

“RUIN, REDEMPTION, AND RESTORATION”

Studies in the Book of Jeremiah

Jeremiah 45:1-46:28

“Don’t Fall For the Illusion; Judgment is Coming Part 1”

08/02/2026

I. INTRODUCTION – God is telling Baruch, the nations and us not to fall for the illusion. God is still telling us today not to be too quick to trust everything that you see and hear, especially in the age of AI and social media. Just like in Old Testament days, God want us to focus on Him. He is telling us that if someone is claiming to tell you the truth and it is contradictory to his word then it is nothing but an illusion. God has been telling Judah in the first 44 chapters of Jeremiah not to fall for the illusion, judgement is coming. Now starting in Chapter 46 beginning with Egypt to the end of the book of Jeremiah, God is telling the nations because you have fallen for the illusion judgment is coming.

II. Baruch the Administrator (Jeremiah 45:1-5)

- A)** The writings of Jeremiah are not always in chronological order. The setting is in the fourth year of Jehoiakim. This would put it around 605 – 604 BC. This section could also be placed chronologically in Jeremiah 36 somewhere between verses 8 and 9 or about 23 years into his ministry. (Jeremiah 36:1-4, 8-9) Jeremiah records the end of the rule of King Zedekiah in Chapter 39.
- B)** Baruch the Administrator – Baruch was the one who transcribed what the Lord gave to Jeremiah. (Jeremiah 45:1) Baruch would write God’s word as required (Jeremiah 36:4, 45:1). He read God’s word (Jeremiah 36:6). He spoke with high-ranking officials (vss. 11-17). He had to hide for his life along with Jeremiah (vss. 19, 26). Then he had to write the word of God again after King Zedekiah burned the first scroll (vs. 32).
- C)** There are a couple of principles that I would like to pull out of this section: (Jeremiah 45-2-5)
 - a. If you are a leader, sometimes those who we lead will get discouraged (vs. 3). Baruch was discouraged and God heard his lament. He wanted to quit. We should be ready to hear from the Lord to give them a word of encouragement.
 - b. Do not build your hopes on what God has willed to tear down (vs. 4)

- c. Do not seek great things for yourself that are outside of God's will for you. (vs.5). Do not fall for the illusion. How do we avoid falling for the illusion? We have to learn to walk by faith and not by sight. (2 Corinthian 5:7).

III. Judgment on Egypt's Army (Jeremiah 46:1-13) – These are the words that Jeremiah had Baruch to write. The next section, chapters 46-51, are prophetic judgments on the nations. Chapter 45 is the perfect segway to this section. This occurs in the same year as Chapter 45.

- A) God is sovereign. He can raise up nations and bring nations down according to his sovereign will. (Jeremiah 27:5, Daniel 2:21)
- B) Egypt had mixed relationships with Judah. Pharaoh Necco king of Egypt defeated Judah and killed King Josiah around 609 BC (2 Kings 23:28-29). Now Egypt is supposed to be an ally to Judah. But they encouraged Judah to go up against Babylon and left them high and dry (Jeremiah 37:7-10)
- C) Verses 2-12 is a summary of how the Babylonians wiped out Egypt's army at Carchemish. Poetic sarcasm is used to describe Egypt's over confidence. (vss. 3 – 4, 7-10). God had determined that Egypt would lose the war against King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians. There is not enough medicine that can cure the Egyptians after their loss! Egypt fell for the illusion. Now judgment is coming!

IV. How Babylon Is Used for Judgment (vss. 13-24) – Egypt was defeated by Babylon in 605 BC, but Babylon did not invade them until about 571 – 567 BC. These verses describe the invasion to come.

- A) Again we hear "the Word that the LORD spoke to Jeremiah the Prophet. (Verse 13) Our LORD is a covenant and promise keeping God. His word will always come to past!
- B) Pharaoh, King Hophra (Jeremiah 44:30) of Egypt is a has been! He is past his time. His bark is worse than his bite! Egypt will be swept away! (vss. 14-17)
- C) The Babylonians will take the Egyptians into captivity (vss. 18-19) – If the LORD said that it will happen, then it will happen
- D) Description of overconfident Egypt, but they will be destroyed! (Pretty heifer (vs. 20), mercenaries from other countries are like fat bulls (vs. 21), they fled like a hissing serpent (vs. 22), they will be chopped down like a forest (vs. 23). The Egyptians fell for the illusion that they will defeat the Babylonians, but judgment is coming!



V. **Judgment on the Egyptian gods and their pharaoh who was also viewed as a god (vss. 25 – 26) – The mindset was that if you won the war then your god was stronger than their god. However, these scriptures show that the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel is the true God.**

A) Amon of No – Chief God of Egypt (Ezekiel 30:15-16)

B) Pharaoh (title, not a person's name) was considered a god by the Egyptians. (vs. 25) – We should not trust in man, but trust in God! (Jeremiah 17:5-7)

C) However, Egypt will be restored (vs. 26). Most likely referring to the Millennial reign of Christ. (Isaiah 20:24-25)

VI. **Word of encouragement for Israel (vss. 27-28) – Listen to these words of encouragement – Do not fear; do not be dismayed; I will save you, Jacob shall return, have rest and be at ease; He shall not be afraid, I am with you, I will not make a complete end of you; Though I will still correct you.**

⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. (Galatians 6:7-8)

Praises Be to God (PBTG)

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