# **Wycliffe Associates**

# **Bible Translation Reviewers' Guide**

## Jeremiah

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## 1:1-10

**Background**: Jeremiah was the last prophet to the people of Judah before the Babylonian army came and defeated them and took them away from their homes. Yahweh had made a covenant with the people of Judah, but they kept breaking the covenant through idolatry and unjust treatment of others. Yahweh allowed Judah's enemies to defeat them because they would not stop sinning against him.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

This book records what Jeremiah said. [1:1]
Yahweh told Jeremiah what to say from the time of Josiah until the people of Jerusalem were taken away as prisoners. [1:2-3]
Yahweh said to Jeremiah that he had chosen him to be a prophet even before Jeremiah was born. [1:4-5]
Jeremiah was worried that he was too young, but Yahweh said that he should not be afraid and that Yahweh would be with him. [1:6-8]
Yahweh touched Jeremiah's mouth and put his word in his mouth and appointed him to destroy and build up nations and kingdoms. [1:9-10]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What kind of work did Jeremiah do? [1:1] Jeremiah was a priest.
- 2. Who was king when Yahweh first spoke to Jeremiah? [1:2] Josiah was king.
- 3. Yahweh spoke to Jeremiah until what time? [1:3]

Yahweh spoke to Jeremiah until the time when the people of Jerusalem were taken away as prisoners.

4. When did Yahweh choose Jeremiah to be a prophet? [1:4-5]

Yahweh chose Jeremiah before Jeremiah was born.

- 5. Why was Jeremiah afraid to speak for Yahweh? [1:6]

  Jeremiah thought he was too young to speak for Yahweh.
- 6. What did Yahweh tell Jeremiah he must do? [1:7]

Yahweh told Jeremiah that he must go everywhere and say everything Yahweh would tell him.

7. Why did Yahweh tell Jeremiah that he should not be afraid? [1:8]

He should not be afraid because Yahweh was going to be with him and rescue him.

8. What did Yahweh place in Jeremiah's mouth? [1:9]

Yahweh placed his word in Jeremiah's mouth.

#### Jeremiah 1:1-10 continued

- 9. What do you think it meant for Yahweh to place his word in Jeremiah's mouth? [1:9] It probably meant that Yahweh made Jeremiah able to speak what he wanted him to speak.
- 10. What did Yahweh appoint Jeremiah to do with regard to the nations and kingdoms?

  Yahweh appointed him to uproot, breakdown, destroy, overthrow, build, and plant nations and kingdoms.
- 11. How do you think Jeremiah did what Yahweh appointed him to do?

  Jeremiah did this by speaking the words that Yahweh told him to speak.
- 12. What do you think it meant to destroy or build up nations and kingdoms with his words?

  Jeremiah would be speaking God's judgments on the nations. Perhaps it meant if the people of the nations listened to Jeremiah and obeyed Yahweh, then Yahweh would rescue them. If they did not obey Yahweh, then he would destroy them.

## 7:1-11

**Background**: Jeremiah continued to warn the people about sinning against Yahweh. In this passage, Jeremiah talked about the "house of Yahweh" or the "temple." This referred to a place in Jerusalem at that time where Israelites went to worship Yahweh.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh told Jeremiah what he must say to the people of Judah, saying that if they would do what was good, Yahweh would allow them to stay in their homes and land. [7:1-3]
The people of Judah were told not to think that Yahweh would protect them just because they worshiped at the temple. They must also do what is right. [7:4-5]
Yahweh said the people were deceived if they thought he would save them while they continued to do evil things, worship false gods, and treat his house like a den of bandits. [7:8-11]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Where did Yahweh tell Jeremiah to go to speak to the people of Judah? [7:1-2] Yahweh told Jeremiah to go to the gate of the temple of Yahweh.
- 2. What were the people of Judah to do in order for Yahweh to let them continue to live in the land? [7:3] They were to do what was good.
- 3. What did the people of Judah believe would keep them safe although they continued to sin? [7:4] The people of Judah believed they would be safe because of the temple of Yahweh. Perhaps they thought that if they worshiped Yahweh in the temple, he would overlook their sins.
- 4. Why do you think the people of Judah would have felt safe just because the temple of Yahweh was in their land? Perhaps they thought that if they worshiped Yahweh at his temple, he would not punish them for their sins. Perhaps they thought Yahweh would never allow an enemy to come and harm his temple or his people.
- 5. What do you think it meant to "execute justice" between a man and his neighbor? [7:5] This probably meant to treat others fairly. Yahweh wanted the leaders of Judah to be just and treat all people fairly when they were making decisions.
- 6. What kinds of people did Yahweh say the people of Judah were harming? [7:6] They were harming foreigners, orphans, widows, and innocent people

#### Jeremiah 7:1-11 continued

7. Why do you think it was so important to Yahweh that the people of Judah protected and provided for sojourners, orphans, and widows instead of oppressing them? [7:6-7]

Perhaps because they were vulnerable and needed special protection from harm. Yahweh cared greatly for these people and commanded those who were more powerful to protect and provide for them

- 8. What would Yahweh do if the people of Judah repented of their sins and practiced good things instead of bad? [7:7] Yahweh would allow them to stay in the land that he had given to their ancestors.
- 9. What kinds of evil things did Yahweh ask the people of Judah if they were doing? [7:9]

  Yahweh asked them if they stole, killed, committed adultery, made false promises, and worshiped false gods.
- 10. What did Yahweh ask the people about what they did after they did these things that he hated? [7:10] He asked them if they go to his house and say, "we are saved."
- 11. Why do you think Yahweh listed all of the sins of the people of Judah, accusing them of stealing, killing, committing adultery, swearing deceitfully, and following other gods? [7:9]

  Yahweh was probably showing them the many ways they had broken the covenant they had with Yahweh.
- 12. Yahweh asked the people of Judah if they thought about his house in what way? [7:11] He asked them if they thought of his house as a den of bandits.
- 13. Why do you think Yahweh would question the people of Judah? [7:11]

  Probably because the people of Judah committed sins then ran to the temple to hide, then they would go out from there to sin again, much like bandits would hide out in a den.

