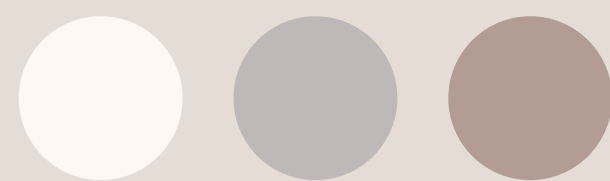
God's Equipping

9 Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. 10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Jer. 1:9–10



It is not our feelings that determine our level of [kingdom] participation in life, nor our experience that qualifies us for what we will do and be; it is what God decides about us. God does not send us into the dangerous and exacting life of faith because we are qualified; he chooses us in order to qualify us for what he wants us to be and do.



Eugene H. Peterson



Two Equipping Visions



I: Almond Branch



11 The word of the Lord came to me: “What do you see, Jeremiah?” “I see the branch of an almond tree,” I replied.

12 The Lord said to me, “You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled.”

Jer. 1:11-12

2: Boiling Pot



13 The word of the Lord came to me again: “What do you see?” “I see a pot that is boiling,” I answered. “It is tilting toward us from the north.” **14** The Lord said to me, “From the north disaster will be poured out on all who live in the land. **15** I am about to summon all the peoples of the northern kingdoms,” declares the Lord. Their kings ... will come against all the towns of Judah ... **16** because of their wickedness in forsaking me.

Jer. 1:13—16



Two Equipping Visions



More Reassurance

17 “Get yourself ready! Stand up and say to them whatever I command you. Do not be terrified by them, or I will terrify you before them. **18** Today I have made you a fortified city, an iron pillar and a bronze wall to stand against the whole land—against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests and the people of the land. **19** They will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

Jer. 1:17—19

