

SUMMARY OF MAJOR POINTS OF FIRST EIGHT CHAPTERS OF JEREMIAH

Chapter 1

1. God has a plan for our lives and work for us to do even before we are born.
2. You probably will not know what God has called you to do much before the work is to begin.
3. God may call us to a work for which we have little natural ability so we will have to rely on Him.
4. It is necessary to tear down the old before the new can be built. God makes all things new.
5. When people abandon God and His ways, then judgment comes.
6. Preparation is needed - get yourself ready, stand up - for the job God has called us to do.
7. God will provide all the protection we need when we are obedient to his call.

Chapter 2

1. It is possible to begin well with the Lord and then drift away from Him.
2. When we drift away from God it is through no fault of God but is by our own neglect.
3. When religious people focus on the non-essentials it is because they have drifted away from God.
4. It is easy to embrace false philosophies and try to convince ourselves and others these false ideas are what the word of God teaches.
5. God will hold us accountable for drifting away from Him and going after other "gods."
6. Our sins have a way of providing the punishment for having committed that sin.
7. The progression of sin is that we drift away from God and into areas of temptation. We then progress to the point that we are actually pursuing opportunities to sin.

Chapter 3

1. Most of the time when we sin it is not because of ignorance of what God wants us to do.
2. When God chastises us to get our attention people normally just ask God to bless them rather than repent and become obedient. (If repentance is there, it is usually short lived.)
3. Though we know the history of the past we fail to learn the lessons of the past.
4. When we realize that something is wrong we usually look for help from other sources rather than turn to God.

Chapter 4

1. Repentance is preparation for receiving God's salvation - break up the fallow ground.
2. Nothing we can do (fleeing to walled cities) can save us, it is only by turning to God that salvation comes.
3. God will never lead us astray, false prophets always lead us astray with deception.
4. Many make foolish professions of faith in that what they say they believe does not make any difference in their lives. They take the name of the Lord but they do not take His character.

Chapter 5

1. When people become hardened in their hearts, then those who should know better do no better than those who know no better.
2. Because of continuing iniquity and refusal to repent, the cup of iniquity becomes full and judgement comes.
3. "Feel-good" philosophy and "hot-tub" religion give a false sense of security by presenting only part of the picture of God. The God of Love is also the God of Judgement and eventually the God of Wrath.
4. The rebelliousness of the human heart is such that it chooses destruction rather than submission.
5. It is ironic that we pray for blessing apart from obedience and are disappointed. We fail to realize that the fruit of obedience is blessing.
6. The consequences of people's rebellion is that they end up with leaders who are very much like

themselves in their basic integrity.

Chapter 6

1. The benefits from doing something that is illegal or immoral or even questionable (things that are contrary to the principles of the Kingdom of God) are seldom worth the cost of the consequences.
2. The church is a “called out” people who are to be separated from the world system that will be destroyed because they who are of the world will not repent.
3. Our protection does not lie in the apparently strong and powerful but only in the Lord as we abide in His presence.
4. For any nation that ignores Godly principles, if destruction does not start immediately, then it will come later, but it will surely come because God’s justice demands it.
5. When we reach the point of the cup of iniquity being full, then the judgment of God starts. When it starts it is thorough and it must run its course.
6. Every situation in life is a crossroads experience. We have a choice and we must choose which way we will go.

Chapter 7

1. The call to repent goes first to those who profess to know God. Judgment begins with God’s people.
2. Just saying that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit does not make it so – it is the indwelling presence of God through His Spirit that makes it so.
3. Any relationship with God that does not have Him as Lord is an empty relationship. Many people want a relationship with God in which He is Lord in name but not in deed.
4. The response of God to rebellion and refusal to repent is that judgement will come and it will affect everything – the people and the physical world they inhabit.

Chapter 8

1. Lives of people who seek their own way are devastated by the very things they pursued when they had a choice.
2. The choices you make when you still have a choice will determine what will happen when it is too late and there are no more choices to be had.
3. The truth of the assertion of many who profess to be Christians is contradicted by their continued walk in the ways of the old nature -- the way of the world. The only time they have behavior that is like the new nature is when they deliberately set their minds to do so. This proves that they are still operating under their own strength and living under law and not grace.
4. In the church it also seems that we have declare detente with the devil. We pray, “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done.” But are we doing anything to occupy the land so that God’s will can be done “on earth as it is in Heaven?”. When the Children of Israel went into the Promised Land they did not have possession of the land until they took control of it.
5. When we sin and do not see any immediate consequences, then we think, it must be OK. When you plant a seed, you do not see the consequences immediately – the fruit of what we do comes along later.
6. When we see evidence of the judgement of God coming on our nation we look for man-made solutions to problems rather than seeking God’s way and all we are doing is prolonging the judgement against us.
7. The old sins that become ingrained in our culture cannot be extracted since they have become “part of who we are.” We thought we could control them but they wind up controlling us.
8. Time flies by and we keep putting off doing that which we know to be the right things to do. We will repent tomorrow, we’ll turn over a new leaf next week, we will walk closer to God next year, we will spend more time on the things of the kingdom of God when we retire. If we can put off doing what is right for one minute, then we can put it off for an hour, a day, a week, a year and a lifetime.