## 10:1-16

## Part 1

**Background**: Jeremiah continued to warn the people of Judah that Yahweh would punish them if they did not stop sinning. In this passage, they are called the "house of Israel." Also in this passage, Jeremiah prophesied about the people of the nations making objects with their hands. These are idols the people worshiped.

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh warned the house of Israel not to learn the ways of nations around them. [10:1-2]
The people of other nations were making idols to worship, but they were lifeless and without power. [10:3-5]
Jeremiah praised Yahweh as the one true living God. There is no one like Yahweh, and the idols are just wood, silver or gold. [10:6-11]
Yahweh created the earth, the heavens, the lighting, rain, and wind. [10:12-13]
The idols of man are frauds. They are useless and lifeless unlike God who made all things. [10:14-16]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Who was Yahweh speaking to? [10:1]

He was speaking to the house of Israel. This was another name for the people of Judah.

2. What did Yahweh say about the ways of the nations? [10:2]

Yahweh commanded the people of Judah not to learn the ways of the nation.

3. What did Yahweh say about the customs of the nations? [10:3-5]

The idols they crafted were made of silver and gold and made by man and had no power to do good or evil. The house of Israel was not to be afraid of them.

4. Who did Jeremiah call the king of the nations? [10:6-7]

He called Yahweh the king of the nations.

5. Who carved and decorated the idols? [10:9]

Craftsmen, refiners, and skillful men made and decorated the idols.

- 6. Why do you think Jeremiah prophesied that Yahweh is the true and living God and eternal king? [10:10-11]

  Perhaps Yahweh wanted the people to see that their idols were false and lifeless gods unlike Yahweh who is a living and eternal God. They should worship Yahweh who could help them, not powerless idols.
- 7. What did Jeremiah say about Yahweh's anger? [10:10]

Jeremiah said Yahweh's anger can cause the earth to shake, and nations cannot endure his anger.

8. How does Jeremiah say that Yahweh made the earth and the heavens? [10:12-13]

He made the earth and the heavens by his power, wisdom, and understanding.

#### Jeremiah 10:1-16 continued

9. What do you think Yahweh meant that the craftsmen are put to shame by their idols and that their cast images are frauds? [10:14-15]

Perhaps he wanted them to see they were deceived by their idols. They should not put their trust in the power and strength of the idols because the idols had no power to help them.

10. What did Jeremiah call Yahweh in 10:16?

He called him the molder of all things.

11. Why do you think Jeremiah said Yahweh was the molder of all things? [10:16]

Perhaps Jeremiah wanted them to see that while the idols were man made, it was Yahweh who created the men and the very materials the idols were made of. Yahweh was showing how powerful he is compared to these idols.

12. What did Jeremiah say was Yahweh's inheritance? [10:16]

The tribe of Israel was his inheritance.

## 11:18-23

**Background**: Jeremiah spoke the words of Yahweh's covenant to the people and prophesied to them that if they obeyed the covenant, Yahweh would give them a land flowing with milk and honey. Yahweh warned them if they did not obey, they would be cursed. In this passage, Yahweh mentions Anathoth. This was a city in Judah.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Jeremiah said Yahweh showed him that evil men planned to kill him. [11:18-19]
Jeremiah told Yahweh he was a fair judge and would watch Yahweh take revenge on them. [11:20]
Yahweh said he would destroy the people of Anathoth because they were trying to kill Jeremiah for what he was
saying. [11:21-23]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- What did Yahweh make Jeremiah know about? [11:18-19]
   Yahweh made Jeremiah know that people wanted to kill him.
- How did Jeremiah describe himself in 11:10?
   He described himself as being like a gentle lamb being led to the slaughter.
- 3. What did Yahweh, the righteous judge, examine in people? [11:20] He judged the very thoughts and desires of people.
- 4. What did Jeremiah say he would witness Yahweh do? [11:20]

  He would see Yahweh take revenge on the people that plotted to kill Jeremiah.
- 5. What did those who wanted to kill Jeremiah tell him he must not do? They said Jeremiah must not prophesy in the name of Yahweh.
- 6. What do you think it meant for Jeremiah to prophesy in the name of Yahweh? [11:21] It probably meant he would speak with Yahweh's authority.
- 7. What did Yahweh say would happen to the wicked people of Anathoth for their plot against Jeremiah? [11:22] Yahweh would punish them. Their young men would die by war and their children by famine.
- 8. What do you think the expression, "Yahweh of hosts" meant? [11:22]

  It probably meant that Yahweh is the Lord of all the armies in the heavens and in the earth.
- 9. What would be left of the wicked people of Anathoth after their punishment? [11:23] Nothing, not even a remnant would be left.

