

Study Guide for the Week of July 23, 2017



“Why Am I Here?”

Jeremiah 29:10-14 NIV

Minister Corky Chavers

Watch or listen to sermon on YouTube ECF Online at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4yE0t0ek84euNz419gTgWg>

LOOKING UP: Continue to pray for these requests throughout the week.

⇒ Pray for your family and friends and these Ecclesia needs:

First Lady Lynda Beckley (healing)

Pastor Joshua Beckley (continued success)

Sharon Braden (healing)

Yulonda Felton (healing)

Eric Marsh (healing)

Gary Johnson (healing)

James Robertson (healing)

Leonard Davenport (healing)



LOOKING INTO GOD’S WORD: Jeremiah 29:10-14 NIV

¹⁰This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place.

¹¹For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

¹²Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

¹³You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

¹⁴I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity.^[b] I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.”

LOOKING OVER BOOK OF JEREMIAH: Overview of Jeremiah 1- 29

(Derived from Exploring the Old Testament, Schultz & Smith)

- 1:1-5 **Jeremiah** chosen to be God's prophet before birth
- 1:6-19 **Jeremiah** did not feel adequate for the task but God gave strength and promises
- 2:1-3 **Jeremiah** describes nation's original love for God and special holy relationship to God
- 2:4-37 **Jeremiah** contrasts Judah's present ignorance, idolatry, and deception
- 3:11-18, 4:1-4 **Jeremiah** challenged nation to admit their sins and return to God
- 5:1-9; 8:4-9 **People** claimed to know the way, but did not act justly or speak truthfully
- 5:11-13; 20-24, 30-31; 6:13-15, 8:10-12 **False prophets** deceived people with promises of peace
- 7:1-10 **People** deceived by their temple worship
- 7:14-15 If people did not change, **God** would destroy them and the temple
- 8:18-91; 10:19-25 **Jeremiah** mourned because there seemed to be no healing for Jerusalem
- 10:1-16 **Jeremiah** castigated the people for worship of wooden idols and golden chains over God
- 11:1-13 **People** broke covenant relationship with God through idol worship
- 11:18-23 **Jeremiah** persecuted for prophesying the fall of Jerusalem
- 12:1-6 **Jeremiah** complained about the prosperity of the wicked
- 12:5 **God** corrected Jeremiah and challenged him to be strong
- 12:6-13 Due to broken covenant, **God** was forced to destroy the land of His beloved people
- 13:1-11 **Symbolic:** Worthless loincloth = worthless state of Judah
- 14:7-22 **Jeremiah** tearfully confessed the nation's sins and pleaded for God's mercy
- 14:11; 15:1 **God** refused to listen to Jeremiah's prayers because time of judgment had come
- 15:10-18 **Jeremiah** rejected his miserable prophetic calling
- 15:19-21 **God** called Jeremiah to repent of his complaining and fulfill calling of prophet
- 16:1-9 **Symbolic:** Absence of weeping at death of friends = what would happen when Judah fell
- 18:1-12 **Symbolic:** Potter's forming of a vessel = God's sovereign control over the nation
- 19:1-13 **Symbolic:** Breaking pottery = God's breaking of His people
- 20:7-11 **Jeremiah** cried out to the Lord in agony, could no longer endure all the mockery and violence against him after being beaten and put in stocks,
- 21:1-10 **Jeremiah** said only way to survive God destroying Jerusalem = surrender to Babylonians
- 22:1-23:2 **Kings of Judah** shed innocent blood and refused to follow. If no repentance => destruction
- 23:3-8 **God** would shepherd His people & send messianic King from line of David to rule in justice
- 23:9-40 **God** would remove deceptive prophets
- 24:1-10 **Symbolic:** Good figs = righteous remnant who would return from exile
- 25:12; 29:10 **Righteous remnant** would return to the land after 70 years
- 26:1-19 **Some** tried to kill Jeremiah when he predicted destruction of temple
- 28 & 29 **Hananiah** and **other prophets** contradicted Jeremiah's prophesy of 70 years exile

LOOKING BACK: Sermon Outline - **“Why Am I Here?”**

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INTRODUCTION

“If God Puts You In A Situation, Then Only God Can Bring You Out!”

The Purpose of the Church:

- To equip you to live before God with proper self-government
- Not to solve all your problems
- To show you how to solve your problems with God’s Word

The Role of the Church:

- To help you get to a place of maturity
- To help you respond as God wants when life is uncomfortable and painful
- To help you see that even in the hurt, God is bringing you back home to where He called you to be

The Book of Jeremiah:

- The story of God’s chosen people
- The story of a rebellious people
- God informs His people that their exile will be 70 years
- God teaches His people how to live in exile
- God teaches that this whole mess is all a divine design of God

WHILE YOU’RE WAITING ON GOD TO ANSWER PRAYER:

1) Be PRODUCTIVE

Build some houses and move in...

Psalm 137

2) Pray for Your PERSECUTORS

Pray for the folk that have done you wrong...

3) Protect Yourself from False PROPHETS

You can’t receive everything you hear...

- 2 Timothy 2:15 NIV
- 2 Timothy 3:16 NLT

4) Be Patient with God’s PLAN

God is doing some PURGING in your life...

CONCLUSION

Question: Why Am I Here?

- To glorify God in everything I do
- To glorify God no matter what the circumstances

LOOKING FORWARD: Share your discoveries and answers in Sermon Notes.

1. Read Jeremiah 29:1-14. Describe one thing impacted you most from this sermon/passage.

2. The answer to the question “Why am I here?” was answered for Jeremiah in 1:4, 7, 10. How would you answer the question about you, “Why am I here?”

Generally - _____

Specifically - _____

3. The Book of Jeremiah is the story of God’s chosen but rebellious people. God’s judgment resulted in 70 years of exile in the heathen nation of Babylon (25:12; 29:10).

Read the following passages and summarize the message given by prophets:

28:1-4 - _____

28:5-9 - _____

28:10-11 - _____

28:12-14 - _____

28:15-17 - _____

4. After God addressed the false prophecies in Ch. 28, to whom and what was His message in Ch. 29?

5. Which of these “messages” is most challenging to you and why?

- 29:4-5 Be **PRODUCTIVE** (29:4-5)
- 29:7 Pray for your **PERSECUTORS** (29:7)
- 29:8-9 Protect yourself from False **PROPHETS** (29:8-9)
- 29:11 Be Patient with God’s **PLAN**

6. Describe areas of sin and rebellion in your life that the Lord has been calling for you to stop?

7. Explain an area of ministry to which the Lord called you to serve but you have been reluctant?

SERMON NOTES will meet each Wednesday at 7:00 PM
Study Guides will be available each Sunday on HUGG page at ecclesiachurch.com

HUGG Signups begin September 3.

HUGGs begin on September 17.

REMEMBER: EVERYONE needs a HUGG (Home Unity Growth Group)!