

**I. Jeremiah is Justified, v 1 - 2**

He's vindicated 16 years later. Isaiah 60:14

Zedekiah - now interested, when the enemy is at his gate

his request: *that he may go up from us*

i.e. "have God make our troubles go away" ~ Exodus 10:17

contrast: Hezekiah - 2 Chr 29, Isaiah 37:14-20 = generation of faithful integrity

Zedekiah - 2 Chr 36:11-13, He lead a generation of faithless iniquity

Mt 17:17 Mark 9:19 Luke 9:41

**II. Judah Must Be Judged, v 3 - 7**

Jeremiah's has been preaching for 30+ years

God gives a rough response. God has done great things for them in the past.

The Lord has great plans for the future. However God must judge this present generation who are Israelites in name only, but not in deed.

v 4 *your weapons of war* - are powerless hx: Lev 26:37 sp: pv's

v 5 *outstretched arm* - to 'spank' his children 'stretched out arm' (14 x), 1st ref = Ex 6:6

... *in anger* - 'anger of the Lord' Exo 4:14, Num 11:10

v 6 *I will smite . . .* doct: **Deuteronomy 28:47-50**

v 7 *Zedekiah . . . to Babylon* hx: fulfilled within 6 months in chapter 39

sp: ~ stage 4 cancer

**III. Hard Choices Will Come, v 8 - 14**

A. For the People, v 8-10

(a) *the way of death* - *abide & die by sword, famine, or pestilence*

(b) *the way of life* - *fall to the Chaldeans . . . and be a prey*

Question: Why so Hard? hx: God's Answer = **Proverbs 1:29, Isaiah 65:12**

doct: **Matthew 24:15-22**

B. For the Rulers, v 11-14

(1) their Behavior, v 11-12

The kings and princes must set a good example.

If they expect God to do them justice, they must exercise justice from the throne.

Their neglect of duty has brought this desolation. **Daniel 4:27**

(2) their Belief, v 13-14

God shows them the vanity of all their hopes as long as they are unrepentant.