## 12:1-6

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Jeremiah asked Yahweh why wicked people succeeded and those who did not care about Yahweh prospered. [12:1-2]
Jeremiah asked Yahweh to set these wicked people apart to be destroyed. [12:3]
Jeremiah asked how long Yahweh would wait to punish them. [12:4]
Yahweh replied to Jeremiah's complaint with two questions and told him not to trust anyone. [12:5-6]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What questions did Jeremiah ask Yahweh? [12:1]

  Jeremiah asked Yahweh why the wicked flourished and the unfaithful had it easy.
- 2. Why do you think Jeremiah would ask Yahweh this question? [12:1]

  Perhaps he was worried that Yahweh would not punish them for their evil.
- What did Jeremiah say Yahweh did to the wicked and unfaithful people? [12:2]
   He said Yahweh planted them and they took root and produced fruit. This means Yahweh took care of them so that they could prosper.
- 4. What did Jeremiah want Yahweh to do with the wicked people in the land? [12:3] He wanted Yahweh to slaughter them.
- 5. Why did Jeremiah say the land was like a person mourning and the grass withered? [12:4] These things happened because the people who lived in the land were wicked.
- 6. Why do you think Yahweh asked Jeremiah how he could expect to race against horses if he got worn out by racing against men? [12:5]

Perhaps Yahweh wanted Jeremiah to understand that he would need stronger faith and courage and must prepare for more difficult trials that would come.

7. What did Yahweh warn Jeremiah about his family? [12:6]

Yahweh warned that they had betrayed him, and Jeremiah should not trust them even when they were friendly to him.

8. Why do you think Yahweh warned Jeremiah not to trust his family?

Perhaps he wanted Jeremiah to understand that he should not trust anyone except Yahweh. Jeremiah would need to trust Yahweh even though Yahweh had not avenged him the way he hoped.

## 13:1-11

**Background**: Perath is mentioned in these verses. Perath could be a stream a few miles north of Anathoth or could refer to the Euphrates River. Jerusalem was the city where the great temple built by King Solomon was during the time of Jeremiah. The house of Israel and the house of Judah are words for Yahweh's people.

## Part 1

Tell in v	our own	words	what v	VOLL	iust	read	in	these	verses
1 611 111 1	your own	words	wilat	٧Uu	ıusı	ıcau	111	แเบงบ	verses.

Yahweh told Jeremiah to buy a loincloth and put it on, but he was not to wash it. [13:1-2]
Yahweh told Jeremiah to take the loincloth to Perath and hide it by a rock. [13:3-4]
Later, when Jeremiah went to get the loincloth, it had rotted and could no longer be used. [13:5-6]
Yahweh told Jeremiah that when he destroyed Judah and Jerusalem, they would be useless like the rotted loincloth.
[13:9-11]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What did Yahweh tell Jeremiah to do with the loincloth? [13:1-2] He told him to put it on, but he was not to wash it.
- 2. Where did Yahweh tell Jeremiah to take the loincloth after he bought it? [13:3-4] Yahweh told him to take it to Perath and hide it by a rock.
- 3. What did Yahweh tell Jeremiah to do after many days? [13:6] He told Jeremiah to go back to Perath and dig up the loincloth.
- 4. What did Yahweh say he would do to Judah and Jerusalem? [13:8-9] Yahweh said he would destroy them, and they would be useless like the rotted loincloth.
- Why did Yahweh say he would destroy Judah and Jerusalem? [13:10]
   He said he would destroy them because they refused to obey him, stubbornly did what they wanted, and worshiped other gods.
- 6. What did Yahweh say he made the house of Israel and Judah do? [13:11] He made them cling to him and be his people to honor and praise him.
- 7. Why do you think Yahweh would compare the ruin of the loincloth to the people of Judah and Jerusalem? [13:9-10] Perhaps he wanted them to see that just as the new loincloth had become rotten and ruined, so had Israel's idolatry and sin caused them to become ruined and all that was left was to throw it away.

## 18:1-12

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh told Jeremiah to go to the potter's house to hear Yahweh's words. [18:1-2]
Jeremiah went and saw the potter making a clay pot, but the pot was ruined so the potter made a different pot. [18:3
4]
Yahweh said he was like the potter, and the people of Israel were like the clay. [18:5-6]
Yahweh said he could change his mind about destroying a nation if they started obeying him. Or he could destroy a
nation he planned to help if they started disobeying him. [18:7-10]
Yahweh told Jeremiah to tell the people of Judah and Jerusalem that he was about to punish them, and they should
stop doing evil things. [18:11]
Yahweh said the people of Judah and Jerusalem were stubborn and would not stop doing evil things. [18:12]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Where did Yahweh tell Jeremiah to go to hear Yahweh's words? [18:1-2] Yahweh told Jeremiah to go to the potter's house.
- 2. What happened to the clay pot the potter was making? [18:3-4] The clay pot was ruined in the potter's hands.
- 3. What did the potter do with the clay from the ruined pot? [18:4] He made the clay into a pot that pleased him.
- 4. What did Yahweh say he was like and what did he say the people of Israel were like? [18:5-6] Yahweh said he was like the potter and the people were like the clay pot.
- 5. What do you think Yahweh meant when he said that nations and kingdoms are like clay and Yahweh was like the potter? [18:5-6]

Perhaps Yahweh meant that nations and kingdoms are part of his creation, and he has the power to do what was pleasing to him with them.

- 6. What did Yahweh say he would do to a nation or kingdom that stopped doing evil after they heard his words? [18:7-8] He would change his mind and not destroy it.
- 7. What did Yahweh say he would do to a nation or kingdom that did evil after he said he would help it? [18:10] He would change his mind about doing good to them.
- 8. What did Yahweh say he was going to do to the people of Judah? [18:11] He would make plans to punish them.

