

7-23-23

Jeremiah c. 650–570 BC

chapters

- 1 Prepares – The Prophet’s Call
- 2 Judges – Nature of Betrayal
- 7 Personal – Nature of Destruction
- 12 Exclusion – Nature of Compassion
- 18 Shapes – Nature of the Potter’s House
- 23 Rules – Nature of the Righteous Branch
- 29 Present – Nature of *Shalom*



31 Redeems – Nature of Everlasting Love

31 thru 34

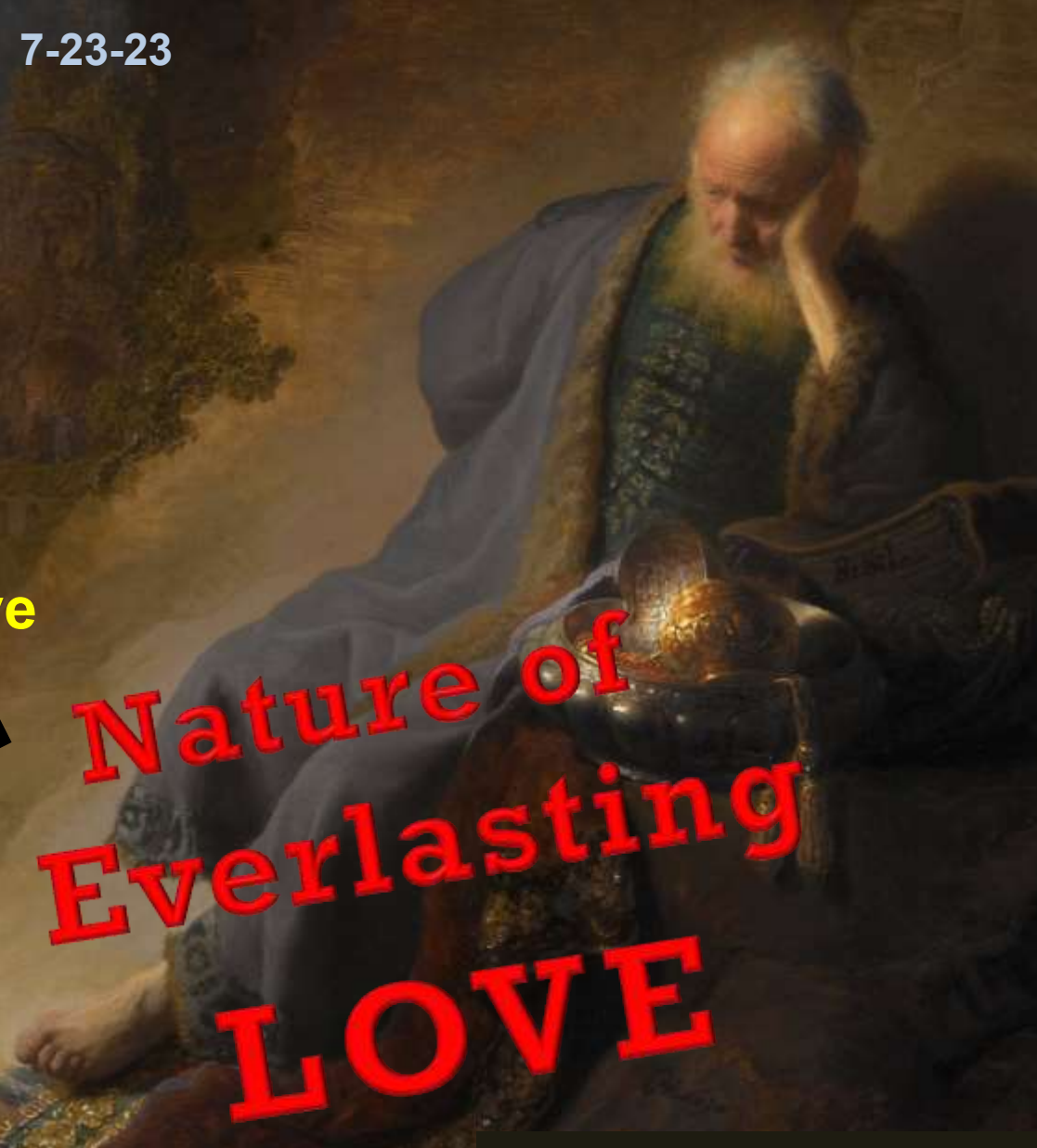
- 35 Worthy
- 36 Speaks
- 42 Trustworthy
- 50 Just

Lamentations



Nature of
Everlasting
LOVE

31:3 Lord appeared to us in the past, saying:
I have **LOVED** you with an Everlasting **LOVE**;
I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.



