

LESSON 2

Jeremiah 3:6–6:30

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Day 1

1. Recall something from last week's lesson about Jeremiah's calling as a prophet that impressed you (or perhaps challenged or helped you).
2. What lesson was Judah supposed to have learned from the Assyrian destruction of Israel (3:6-10)? (See 2 Kgs 17:1-12, 20-24.)
3. a) What was the importance of the ark of the covenant to the temple worship in Jerusalem (3:16)? (See Exod 16:33; 25:21-23; Num 17:21-25.)
b) How could the loss of the ark of the covenant be a sign that something better has replaced it (3:16-17)? (See Rev 21:22.)

Day 2

4. Why did God give the houses of Israel and Judah "a pleasant land, the most beautiful heritage among the nations" (3:18-19)?
5. How can admitting sin lead to reconciliation (3:25)? (See Ps 32:5; 51:3-5, 12-14.)
6. How can Israel (Judah) be reconciled to God, according to 4:1-2?

Day 3

7. a) What horror is to befall Judah from the north (4:5-13)?
b) To what natural forces is this horror likened?
8. Why will the people say that God has deceived them (4:9-10)? (See 23:16-17.)
9. Is it too late for Judah? What, if anything, can they do to avert destruction (4:14)?

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Day 4

10. Jeremiah was deeply distressed over the destruction about to overtake his people (4:19-26). When has the suffering of others led to your own distress?
11. How have the creation accounts of Genesis 1 and 2 been reversed in Jeremiah 4:23-26?
12. Despite all the death and destruction that God is to bring upon Judah (4:28-30), what does God call them that reveals his love for them remains strong?

Day 5

13. What are the essential charges of each of the three indictments of Jerusalem found in 5:1-5, 10-13, and 20-28?
14. How are Jeremiah's prophetic words contrasted with the words of other so-called prophets (5:13-14)?
15. What have your eyes seen and your ears heard that help you recognize God as the creator (5:21-22)? (See Ps 8:4-5; 19:2; Rom 1:20.)

Day 6

16. What impediments are there in our times to hearing and responding in faith to the word of God (6:10)?
17. a) Why did Judah's incense, sacrifices, and holocausts find no favor with God (6:20)?
b) What kinds of offerings and sacrifices do you make?
18. Where do you see a lack of shame in modern society (6:15)? Is there a risk for Christians becoming too judgmental?