#### Jeremiah 18:1-12 continued

- 9. What would happen if the men of Judah stopped doing wicked things? [18:11] Yahweh would change his mind and cause good things to happen to them.
- 10. How did Yahweh say the people would respond to him? [18:12]

  He said they would refuse to listen to him, and they would do the evil things they wanted to do.
- 11. Why do you think Yahweh compared the people of Israel to the clay pot that was ruined? [18:6-10]

  Perhaps he wanted them to see that their choice to do good or to do evil would determine if Yahweh would bring good to them or make plans to punish them.

## 19:1-15

**Background**: The Valley of Ben Hinnom was a valley outside of the city of Jerusalem. Jeremiah also mentioned Topheth, which was a place in the valley that the people considered defiled.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh told Jeremiah to buy a clay jar and go to the Valley of Ben Hinnom to proclaim Yahweh's message. [19:1-2]
Yahweh said he would cause disaster to happen in Judah because the people did evil things, including sacrificing
their children to a false god. [19:3-5]
Yahweh would allow their enemies to destroy them, and it would be so terrible, the people of Judah would eat their children and neighbors. [19:7-9]
Yahweh told Jeremiah he was to break the clay jar and tell the men that Yahweh would similarly break them. [19:10-12]
The houses of the people who worshiped the stars and other gods would become like Topheth since they refused to listen to Yahweh. [19:13-15]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Where did Yahweh tell Jeremiah to go with the clay jar to hear a word from him? [19:1-3] Yahweh told Jeremiah to go to the potter's house.
- 2. What did Yahweh tell Jeremiah he must say to the people? [19:3]

  Jeremiah must say that Yahweh would destroy Judah and Jerusalem.
- Why did Yahweh say he would destroy that place? [19:4-5]
   The people had sinned against Yahweh by offering sacrifices to gods and killing innocent people.
- 4. What did the people do at the high places of Baal? [19:5] They sacrificed their children as offerings to Baal.
- 5. What did Yahweh say would be the new name of the Valley of Ben Hinnom? [19:6] It would be called the Valley of Slaughter.
- 6. What did Yahweh say would happen to the plans of Judah and Jerusalem? [19:7] Yahweh said he would ruin their plans
- 7. What would happen to the dead bodies of the people? [19:7] Birds and wild animals would eat them.
- 8. What do you think Yahweh meant when he said he would make the city an object of hissing? [19:8] Perhaps the devastation would be so shocking it would cause people to gasp when they saw it.

#### Jeremiah 19:1-15 continued

- 9. What were the unclean people doing on their rooftops? [19:13]

  The unclean people were worshiping the stars and making offerings to other gods.
- 10. What do you think Yahweh meant by calling the people "unclean"? [19:13]

  Yahweh meant that the people were spiritually unclean because they did things Yahweh told them not to do.
- 11. Why did Yahweh say he would bring such devastation to the city? [19:15]

  The people stiffened their necks and refused to listen to Yahweh's words.
- 12. What do you think it meant that the people stiffened their necks? [19:15] It meant they were stubborn and would not do what Yahweh said.

## 20:1-6

**Background**: The name Magor Missabib in this passage means "terror all around." Babylon was a city far away from Judah. The armies of Babylon would defeat the people of Judah and take them away as captives.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Pashhur heard Jeremiah prophesying Yahweh's words and beat him and placed him in stocks to restrain him. [20:1-2]
Jeremiah said Yahweh called Pashhur by a different name and would cause the armies of Babylon to capture
Pashhur and all of his family and take them to Babylon. [20:3-4, 6]
Yahweh said he would give the treasures of the kings of Judah to the king of Babylon. [20:5]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Why did Pashhur beat Jeremiah and place him in stocks to restrain him? [20:1-2] He heard Jeremiah prophesying the words of Yahweh.
- 2. Why do you think hearing Jeremiah made Pashhur want to hurt Jeremiah? [20:1-2] Pashhur probably did not like hearing Jeremiah saying that Yahweh was going to destroy Judah. He may have thought that this could never happen and that Jeremiah was a false prophet.
- 3. What happened the next day? [20:3]

Pashhur brought Jeremiah out of the stocks, and Jeremiah prophesied that Yahweh would give him a new name.

4. Why did Yahweh call Pashhur's new name Magor Missabib? [20:3-4]

Yahweh would cause such terrible things to happen to Pashhur and his family that other people would be terrified when they saw him.

5. What would the king of Babylon do to all of Judah? [20:4]

He would take them as captives or kill them by the sword.

- 6. What did Yahweh say would happen to all the wealth of the city and the treasures of the kings of Judah? [20:5] Yahweh would give them to the king of Babylon.
- 7. What would happen to Pashhur and his household? [20:6]

They would be taken into captivity.

8. What would happen to Pashhur and his household when they were in captivity? [20:6] They would die and be buried there.

## 23:1-6

**Background**: In this passage, the word "sheep" was used to talk about Yahweh's people, and the word "shepherds" was used to talk about the leaders of the people.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh said the shepherds who destroyed and scattered Yahweh's sheep would be doomed. [23:1]
Yahweh said he would punish the wicked shepherds because they did not care for the flock of sheep, and they drove
them away. [23:2]
Yahweh said he would bring the flock back to the pasture and they would thrive and increase again. [23:3]
Yahweh said he would put new shepherds over them that would care for them, and they would no longer be afraid.
[23:4]
Yahweh would raise up a king from David's family who would act wisely and do what was just and right. [23:5]
This king would rescue Judah and Israel and they would be safe. [23:6]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What did Yahweh say the shepherds were doing to the sheep of his pasture? [23:1] The shepherds were destroying and scattering them.
- 2. Why did Yahweh say he would do to the shepherds for not caring for the sheep and driving them away? [23:2] Yahweh said he would punish them for their wicked practices.
- What did Yahweh say he would do for his flock? [23:3]
   Yahweh would gather them back and they would thrive and increase again.
- What kind of shepherds would Yahweh bring to the sheep? [23:4]
   He would bring shepherds who would care for them so they would no longer be afraid.
- 5. What would Yahweh do in the days to come? [23:5] Yahweh would cause a righteous king to rule over the people.
- 6. How would the good king rule? [23:5]

  The good king would rule wisely and do what was right and just.
- 7. What would happen to Judah and Israel when the new king rules? [23:6] They would be rescued and live in peace.
- 8. What was the name that the new king would be called? [23:6] The king would be called "Yahweh is our righteousness."