Jeremiah Lamenting the Destruction of Jerusalem, c. 1630, by Rembrandt

24 Two Baskets of Figs, good & bad

GOOD Figs Jehoiachin & **BEST** to Babylon – *will RETURN*

BAD Figs Zedekiah – object of ridicule & banished

25 70 Years of Desolation – Shepherds slaughtered

26 Prophets & Priest want to **KILL** Jeremiah

27 Jeremiah's YOKE ... Lord's servant Nebuchadnezzar

28 False Prophet Hananiah breaks Jeremiah's Yoke –
> Jeremiah challenges Hananiah's LIES – he *will die*

29-30 Nature of Shalom to Come **AMIDST** Judgement

Zedekiah = "Mattaniah" son of Josiah –

II Kings 24... Zedekiah rebels against Nebuchadnezzar

II Kings 25... Siege of Jerusalem

Jeremiah 31-34 Siege of Jerusalem **BEGINS**

Bad Day – No Escape



24-yr-old Don McLean wrote song in 1971
Like Jeremiah ... He reflected on INNOCENCE
Post WWII 1950s ... then ... sadly ...

There was a PLANE CRASH ...

Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and
“The Big Bopper” J.P. Richardson **DIED**

That was ... the

DAY the Music **DIED**

King Zedekiah was **APPOINTED** by
Great King Nebuchadnezzar
After **TWO** Deportations >> **NO ONE** Learned
Zedekiah’s days are now *numbered* ...
Jerusalem’s days are *numbered* ...

American Pie hit #1 in 1972 in USA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand
#2 in the United Kingdom



Zedekiah & Jerusalem had been warned ...
As Siege begins ... **MUSIC Dies** in Jerusalem

ALREADY ... in Jeremiah 1-30 ...

We've seen how Jeremiah **REFLECTED** ...
Even Lord God reflected on Virgin Israel
Reflected on songs & dancing of OLD

As Babylon's Army surrounds Jerusalem
Jeremiah reflects on **DAYS** of old ...

Don McLean seems to sing it well ...

A long, long time ago, I can still remember
How that music **USED** to make me smile
And I knew if I had my chance
That I could make those people dance
And **MAYBE** they'd be happy for **A WHILE**
Tough ... Tough times ahead for Jerusalem



Chaps 31-34 ★ This is what Lord Almighty says

How MANY messages in chapters 1-34?

- ★ **31:2** come to Israel
- ★ **31:7** Sing with Joy for Jacob
- ★ **31:15** Rachel weeping for her children
- ★ **31:16** Restrain ... weeping ... have heard
Set up road signs ...
- ★ **31:23** When I bring you back from captivity
- ★ **31:35** He who appoints the sun to shine
- ★ **31:37** Only if heavens can be measured ...
will I reject Israel's descendants
- ★ **32:1-5** Zedekiah NOT escape Babylon
- ★ **32:6** Jeremiah buy a field
- ★ **32:26** I am Lord, God of ALL mankind ...
gonna give Jerusalem to Babylon
- ★ **32:42** As with great calamity ... prosperity



Jeremiah has been pleading for YEARS

But February made me shiver
With every PAPER I'd deliver

How many *papers* has Jeremiah delivered so far?

