

THE PROPHET LIKE A PILLAR OF IRON

9

WHEN GOD CALLS, GOD EQUIPS

JEREMIAH 1

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE:

“Do not be afraid of them,
For I am with you to save you,”
declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 1:8

FOR THE GROWING CHRISTIAN:

Read Jeremiah 15:15–21. Jeremiah had been faithfully preaching all the words that God had given him for the people of Judah. Because of hard hearts the people pushed back on Jeremiah. They taunted him, ridiculed him, threatened him, and assaulted him. Instead of taking revenge, Jeremiah turns to God in prayer. He expresses the loneliness and the hurt that he feels, and he also expresses his frustration with his opponents. Yet, importantly, he leaves vengeance in God’s hands.

God responds to Jeremiah’s prayer beginning in verse 19. God invites Jeremiah back to his original calling. In essence, “You knew this would be tough, but I told you that I’d see you through it. Don’t let momentary doubt and frustration cloud the truth!”

Every disciple of Christ will come upon tough days like these, where it seems like God’s way is harder. But God says, “Don’t give in to the world, bring them to you, to My side” (v.19). Like Jeremiah, find God repeating His promise to make you victorious (*Romans 8:31–39*).

MARCH 2025 GROWTH GOALS

- ❑ Read the Book of Jeremiah.
- ❑ Memorize one of the weekly memory verses.
- ❑ Watch the Bible Project video on the Book of Jeremiah (available on the website).
- ❑ Once each week take five minutes of silence after reading scripture to “listen” to what God has said and meditate on it.

FOR THE MATURE CHRISTIAN:

Read Jeremiah 24:1–10. This vision was given to Jeremiah about 30 years after his call to ministry. The first wave of exiles have been taken to Babylon (*this would have included Daniel and his friends*). Jeremiah sees a basket of good figs and a basket of bad figs. Then there appears to be a reversal of what one would think to be true: the good figs represent those Israelites that have been removed from the promised land and taken to enemy territory. God sees in those captives the nucleus of a new Israel! Through them God proved that a Temple building, or a geographical location wasn’t necessary for fellowship with God and the experience of His power and grace.

Christians may find themselves to be like strangers in a foreign land, citizens of Heaven surrounded by a world that seeks to ignore, distort, and rebel against God’s truth. But as God has proven over and over, He will see us through enemy territory, and will plant us victoriously in the Promised Land! Read 1 Peter 2:11–12; Phil. 3:17–4:1.

WEEKLY AFFIRMATION:

WITH GOD I AM ENOUGH!

FOR CHILDREN:

Take a can of food and see how long you can hold it straight out in front of you with one arm (*no help*). It might seem light at first, but soon gets tougher. Read Jeremiah 1:17–19. When Jeremiah was a teenager God asked him to become a preacher. But his audience wouldn’t like God’s message because they wouldn’t want to live God’s way. This would be hard for Jeremiah, but God promised him that as long as he spoke the truth like God asked, he would be strengthened for the task. Now try holding that can out with your other arm for support. When God calls us to live His way, He will strengthen us! We just need to keep trusting Him!