**The Book of Jeremiah**

Introduction

During the reigns of King Josiah through King Zedekiah of Judah, Jeremiah, the son of the priest Hilkiah, was a prophet of the Southern Kingdom. Jeremiah is credited for writing the book titled by his name followed by Lamentations. He fervently warns the people about their relentless idolatry and its consequences in Israel and Jerusalem. Infamously known as *the weeping prophet,* Jeremiah grieved (9:1, 13:17) for his people and their failure to be obedient to God’s commands. His 40-year sojourn was filled with frustration, yet unfettered obedience.

Scholars believe the book was written around 600 BCE during the tumultuous era preceding Babylonia captivity, when the Israelites were taken into exile. The blatant and brutal language found throughout the book describes the pending doom and judgment that they faced. Jeremiah’s book is the second major prophet to appear in the Old Testament and follows the book of Isaiah.

**Key Terms**

Adultery

Anathoth

Assyria

Baal

Babylonia

Baruch

Benjamin

Call

Defile

Egypt

Exile

Hilkiah

Israel (Northern Kingdom)

Jehoahaz

Jehoiachin

Jehoiakim

Jerusalem

Josiah

Judah (Southern Kingdom)

Priest

Zedekiah

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Idols, idolatry

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_