Bad news on the doorstep
I couldn't take one more step

I can't remember if I cried
When I read about his widowed bride

But something touched me *DEEP* inside
The Day the Music DIED

**Siege of Jerusalem will go on & on
for over a brutal YEAR ...**



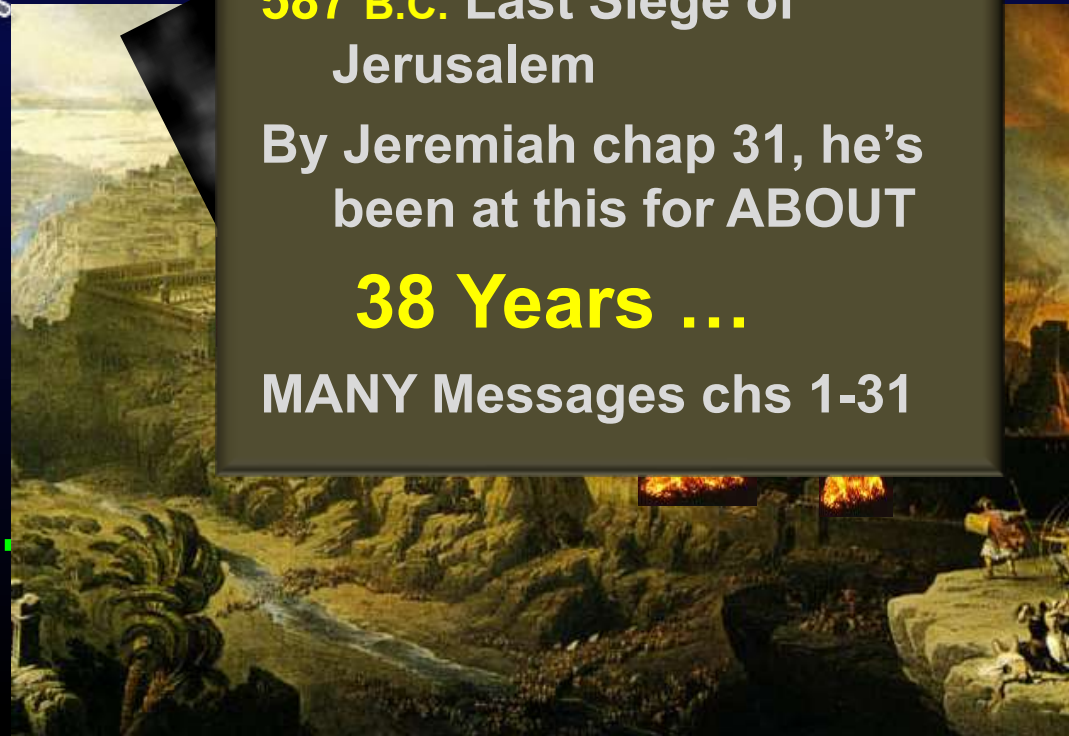
626 B.C. Jeremiah *called*
13th year King Josiah

587 B.C. Last Siege of
Jerusalem

By Jeremiah chap 31, he's
been at this for ABOUT

38 Years ...

MANY Messages chs 1-31



Chaps 31-34 ★ This is what Lord Almighty says

★ Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah ...

★ 33:1 Lord who made earth ...

houses filled with DEAD bodies

★ 33:10 Desolate waste ... again sound of JOY

★ 33:12 Desolate hill ... flocks again come

★ 33:17 If I can break my covenant with DAY ...

descendants of David & Levites ...

as countless as the stars in the sky ...

measureless as the sand on the seashore

★ 33:23 Established laws of heaven ...

I will restore fortunes

★ 34:2 Lord about to give Jerusalem to Babylon

★ 34:4 Zedekiah will NOT die by the sword

★ 34:8 Free slaves after 7 years

★ 34:17 Free to FALL by the sword, plague, famine



**With Jeremiah 31
Last Siege has begun of
Jerusalem**

**17 yrs after 1st Deportation
with Daniel**

**10 years after 597 Siege
2nd Deportation w Ezekiel**

**587 Last Siege BEGINS
Siege 18 months !!!**

**Jerusalem FALLS 586 B.C.
Jeremiah 39-45**

Nebuchadnezzar DESTROYS Jerusalem

Burns ALL

Jehoiakim	609	
Babylon - Nebuchadnezzar	605	reigns 605-562
Babylon & Egypt's Neco @ Charchemish	605	
Neb @ Jerusalem ~ Daniel to Babylon	605	1st Deportation
	600	
Neb @ Jerusalem appoints Jehoiachin	598	3 months
Neb @ Jerusalem	597	2nd Deportation
Neb renames Josiah's son Zedekiah	597	Josiah's son Mattaniah
Jeremiah foretold 70 yrs Captivity		Jer. 25-29
Jeremiah persecuted ch 38		Jer. 36-38
Babylon Neb Destroys JERUSALEM	586	3rd Deportation
Zedekiah		
Jeremiah		
Jeremiah -		



31:1 “At that **TIME**,” declares the Lord,
“I will be the God of **ALL** the families of Israel,
and they will be **MY** people.”

