

Jeremiah

a Prophet Unto the Nations

The Prophet is Sent by God to Proclaim Judgment

Jeremiah 1:1-3:5
Lesson 1

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
September 1, 2013

Jeremiah

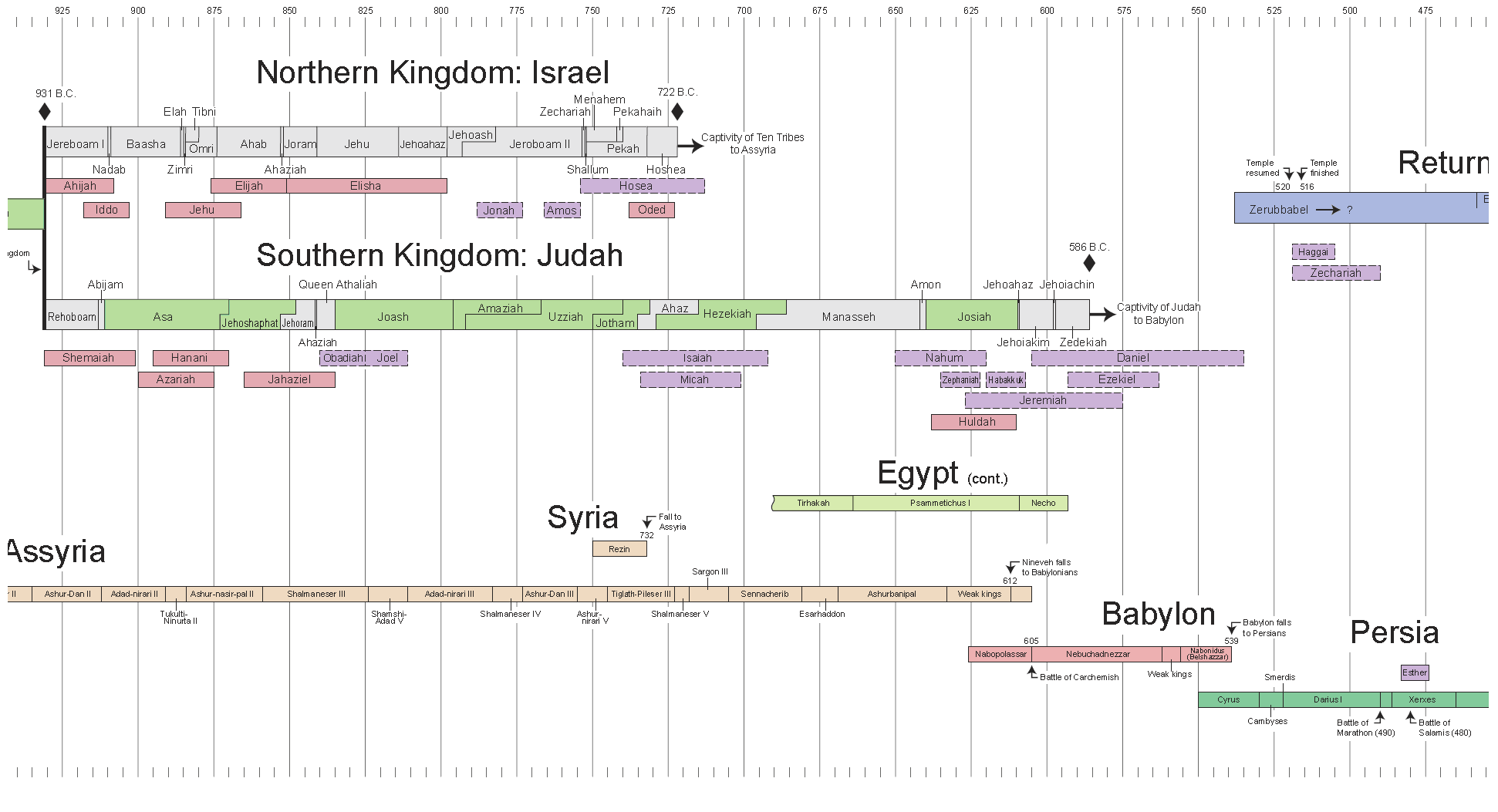
- ▶ The longest book in the Bible – after Psalms
- ▶ Nahum, Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Daniel, Ezekiel, Huldah (non-writing)
- ▶ The fall of Jerusalem and Babylonian captivity
- ▶ References to Christ (23:5-6; 33:14-17)
- ▶ “I appointed you a prophet to the nations” (1:5)
- ▶ A New Covenant (Jeremiah 30-33)
- ▶ Prophecy and history and personal experience
- ▶ Not chronological
- ▶ Last chapter = 2 Kings 24:18-25:30