## 24:1-10

**Background**: Chaldea [24:5] is another name for Babylon.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

After some of the people of Judah had been taken to Babylon, Yahweh showed Jeremiah a vision of a basket with good figs and a basket with bad figs. [24:1-3]
Yahweh told Jeremiah the people he had sent off to Babylon were like the good figs, and Yahweh would watch over them and build them up for their good. [24:4-6]
Yahweh would give them the desire to know that he was their God, and they would go back to him in complete sincerity. [24:7]
Yahweh said the rest of the people who remained in the land were like the bad figs, and Yahweh would disgrace and destroy them. [24:8-10]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Yahweh show Jeremiah in a vision? [24:1]

Yahweh showed him two baskets of figs in front of the temple.

2. When did Yahweh show Jeremiah the baskets of figs? [24:1]

Yahweh showed him the vision after the king of Babylon had taken Jehoiachin, the officials of Judah, and the craftsmen and metalworkers of Jerusalem to be exiled as prisoners in Babylon.

3. What were the baskets of figs like? [24:2-3]

One basket contained very tasty fruit, and the other basket contained fruit so bad they could not be eaten.

4. What did Yahweh say the good figs were like? [24:4]

The good figs were like the exiles that were taken as prisoners to Babylon.

5. Who did Yahweh say sent the people into exile as prisoners in Babylon (Chaldea)? [24:5]

Yahweh said it was he who had sent the people into exile.

6. What would Yahweh do to the exiles of Judah that were prisoners in Babylon? [24:5-6]

Yahweh would watch over them and return them to Judah. He would cause them to prosper and would not destroy them.

7. What would happen to the exiles of Judah? [24:7]

They would be Yahweh's people, and Yahweh would be their God.

#### Jeremiah 24:1-10 continued

8. What do you think it meant that Yahweh would give them a heart to know him, and they would turn to Yahweh with all their heart? [24:7]

Perhaps it meant that Yahweh would cause them to have faith in him, and they would stop worshiping idols and would worship Yahweh with complete sincerity.

9. What would Yahweh do to the people who remained in Judah or fled to Egypt? [24:8-10]

Yahweh would disgrace them, and people would taunt them and use their name as a curse. Yahweh would also cause enemies, famines, and plagues to kill them.

## 25:8-14

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh said he would send the people of the north to destroy Judah because they refused to listen to Yahweh's
words. [25:8-9]
He would bring an end to joyous times and daily activities. [25:10]
Judah would become ruined, and the nations would be slaves to the king of Babylon for seventy years. [25:11]
After seventy years Yahweh would punish Babylon for their sins just as he said he would, and they would become
slaves to other nations. [25:12-14]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why would Yahweh command the people of the north and Nebuchadnezzar to fight against the people of Judah? [25:8-9]

Yahweh would do this because the people of Judah would not listen to Yahweh's words.

2. How did Yahweh call Nebuchadnezzar? [25:9] He called him "my servant."

3. What would Yahweh do to Judah and its people and the nations that surrounded them? [25:9-10] Yahweh would destroy them. They would become a horror to other people who see them. There would no longer be anyone there that was happy or doing things they once did.

- 4. How long would these nations serve the king of Babylon? [25:11] They would serve him for seventy years.
- 5. What would Yahweh do after seventy years? [25:12]

Yahweh would punish the king of Babylon and that nation for their sins.

- 6. What words would Yahweh fulfill concerning the king of Babylon and that nation? [25:13] Yahweh would fulfill all the words he had spoken, and the words written in this book that Jeremiah prophesied against the nations.
- 7. Who would make slaves of the King of Babylon and its people? [25:14] Many other nations and Greek kings would make slaves of them.
- 8. Why do you think Yahweh would tell the people of Judah how long their seventy-year exile would last? [25:11-14] Perhaps Yahweh wanted to show them that his words were true. Perhaps, he also wanted to comfort his people and encourage them to trust his promises to them.

## 28:1-11

**Background**: Gibeon was a village near Jerusalem. Zedekiah was the last king of Judah.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

A prophet from Gibeon named Hananiah spoke to Jeremiah in the house of Yahweh. [28:1]
Yahweh would break the yoke of dominion the king of Babylon put on Judah. [28:2]
Hananiah said that everyone taken captive by the king of Babylon and all the treasures of Judah would return to Judah within two years. [28:3-4]
Jeremiah hoped Yahweh would do that but told Hananiah that many prophets before them had delivered messages of disaster from Yahweh. [28:5-8]
Jeremiah said if a prophet predicted peace, only if it came true would it prove that he had spoken Yahweh's words. [28:9]
Hananiah broke the yoke off Jeremiah and said Yahweh would break off the yoke of the king of Babylon within two years. [29:10-11]
Jeremiah left that place. [28:11]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Who spoke to Jeremiah in the house of Yahweh? [28:1] Hananiah the prophet from Gibeon spoke to Jeremiah.
- 2. What did Hananiah say Yahweh would do? [28:2-4]

Hananiah said Yahweh would break the yoke of the king of Babylon and return all the people and the treasures of Judah back to their land.

