

v1 The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiyah, one of the priests at Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. v2 The word of the LORD came to him in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, v3 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. v4 The word of the LORD came to me, saying, v5 "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." v6 "Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." v7 But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. v8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. v9 Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. v10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant." v11 The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you see, Jeremiah?" "I see the branch of an almond tree," I replied. v12 The LORD said to me, "You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled." v13 The word of the LORD came to me again: "What do you see?" "I see a boiling pot, tilting away from the north," I answered. v14 The LORD said to me, "From the north disaster will be poured out on all who live in the land. v15 I am about to summon all the peoples of the northern kingdoms," declares the LORD. "Their kings will come and set up their thrones in the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem; they will come against all her surrounding walls and against all the towns of Judah. v16 I will pronounce my judgments on my people because of their wickedness in forsaking me, in burning incense to other gods and in worshiping what their hands have made. v17 "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. v18 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. v19 They will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. Jeremiah 1:1-19

THE CALL OF JEREMIAH

GOD KNOWS AND WANTS TO USE US

1. IN SPITE OF OUR FAMILY BACKGROUND - v1-3

Jeremiah was the son of a false priest

1 Kings 2:26-27 To Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go back to your fields in Anathoth. You deserve to die, but I will not put you to death now, because you carried the ark of the Sovereign LORD before my father David and shared all my father's hardships." v27 **So Solomon removed Abiathar from the priesthood of the LORD**, fulfilling the word the LORD had spoken at Shiloh about the house of Eli.

2. IRRESPECTIVE OF OUR AGE - v4-6

Jeremiah was set apart before he was born – v4-5

Jeremiah was called as a teenager – v6

3. IN THE FACE OF KNOWING OUR WEAKNESSES - v7-9

Jeremiah felt he did not have abilities or power to be a Prophet. – GOD TOUCHED HIS MOUTH TO EMPOWER HIM

Isaiah felt unclean to be a Prophet. – GOD TOUCHED HIS MOUTH TO CLEANSE HIM – Isaiah 6

4. AS INSTRUMENTS FOR HIS GLORY - v10-16

God gave Jeremiah SIX things to do.

v10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms

1. to uproot	Matt 15:13 He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots.
2. and tear down,	2 Cor 10:4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
3. to destroy	1 John 3:8 ... The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.
4. and overthrow	2 Thess 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendour of his coming.
5. to build	Matt 16:18 ... on this rock I will build my church , and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.
6. and to plant.	Mark 4:30-32 Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? v31 It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. v32 Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants , with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade."

5. IMMEDIATELY WE MAKE OURSELVES AVAILABLE TO HIM - v17-19

WHEN WE GIVE OURSELVES TO GOD, HE WILL:

1. MAKE US FEARLESS – v17
2. GIVE US STRENGTH – v18
3. PROTECT US BY HIS PRESENCE – v 19