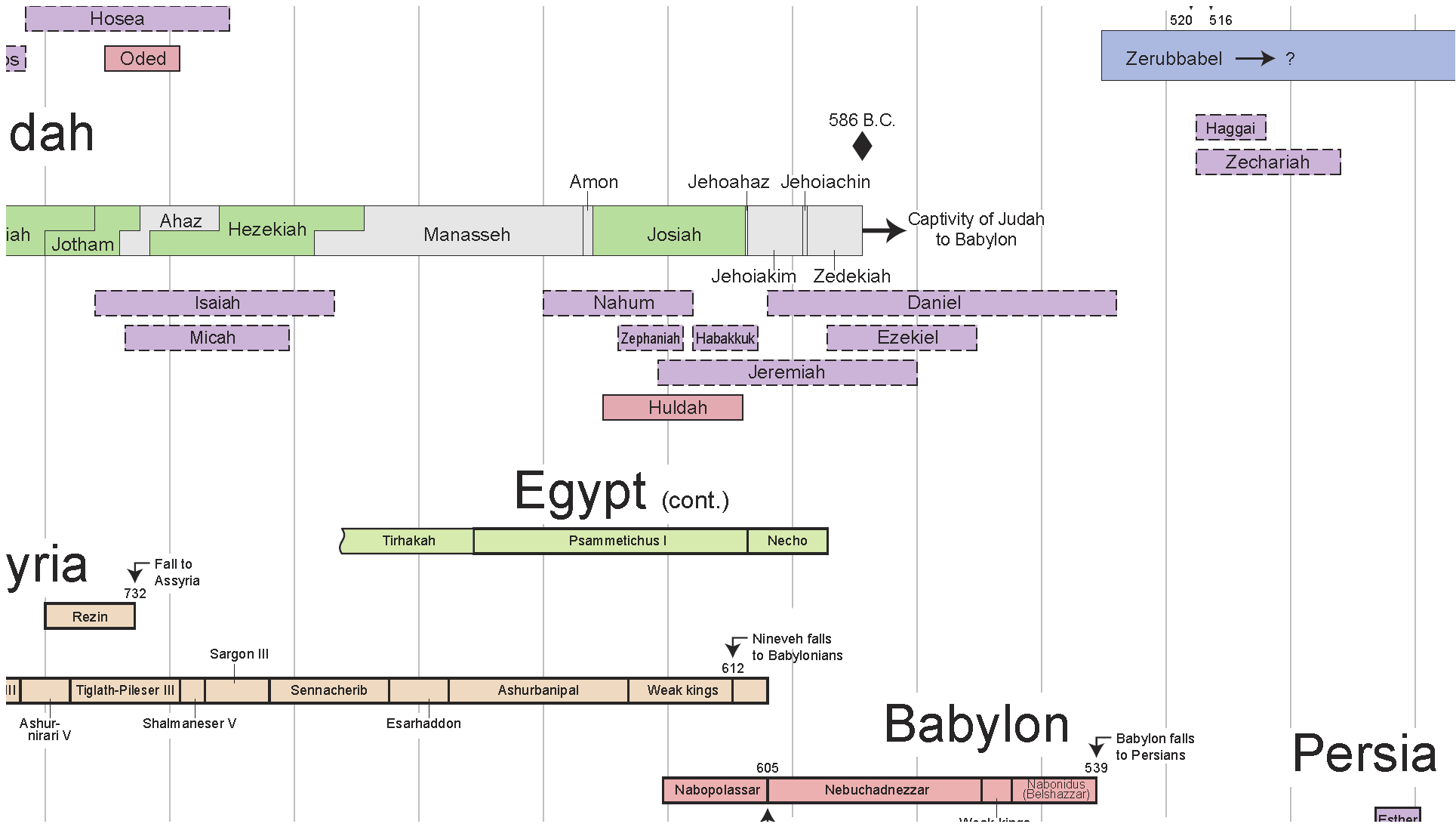
Historical Setting

- ▶ **Josiah** – last righteous king; revival – 31 years
- ▶ **Jehoahaz (Shallum)** – deposed by Egypt in 3 months
- ▶ **Jehoiakim (Eliakim)** – taken to Babylon after 11 years
- ▶ **Jehoiachin (Jeconiah or Coniah)** – 3 months 10 days
- ▶ **Zedekiah (Matthaniah)** – taken to Babylon after 11 years
- ▶ **Gedaliah** – temporary governor – assassinated

Nations

- ▶ Assyria and Egypt – Battle of Carchemish 605 B.C.
- ▶ Babylon
 - 605 B.C. – Daniel and nobility
 - 597 B.C. – Ezekiel
 - 586 B.C. – Fall of Jerusalem





Judah

Egypt (cont.)

