

“LESSONS FROM THE CALL OF JEREMIAH”
JEREMIAH 1:1-10

INTRO: Twice in the New Testament we are told that the Old Testament has been written for us and is a learning tool for us.

-Romans 15:4

-1 Corinthians 10:11

THEREFORE, WE WOULD DO WELL TO STUDY THE OLD TESTAMENT ON A REGULAR BASIS. (All scripture is fully inspired!).

In our text we find THE CALL OF JEREMIAH TO MINISTRY and this conversation between God and Jeremiah has a lot for us to learn in our own life and ministry. Let's observe.

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NOTE ON JEREMIAH

- 1) Jeremiah served as both a Priest and a Prophet which was not common.
- 2) Jeremiah served for at least 5 decades to five Kings of Judah including: Josiah, Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah covering the years of 627-586 BC. He was 20-25 years old when he began to minister.
- 3) Jeremiah preached mainly to Judah (the southern kingdom) but at times he spoke to other nations as well.
- 4) Jeremiah remained unmarried and was called the “**WEeping PROPHET**” because of the unrepentant sin of Judah and the coming destruction of Babylon.
- 5) Jeremiah gives many lessons for nations and individuals today.

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I. THE PRE-INCARNATE CONDITION OF JEREMIAH – VSS. 1-5

- A. God **FORMED** Jeremiah exactly the way He wanted him to be.
- B. God **KNEW** Jeremiah in every way because He formed him.
- C. God **SANCTIFIED** Jeremiah and “set him apart” for a specific purpose.
- D. God **ORDAINED** Jeremiah and called him to a specific mission.

NOTE: The concept that God sets His people aside for ministry before birth is common in scripture: Psalm 139:13-18; Isaiah 49:1; Galatians 1:15.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE POST-INCARNATE CONDITION OF JEREMIAH – VSS. 6-10

- A. Jeremiah's Perception of Himself – Vs. 6
 1. He was self-abased and put himself down: “**I CANNOT SPEAK.**”
 2. He made excuses: “**I AM A CHILD.**” (Exodus 3:1-4:17)
- B. God's Perception of Himself – Vss. 7-10

NOTE: **GOD HAD A PLAN FOR JEREMIAH AND INTENDED TO FULFILL IT!**

1. God Rebuked Jeremiah – “**SAY NOT.**” Vs. 7a
2. God Reminded Jeremiah of His Presence and Provision – Vs. 7b
 - a. “**Thou Shalt Go**” – God's Plan.
 - b. “**I Shall Send Thee**” – God's Direction
 - c. “**Thou Shalt Speak**” – God's Command and Provision
3. God Encouraged Jeremiah – Vs. 8
 - a. “**Be Not Afraid**”
 - b. “**I am With Thee to Deliver Thee**”
4. God Equipped Jeremiah – Vs. 9
 - a. “**Touched My Lips**” – For cleansing. (Isaiah 6:6,7)
 - b. “**Put My Words in thy Mouth**” - For preaching
5. God Authorized Jeremiah – Vs. 10
 - a. As a Prophet of Judgment – Vs. 10a
-“**Root out, Pull down, Destroy, Throw down**”
 - b. As a Prophet of Salvation – Vs. 10b
-“**Build, Plant**”

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE PERSONAL LESSONS FROM JEREMIAH TO US

- A. God Formed us to be what He Wanted us to be in the Womb
- B. God Knew ALL about us Before we were Conceived.

- C. God Set us Apart for Certain Ministry before our Birth.
- D. God Ordained us to Specific Ministry including Location.
- E. God Overrides ALL of our Inadequacies.
- F. God Rebukes ALL of our Excuses.
- G. God Specifically Directs us in our Ministry (As we allow).
- H. God Encourage us in our Ministry (If we look unto Him).
- I. God Equips us for Every Aspect of our Ministry.
- J. God Personally Authorizes to do our Ministry.

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSON AND APPLICATION:

- 1) Every believer is sanctioned by God for specific ministry.
- 2) Every believer was brought into this world to complete that ministry.
- 3) Every believer is equipped by God for that ministry.
- 4) Every believer will give an account for the performance of that ministry.