3. When did Hananiah say Yahweh would do this? [28:3-4]

Hananiah said Yahweh would do this within two years.

4. What did Jeremiah tell Hananiah? [28:5-6]

Jeremiah hoped Yahweh would do this but told Hananiah that many prophets before them had prophesied about war, famine, and plague instead.

5. What do you think Jeremiah meant when he said this?

Jeremiah probably wanted Hananiah and the people to know that Hananiah was a false prophet. The mark of a true prophet is that his prophecies must be fulfilled.

6. What did Hananiah do with the yoke that was on Jeremiah? [28:10] Hananiah broke the yoke off Jeremiah.

#### Jeremiah 28:1-11 continued

- 7. What did Hananiah say again in front of all the people? [28:11]

  He said that Yahweh would break the yoke off the people the king of Babylon took captive.
- 8. What did Jeremiah do after Hananiah broke the yoke off him? [28:12] Jeremiah left that place.
- 9. Why do you think Hananiah falsely prophesied that Yahweh would break the yoke of the people of Judah and return them and all the treasure back to the land within two years?

Perhaps he did not like Jeremiah's true prophecy and said words that he thought the people wanted to hear instead.

## 29:1-23

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Jeremiah sent the scroll with his words by Elasah to the people in exile after the king and leaders had been sent awa
from their home. [29:1-3]
Yahweh said the people in exile should build houses, plant gardens, marry, have children and increase. They should
seek peace and pray for the land of their exile. [29:4-7]
Yahweh said they should not listen to the false prophets and diviners. [29:8-9]
Yahweh said he would bring them back home after seventy years and would give them a good future. They would seek Yahweh and find him. [29:10-14]
Yahweh said he would make Nebuchadnezzar kill the false prophets. They would be cursed and roasted in fire because they committed adultery and spoke false words that Yahweh did not tell them to say. [29:15-23]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Who did Jeremiah send the scroll to? [29:1-2]

He sent the scroll to the elders and leaders exiled in Babylon.

2. Who did Jeremiah send the scroll by? [29:3]

He sent the scroll by the hand of Elasah.

3. What did Yahweh say in the scroll to the people in exile? [29:4-7]

Yahweh said they should build houses, plant gardens, marry, have children, and seek the peace of the city they were exiled in.

4. Why do you think Yahweh said they should do these things? {29:4-7]

Perhaps he wanted them to understand that they would not go free quickly like the false prophet said. They should plant gardens because they would be there long enough to eat the food they grew. They would be in exile for a long time so they should settle down and lead normal lives.

5. What were the people in exile not to do? [29:8]

They were not to let the prophets and diviners deceive them, nor pay attention to the predictions they gave through dreams.

6. Why were they not to do this? [29:9]

The false prophets were lying and claiming to speak in Yahweh's authority, but Yahweh did not send them.

7. When would Yahweh bring them back to their own land? [29:10]

Yahweh would bring them back after being ruled by Babylon for seventy years.

8. What would the people in exile do? [29:12-13]

They would pray and turn to the Lord for help.

#### Jeremiah 29:1-23 continued

9. What would Yahweh do? [29:14]

Yahweh would let them find him and would bring them back to their land.

10. What do you think it meant that Yahweh would let the people in exile find him? [29:14]

Perhaps it meant that when they prayed to Yahweh, he would act to do good for them and his presence would be evident in bringing them back to their own land.

11. What would Yahweh do to the false prophets? [29:15-18]

Yahweh would kill them with sword, famine, and plague. He would make them a horror and shameful among the nations.

12. Why would Yahweh do this to them? [29:19]

Yahweh would do this because they did not listen to his words.

13. What did Yahweh say about Ahab and Zedekiah? [29:21-22]

Yahweh would cause them to be killed by Nebuchadnezzar. A curse would be spoken about them, and they would be roasted in fire.

14. Why did Yahweh say this about them? [29:23]

Yahweh said this because they committed adultery with their neighbor's wives and spoke false words that Yahweh did not tell them to say.

## 31:23-40

**Background**: This passage refers to the land of Egypt. Egypt is a land where the people of Israel were kept in slavery for 400 years before Yahweh brought them out.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh will release the people of Judah from captivity, and they will return to the land of Judah to live there and will bless the land. [31:23-24]
Yahweh will give food and drink to the people and refresh them. He will let people and animals live again in Israel and Judah. He will no longer allow harm to come to them but will prosper them. [31:25-28]
The people will no longer be punished for the sins of their ancestors, but they will be responsible for their own sins. [31:29-30]
Yahweh will make a new covenant with Israel and Judah even though they broke the old covenant. [31:31-32]
In the new covenant Yahweh will make his laws part of their thinking and feeling. They will have a close relationship with Yahweh, and he will forgive all their sins. [31:33-34]
Yahweh will not let the sun, moon, and seas stop their course, and he will not stop letting Israel be his people. [31:35-37]
Yahweh promised that Jerusalem would be rebuilt and would never be destroyed again. [31:38-40]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What would the people of Judah call their land when Yahweh brought them back from captivity? [31:23] The people would call their land a righteous land and a holy mountain.
- 2. What would Yahweh do for the weary people? [31:25] Yahweh would give them food and drink to refresh them.
- 3. What would Yahweh do for the houses of Israel and Judah in the coming days? [31:27] Yahweh would fill them with people and animals.
- 4. What did Yahweh do in the past? [31:28]
  In the past Yahweh destroyed them and brought harm to them.
- 5. What will Yahweh do in the days to come? [31:28] Yahweh will watch over them to build them up and prosper them.
- 6. What proverb will the people no longer say? [31:29]

  They will no longer say the fathers ate sour grapes but it hurt the teeth of the children.
- 7. What do you think this proverb meant? [31:29-30] It probably meant that people would no longer be responsible for the sins of their ancestors. They would be responsible for their own sins.