Assyria

Babylon

Persia



The Fertile Crescent

- Forest
- Subtropical woodland
- Steppe grassland
- Desert grassland
- Site of ancient settlement
- Modern cities
- Modern city on ancient site

Jeremiah

- ▶ Son of priest from Anathoth – place of exile for family of Eli (Abiathar).
- ▶ 4 phases: Josiah; Jehoiakim; Zedekiah; post fall
- ▶ Jeremiah's reaction to his message
- ▶ Jeremiah's reaction to his ministry

Outline of Jeremiah

1. Jeremiah's call and commission (1)
2. Preaching in the days of Josiah (2-20)
3. Preaching in the days of Jehoiakim and Zedekiah (21-29)
4. Promise of a New Covenant (30-33)
5. Preaching in the days of Jehoiakim and Zedekiah (34-38)
6. The fall of Jerusalem (39)
7. Preaching after fall of Jerusalem (40-45)
8. Preaching to the nations (46-51)
9. The fall of Jerusalem (52)

Preaching in the days of Josiah (2-20)

- ▶ The history of the house of Jacob (2:1-3:5)
- ▶ A call for revival in the days of Josiah (3:6-6:30)
- ▶ The Temple message (7-10)
- ▶ The broken Covenant (11)
- ▶ Jeremiah laments the prosperity of the wicked (12)
- ▶ The ruined loincloth (13:1-15:9)
- ▶ Jeremiah's lament answered with hope (15:10-16:21)
- ▶ Judah's heart condition (17)
- ▶ The lesson of the clay and the broken flask (18-20)

Issues in Jeremiah

- ▶ What truth binds this book together?
- ▶ The centrality of the New Covenant
- ▶ Prophet to the nations but predominantly focused on an event in Israel's history
- ▶ Total rejection v. restoration
- ▶ Elimination of the Davidic throne (22:30) v. survival of Jehoiachin (23:5-6)
- ▶ The Old Covenant v. the New Covenant
- ▶ The life of Jeremiah – enemy not prevail . . . death in Egypt

The Prophet is Sent by God to Proclaim Judgment Lesson #1

- 1. The call of Jeremiah (1)**
- 2. The first message (2:1-3:5)**

The Words of Jeremiah

- ▶ **dabar Hebrew – word with meaning and power**
- ▶ **Atypical opening for a prophet**
- ▶ **The Word of the LORD came to him**
- ▶ **“Declares the LORD” x 176**

The Word of the LORD came to me #1

- ▶ Known before conception
- ▶ Consecrated before birth
- ▶ Appointed as a prophet
- ▶ A prophet to the nations
 - God of Israel x 49; LORD of hosts x 71 – together x 3
- ▶ Jeremiah protests
- ▶ You shall go; You shall speak; I will deliver; fear not

The LORD touched his mouth

- ▶ Jeremiah's words are God's words for this ministry
- ▶ Set over nations and kingdoms
- ▶ Pluck, up, break down, destroy, overthrow
- ▶ Build and plant
- ▶ The LORD is a God of wrath
- ▶ The LORD is a God of salvation

The Word of the LORD came to me #2

- ▶ Almond branch
- ▶ “I am watching over my word to perform it”
- ▶ A word of salvation

The Word of the LORD came to me – #3

- ▶ A boiling pot – about to spill into Israel
- ▶ An overwhelming force from the north (39:3)
- ▶ Evil of forsaking the LORD
- ▶ A command to Jeremiah to get working
- ▶ The LORD will fortify him
- ▶ A message of wrath

The First Message (2:1-3:5)

- ▶ A hopeful beginning (2:1-3)
- ▶ They went far from Me (2:4-8)
 - Worthlessness
 - Not seek the LORD
 - Defiled the LORD'S heritage
 - Leaders did not seek the LORD – priest, shepherd, prophet
- ▶ Two evils (2:9-13)
 - Forsake the Fountain of Living Waters
 - Hewed out broken cisterns that can hold no water

The slavery of Israel (2:14-22)

- ▶ Brought upon yourself (2:14-18)
- ▶ Slavery to evil (2:19-22)
- ▶ Self-deception (2:23-28)
- ▶ Contending with the LORD (2:29-37)

The unsolvable condition of the nation (3:1-5)

- ▶ Deuteronomy 24:1-4 – No option for restoration
- ▶ Words cannot cover evil

“. . . to build and to plant.” (1:10)

- ▶ Isaiah 59:2 “But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.
- ▶ Will He be angry forever (3:5)
- ▶ The lesson of the almond branch: He will perform His Word – a Word of salvation.