2 This is what the Lord says:
“The people who survive the sword
will find favor in the wilderness;
I will come to give **REST** to Israel.”

3 The Lord appeared to us in the past, a saying:
“I have **LOVED** you with an **EVERLASTING LOVE**
I have drawn you with Unfailing Kindness

4 I will build you up again, Virgin Israel....

Chaps 31-34 we have a **HOPE** spread
amidst much more **DOOM** ...

Jerusalem is **UNDER** Siege ... *cut off* ...

Jeremiah to **Zedekiah**, “**Babylon** gonna **WIN!**”



**31:3 “I have LOVED you with an
EVERLASTING LOVE ...
with Unfailing Kindness**

Love = אָהַב *aheb* = 209x in 70+ variants in OT

Everlasting = עוֹלָם *olam* = 438x = Forever

**Gen 3:22 Adam must not be allowed to ...
take also the tree of life and eat, and live FOREVER.**

**Did you write the Book of Love?
And do you have faith in God above
If the Bible tells you so?**

**We hold these truths to be Self-Evident ...
For the Word of God is LIVING & Active ...**



31:3 “I have LOVED you with an
EVERLASTING LOVE ...
with Unfailing Kindness

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Gen 9:16 Whenever the rainbow appears
... remember the **EVERLASTING** covenant

Exodus 15:18 Lord reigns for **EVER & EVER**

Leviticus 19x as **PERPETUAL/EVERLASTING**
Statute, Law, Precept

Psalms 90:2 from **EVERLASTING** to **EVERLASTING**
you are God



Zedekiah ... jails Jeremiah ...

How dare Jeremiah TELL THE TRUTH ...

Zedekiah **KNOWS** ... feels the **FEAR**
as Babylon encircles Jerusalem ...

I was a lonely teenage broncin' buck
with a pink carnation and a pickup truck
But I knew I was **OUT of LUCK**
The Day the Music Died

Oh ... if only Zedekiah had **LISTENED** ...

Just like a wild teenager ...

Zedekiah ... bronkin' buck ... **WILL PAY**

Music **DIED** in Jerusalem



31:3 “I have LOVED you with an
EVERLASTING LOVE ...

Love = אָהַב *aheb* = 209x in 70+ variants

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Deut 7:9 Lord your God is God ... keeping His
covenant of LOVE to a 1,000 generations

2 Sam 7:15 But my LOVE will NEVER be taken away from him

Psalms 6:4 Lord ... save me because of your
unfailing LOVE

Psalms 36:9-10 For with you is Fountain of Life ...
Continue your LOVE to those who know you

Isaiah 55:3 I will make an EVERLASTING covenant
... my faithful LOVE promised to David.

Psalms 89:28 I will maintain my LOVE to him FOREVER



31:3 “I have **LOVED** you with an
EVERLASTING LOVE ...

4 I will build you up again ... **Virgin Israel....**

5 Again you will plant vineyards....

6 There will be a day when watchmen
cry out on the hills of Ephraim,
‘Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the Lord our God.’ ”

7 This is what the Lord says:
“Sing with joy for Jacob Lord,
save your people, the remnant of Israel.’

8 I will bring them from the land of the **NORTH**
gather them from the **ENDS** of the earth....
a great throng will return.

Jeremiah reveals a future *VERY HARD* to **SEE**



31:9 They will come with weeping;
they will pray as I bring them back.

I will lead them beside streams of water
on a level path where they will not stumble,
because I am Israel's Father,
and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

10-12 He who scattered will gather ... like a shepherd

12 They will be like a well-watered garden ... sorrow no more.

13-14 Young & Old will dance & be GLAD ...