#### Jeremiah 31:23-40 continued

8. What would Yahweh make in the coming days? [31:31]

He would cut a new covenant with Israel and Judah.

9. What will Yahweh do in the new covenant he will cut with them? [31:31-34]

He will put his laws inside them so they were part of their thinking and feeling. Yahweh will be their God and they would be his people.

10. What could stop Israel from being Yahweh's nation of people? [31:35-37]

Only if the permanent things that Yahweh set in place stopped could Israel stop being Yahweh's nation.

11. What do you think Yahweh meant by this? [31:35-37]

He probably meant that he has control of the heavens, earth, and Israel and he would never let Israel stop being his people.

12. What will never happen to the city of Jerusalem again? [29:38-40]

It would be rebuilt for Yahweh and would never be overthrown again.

## 33:14-26

**Background**: This passage refers to David, Yahweh's servant. David was a good king of Israel who loved Yahweh. This passage refers to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. These were patriarchs of the people of Israel and Judah.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh said in the days to come he would do what he promised for the people of Israel and Judah. [33:14]
Yahweh would give the people a good king who would do what was right and just. The people of Judah and Jerusalem would be saved and live in peace. [33:15-18]
Yahweh said no one could break the covenant he made with David just like no one could stop day and night or count all the stars or sand on the seashore. [33:19-22]
Yahweh's people were rejected, and they were no longer a nation but Yahweh made a covenant and would bring them out of captivity and be merciful to them. [33:23-26]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What would Yahweh do for the people of Israel and Judah? [33:14] Yahweh would do what he promised.
- 2. What would Yahweh do in that time? [33:15-16]

He would cause a righteous branch to grow for David and the people of Judah and Jerusalem would be saved and live in peace.

- 3. What would never be lacking from David's family line? [33:18]
  - It would never lack a king or priests to make sacrifices and offerings to Yahweh.
- 4. Who could break the covenant with David and the priests? [33:19-21]

Only a person who could stop night and day from coming when they should.

5. What do you think this saying meant? [33:19-21]

It probably meant no man was able to stop night and day from coming so no one could break Yahweh's covenant.

6. What would Yahweh do with the descendants of David and the Levite priests? [33:22]

He would increase them like the stars and the sand so they could not be counted.

- 7. What did the two families of Yahweh say? [33:23-24]
  - They said they were no longer a nation in their sight.
- 8. When did Yahweh say he would reject the two families of Yahweh? [33:25-26]

He would reject them if he did not make night and day, heaven and earth.

#### Jeremiah 33:14-26 continued

9. What do you think this meant? [33:25-26]

It probably meant since Yahweh made night and day, heaven and earth, he would not reject the families of Yahweh.

10. What would Yahweh do for the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? [33:26] He would rescue them from captivity and be merciful to them.

## 36:9-19

**Background**: Jeremiah was in prison and told Baruch to write the words of Yahweh that Jeremiah would tell him in a scroll. A scroll is a special rolled paper that people write on. A fast is mentioned in this passage. A fast is a time to refrain from eating food and may be done to seek Yahweh's favor.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Baruch read the words of Yahweh in the scroll when the people were fasting in Yahweh's house. [36:9-10]
Micaiah heard Yahweh's words in the scroll and reported the words to all the officials. [36:11-13]
The officials sent Jehudi to Baruch to tell him to bring the scroll and read it to them. [36:14-15]
When Baruch read the scrolls, the officials said they must report the words to the king. Baruch told the officials that
Jeremiah told him to write all the words. [36:16-18]
The officials told Baruch that he and Jeremiah must hide and not tell anyone where they were. [36:19]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Who told Baruch to read the words of Yahweh aloud from the scroll in Yahweh's house? [36:8] Jeremiah told Baruch to read Yahweh's words in the scroll aloud.
- 2. What did the people of Jerusalem and Judah observe before Yahweh? [36:9] The people observed a fast.
- 3. What did Baruch do during the time of fasting? [36:10]

  Baruch read the words of Yahweh from the scroll out loud to the people.
- 4. What did Micaiah do when he heard the words of Yahweh that Baruch read in the scroll? [36:11-13] Micaiah went to the king's house and told all the officials the words he heard Baruch read.
- 5. What did the officials do when Micaiah reported the words of Yahweh in the scroll? [36:14-15]

  The officials sent Jehudi to Baruch to tell him to come and read the words in the scroll to them.
- What did the officials do when Baruch read them Yahweh's words in the scroll? [36:16]
   They were afraid and told Baruch they must report all the words of Yahweh to the king.
- How did Baruch tell the officials he wrote the words of Yahweh? [36:17-18]
   He told them Jeremiah told him the words and he wrote them in ink on the scroll.
- What did the officials tell Baruch he must then do? [36:19]
   They told Baruch he and Jeremiah must hide and not tell anyone where they were.

