

## Appointed by YHWH

### Commentary for October 1, 2010 — Introduction to the Book of Jeremiah

According to the Hebrew grammarian Gesenius the name Jeremiah means "Appointed by YHWH."<sup>1</sup> If this is the case, then Jeremiah's name states a fact because he was indeed appointed by YHWH to perform important functions as a prophet of God to the kingdom of Judah and to all the people of Israel. These functions are introduced in this month's presentation "Introduction to Jeremiah" by Dr. Ernest L. Martin. Read first the "[October 2010 Newsletter](#)."

During the period of Jeremiah's commission as a prophet of God, he inaugurated the "Times of the Gentiles" that Jesus referred to in His Olivet prophecy (Luke 21:24),<sup>2</sup> indicating when the "Times" would end. Until that end, Gentile nations predominate in process of biblical prophecy moving toward Christ's return. These "Times" began in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC through the agency of the Babylonian Empire and "God's Servant," King Nebuchadnezzar,<sup>3</sup> as announced by Jeremiah. The present blindness and callousness of Israel shall continue until the fullness of the Gentiles comes in, which the apostle Paul called a secret (Romans 11:25).

A commission from God is hard. Jeremiah was rejected by his own family and town:

**"For even your brethren, and the house of your father, even they have dealt treacherously with you; yea, they have called a multitude after you: believe them not, though they speak fair words unto you. I have forsaken mine house, I have left mine heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of my soul into the hand of her enemies."**

• *Jeremiah 12:6-7*

Abandoned by his family, Jeremiah was attacked by the people of his home town (they tried to kill him, 11:21), threatened by false prophets, and imprisoned by his king. During this time Jeremiah witnessed the destruction of the kingdom he loved in the period of the last kings of Judah. He also saw the destruction of Jerusalem, the Temple, and the exile of his countrymen for at least 70 years. At the end of Jeremiah's life things looked bleak for the future of his beloved people of Judah.<sup>4</sup>

There is still much for us all to learn from Jeremiah and his writings. He lived in momentous and tumultuous times when one era was ending and another was beginning. It is not unlike our time as we near the end of our present age and await the inauguration of Christ's reign.

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<sup>1</sup> Other possible meaning of Jeremiah's name are "Exalted of YHWH" or "Raised up by YHWH."

<sup>2</sup> Note that it is the "times of the Gentiles," plural. Apparently several time sequences end in close conjunction when these "times" are completed.

<sup>3</sup> See Dr. Martin's presentation "[The Basics of Old Testament History](#)" where the role of the Gentiles in our present era is discussed.

<sup>4</sup> As Paul was the apostle to the nations, so Jeremiah was the prophet to the nations. Each suffered the lowest depths toward the end of their lives, yet at those times each was spiritually at his strongest.

## ***Jeremiah Lectures on CD***

Most of the material on the ASK website is presented for free. However, like books, we also sell audios. Dr. Martin gave 4 lectures specifically about Jeremiah, the first of which forms the basis of this month's presentation, and future presentations, on the message of the prophet Jeremiah. These lectures are offered for sale on the ASK in a 4-CD set at "[ASK Audio Presentations](#)" page. You can begin the order process at the [Jeremiah CD Order](#) page.

On the "ASK Audio Presentations" page there are hundreds of free audio presentations, including radio programs that Dr. Martin did and that I have done, as well as the many *Byte Show* presentations.

## ***Other Lectures for Purchase***

In addition to the CD set for Jeremiah, we offer for sale a series of 4 lectures of Ezekiel, a series of 7 lectures on Isaiah, and a 14 lecture CD series of the books of the Twelve Minor Prophets. These CDs are ideal for listening in your car player, your computer CD or DVD player, and they will work in your DVD player at home (audio only, of course).

Remember too we have a DVD of a lecture I presented as an opposition speaker at a past "One God Conference" when I gave a presentation titled "Elohim and The Son of God" (also listed on the [Elohim and The Son of God DVD Order](#) page.) This DVD presentation talks about the nature of God, Christ, the Sons of God, Christ as the Son of God, angels, and it clarifies the distinctions between the Hebrew term *elohim* and the name of the creator God, YHWH.

If you want to read the transcript of my talk for free, with additional notes and clarifications, look at the articles by the same name in three parts:

["Elohim and the Son of God, Part 1"](#)

["Elohim and the Son of God, Part 2"](#)

["Elohim and the Son of God, Part 3"](#)

Part 3 is a transcript of questions and answers after Parts 1 and 2.

YHWH is the sole creator God. However, there are many (millions, in fact) of beings that are designated in the Holy Scriptures by the Hebrew word *elohim*. They are translated correctly as "god" with a small "g." My opposition with the majority of the participants of the conference centered on whether Christ existed prior to His becoming flesh. I give biblical evidence that indeed he did so exist, He was God's first creation, and that all subsequent creation came through Him.

Enjoy this month's presentation, "Introduction to Jeremiah," which I trust will begin many useful explorations of this fascinating book of the Bible.

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