14 My people will be filled with my bounty,

There is a HOPE from Jeremiah ...

ONLY from Jeremiah ... ONLY in the future

While false prophets work against God

VERY much like to TODAY



Don McLean 1971

Now for ten years we've been on our own
And moss grows fat on a rollin' stone

But that's **NOT** how it **USED to be**

When the jester sang for the King & Queen
In a coat he borrowed from James Dean
And a voice that came from you & me

You see Zedekiah's shame as MONTHS drag on

Oh, and while the King was looking down
The jester stole his PARTY Crown

The courtroom was adjourned
No verdict was returned

As food was rationed ...

HUNGRY people began to look at their PETS



31:15 Rachel Weeping ... refusing comfort

**16 “Restrain your voice from weeping ...
your work will be rewarded,”
... “They will return....”**

**17 So there is hope for your descendants,”
*declares the Lord.***

“Your children will return to their own land.

18-19 Israel *disciplined*

20 Is not Ephraim my dear son, the child in whom I delight? ...

Therefore, my heart yearns for him;

I have great compassion for him,” declares the Lord.

**21 “Set up road signs; put up guideposts.
Take note of the highway, the road that you take.
Return, Virgin Israel, return to your towns.**

Weeping & Hope ... STRANGE WORLD



No matter **WHAT** Jeremiah says ...
No matter how **TRUE** his prophecy ...

Oh, and there we were, **ALL in ONE PLACE**
A generation **LOST IN SPACE**

With **NO TIME** left to start again

So come on, Jack be nimble, Jack be quick
Jack Flash sat on a candlestick

'Cause **FIRE** is the **DEVIL's** only friend

Oh, the **DEVIL** never sleeps

Too late to save the Bad Figs

Bad Figs under Zedekiah ...



31:22 How long will you wander,
unfaithful Daughter Israel?
Lord will create a New Thing on earth—
A woman will compass/encircle a man.”

NO ONE – *knows* what this verse means

Literally Hebrew says “woman encircles”

Some *try* to say “encircles” means “embrace”

Or woman “courts” or “protects” or “dances”

TODAY—some support **GENDER Swapping**

Others “encircles” refers to pregnancy
even to the Virgin Birth ...

Duane Garrett & Calvin Pearson (2022) conclude

“Jerusalem walks **LIKE** man
in his Prime, heedless of **RISK.**”



Jerusalem's pretense of **PRIDE** ...

Jerusalem's unfaithfulness **FORETOLD**

Oh, and as I watched **Zedekiah** him on the stage
My hands were *clenched* in fists of **RAGE**

No angel born in **Hell**
Could break that **Satan's** spell

And as the flames climbed high into the night
To light the sacrificial rite

I saw **Satan** laughing with delight

The Day the Music **DIED**

Perhaps ... given some music **TODAY**

We are **NOT** too unlike Ancient Jerusalem

Certainly **TODAY** – Satan is **LAUGHING** with **DELIGHT**



HOW the music DIED in Jerusalem

31:23 Lord Almighty, God of Israel, says:
WHEN I bring them back from captivity,
the people in the land of Judah
its towns will once again use these words:
‘Lord bless you, you prosperous city,
you Sacred Mountain.’

24 People will LIVE together in Judah
and ALL its towns....

25 I will refresh the weary & satisfy the faint.”

26 At this I awoke & looked around,
my sleep had been pleasant to me.

Jeremiah is saying this

AS Babylon surrounds Jerusalem

That is also the Hope of Christ's Second Coming



Very sad 18 MONTHS of Siege ...

**Perhaps STARVATION began at month 12
Yet, King Zedekiah is the LAST to starve ...**

I went down to the Sacred Store



Where I'd heard the music years before

But the man there said the music wouldn't play

And in the streets, the Children Screamed

The Lovers Cried & the Poets Dreamed

But NOT a Word was spoken

The Church Bells ALL were BROKEN

The ONLY Anchor ... ONLY Hope

Says Jeremiah ... lay in the FUTURE ...

31:3 I have LOVED you with an Everlasting LOVE

A Hope in The GREAT Restoration when Christ Returns