## 38:1-13

**Background**: This passage names several men in verse one. These men were officials in Jerusalem. The Chaldeans are mentioned in this verse. Chaldeans is another word for the Babylonians. Ebed-Melek is mentioned in the verse. He was a servant of the king and a court official.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Jeremiah told the officials Yahweh's words that any people who stayed in the city would be killed, but those who wen out to the Chaldeans would live. [38:1-2]
Jeremiah told the officials that Yahweh said the king of Babylon would capture the city. [38:3]
The officials told the king that Jeremiah must die for prophesying disaster, and they threw Jeremiah in a dry well [38:4-6]
Ebed-Melek told the king the officials did evil to Jeremiah and the king sent thirty men with him to get Jeremiah out of the dry well. [38:7-10]
The men made ropes with old clothing and pulled Jeremiah out of the dry well. [38:11-13]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What words did the officials hear Jeremiah telling the people? [38:1-2]

They heard Jeremiah telling the people the words of Yahweh that anyone who stayed in the city would die but anyone who went out to the Chaldeans would live.

2. What did Yahweh say would happen to the city? [38:3]

Yahweh said the city would be captured by the king of Babylon and his army.

3. Why did the officials tell the king Jeremiah must die? [38:4]

They said he must die because he was speaking words of disaster that were making the soldiers lose their courage.

4. What did king Zedekiah tell the officials? [38:5]

He told them to do what they wanted to do with him. The king could not stop them.

5. What did the officials do with Jeremiah? [38:6]

They threw him into a well that had no water, only mud, and he sank in the mud.

6. Who was Ebed-Melek? [38:7]

He was a eunuch in the house of the king.

7. What did Ebed-Melek do when he heard the men put Jeremiah in a dry well? [38:8-9] He told the king the men did evil to Jeremiah.

#### Jeremiah 38:1-13 continued

8. What did the king tell Ebed-Melek to do? [38:10]

The king told him to take thirty men to pull Jeremiah out of the dry well before he died.

9. How did they pull Jeremiah out of the dry well? [38:11-13]

They made ropes out of rags and old clothing and put it down in the well and told Jeremiah to wrap them under his arms. They pulled Jeremiah out with the ropes they made.

10. Why do you think the king listened to Ebed-Melek and sent him to pull Jeremiah out of the dry well after he told the officials they could do what they wanted with Jeremiah?

Ebed-Melek had influence with the king, perhaps because he was a loyal servant to the king and the king trusted him.

## 52:1-16

**Background**: Arabah is mentioned in this passage. It is a valley outside Jerusalem. Nebuzaradan is mentioned in this passage. He was a servant of the king of Babylon.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Zedekiah became king when he was twenty-one years old and reigned for eleven years. He was the grandson of Jeremiah. [52:1]
King Zedekiah did evil just as Jehoiakim did and because of Yahweh's anger bad things happened. He sent the people of Jerusalem and Judah away from him and rebelled against the king of Babylon. [52:2-3]
In Zedekiah's ninth year the king of Babylon came with his army and attacked the city. The famine was so bad there was no food for the people to eat. The king of Babylon breached the city and the fighting men of Jerusalem and Judah fled towards Arabah. [52:4-7]
The Chaldean army pursued them and overtook them, and the army was scattered. [52:8]
The king of Babylon captured King Zedekiah and killed his sons while he watched, then he put out his eyes and put him in prison in Babylon until he died. [52:9-11]
Nebuzaradan burned the house of Yahweh and all the houses of Jerusalem and destroyed the walls of the city. He took many people as prisoners to Babylon but left the poor to work in the fields. [52:12-16]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. How long did Zedekiah reign in Jerusalem? [52:1] He reigned eleven years.
- 2. What did Zedekiah do? [52:2]

He sinned against the Lord and did evil things just as King Jehoiakim had done.

- 3. Why did all these events happen in Jerusalem and Judah? [52:3] Because of Yahweh's anger.
- What happened in the ninth year of King Zedekiah? [52:4]
   The king of Babylon attacked Jerusalem with his army.
- 5. What happened by the ninth day of the fourth month? [52:6]

  There was a famine so bad there was no food for the people.
- 6. What did the fighting men of Jerusalem do when the city was broken into? [52:7] They fled at night through a gate even though the city was surrounded.
- 7. What did the Chaldean army do? [52:8-9]

  He pursued and captured Zedekiah and took him to the king of Babylon.

#### Jeremiah 52:1-16 continued

- 8. What did the king of Babylon do to Zedekiah? [52:10-11]

  He killed his sons in front of them, put out his eyes, and put him in prison in Babylon until he died.
- What did Nebuzaradan do when he went to Jerusalem? [52:12-14]
   He burned Yahweh's house, the king's palace, and all the houses of Jerusalem and broke down the walls of the city.
- 10. What did Nebuzaradan do with the rest of the people in the city? [52:15-16] He took some into captivity but left the poorest to work in the fields.

## 52:31-34

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

In the thirty-seventh year of his exile, the king of Babylon released Jehoiachin from captivity. [52:31]
Awel-Marduk, the king of Babylon treated him in a friendly way and gave him a position of honor greater than the
other foreign kings. [52:32]
Awel-Marduk allowed Jehoiachin to remove his prison clothes and for the rest of his life the king gave him as much
food as he needed. [52:33-34]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. When did the king of Babylon release Jehoiachin the king of Judah from prison? [52:31] In the thirty-seventh year of his captivity.
- 2. How did king Awel-Marduk treat Jehoiachin? [5:32]

  He treated him kindly and gave him a position of honor.
- 3. What did Awel-Marduk allow Jehoiachin to do? [52:33] He allowed Jehoiachin to remove his prison clothing.
- 4. How long could Jehoiachin eat at the king's table? [52:33] He could eat at the king's table for the rest of his life.
- 5. What was given to Jehoiachin by king Awel-Marduk? [52:34] A regular food allowance was given to Jehoiachin.