

# Church

## Sunday School Lesson

### Old Testament reveals some characteristics of God

**GOD CALLS JEREMIAH TO PROPHECY**  
(Jeremiah 1:4-10, 13-14, 17, 19)

"The Lord said unto me, say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall end thee, and whatsoever I command thee shalt thou speak, be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee, saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 1:7-8)

With today's lesson we begin a fourteen week study from the books of the prophets: specifically Jeremiah, Ezekiel and

Daniel. The lesson Scripture texts are divided thusly; six from Jeremiah, five from Ezekiel and three from Daniel. These should prove to be interesting studies. Some Christians spend very little time in studying the Old Testament, believing, I suspect, that the New Testament which covers the period of the church on earth to be most applicable.

However, I have said on occasion that the New Testament may better be understood if viewed through the eyes of the Old Testament. Both are important, of course. The Christ of the New Testament was present before creation, was part of the creation and was present during all the centuries prior to His physical birth in Bethlehem.

The Old Testament has so much to say to Christians of today. Through it's pages we see, at least, some of God's characteristics revealed, how He acted and re-acted to the good and bad of mankind. We see God's loving mercy, His grace, His forgiveness to the repentant, His patience and long suffering.

We also see His almighty power, His righteousness, justice and judgement. We hear His stirring words, "I am the God of Creation, I change not."

The thread of redemption beginning with the fall of Adam and Eve, running through both the Old and New Testaments. God, through His infinite wisdom, chose to use men and women to work His redemptive plan; His perfect will. He called some people to special service—which is our Scripture lesson for today.

**A PROPHET IS CALLED**  
(Jeremiah 1:4-10)

The Bible records that God raised some people up for a particular mission. John, the Baptist, in the New Testament, was one of those; Jeremiah, the prophet, was another. Jeremiah's mission was to deliver God's message to the people of Jerusalem and Judah.

His message was one of dreadful condemnation and doom for his people for they would on be taken away into Babylonian captivity. The great city of Jerusalem, including Solomon's temple, was torn down and the country side devastated.

What had brought God's chosen people to this state? It may be

summed up in these words; disobedience, idolatry, wickedness and evil. Jeremiah's assignment would not be an easy one for he would do so under the threat of death, prison, beatings, etc., anything that would stop his voice. By his own admission Jeremiah was a prophet with "fire in his bones."

He spoke with boldness and conviction. God had called him. Those whom God calls He energizes, equips and protects. Jeremiah was preaching under the protective hand of God; nothing could happen to him. The time of Jeremiah was roughly 600 B.C.; but the same holds true for those whom God calls today.

**N.C. House Of Representatives  
1st DISTRICT RUN-OFF ELECTION**  
Tuesday, June 3rd. . . 6:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.

**VOTE FOR  
R.M. (Pete) THOMPSON**

HE IS INTERESTED IN PROMOTING MORE JOBS AND INDUSTRIAL RECRUITMENT!

(Pd. Political Adv., J.C. (Pete) Dall, Tr.)

**Card of Thanks**

The family of Seth W. Long, Sr., wish to express their deep appreciation to everyone who remembered them during their time of sorrow. The cards, telephone calls, visits, flowers, all of the food, & mostly the prayers you made mean so much to us. Also, we wish to thank Dr. Robert Lane, the workers and patients of Morgan's Rest Home, & Swindell Funeral Home for their help during the death of our father. May God bless all of you.

Virginia Mae, Cyril, Elwood Lee and Marie

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**GROUNDBREAKING**—John Mansfield, Chairman of the Board of Deacons at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church recently turned the first shovel of dirt during a groundbreaking ceremony for the church's new fellowship building.

**Do You Remember?**

Kendall Hastings  
Woodville Baptist Church  
Rt. 4, Hertford

Remember the story of Adam and Eve, out of the Garden, how they looked for a place for shade, a place to plant seeds, how they found the ground hard and full of thistles and thorns with little rain to grow their crops, how Cain killed Abel, all the hardships they had when God did not care for them, when they rejected God? Listen to their story of finding God in later years - of once again feeling God's presence.

ADAM: Eve, How Wonderful! I can feel God's presense. I can feel fresh-ness come back into my life. I feel happy. Come, let's walk with God. Let's sing praises to His name. Oh, God, thank you for your grace to forgive.

EVE: Adam, Do you remember what it was like when we walked with God?

ADAM: Wonderful! The beautiful paths lived with such beauty. The flowers - their colors were of such brilliance. Holding hands we could walk in splendor as the cool breeze soothed our cheeks. His voice from within, speaking words of love, giving all that we needed.

EVE: Yes, Adam, the berries were so juicy and delicious. The apples were so red and yellow and delicious - beyond imagination.

ADAM: Eve, the oranges, bright as the sun and juicy. The streams of water so refreshing for dips and so cool to the throat.

EVE: Adam, God did give us all that we needed. He clothed our world in beauty and splendor and nourished our appetites with delicious fruit, berries, food and clothed us with the warmth of His love.

ADAM: Eve, How can we ever thank God enough, that once again He is with us.

EVE: Adam, will He be with our children and children's children?

ADAM: Yes, Eve, I'm sure God loves those who respond to His love. Those who, like us, see that all God ever wanted or ever wants is to love and take care of us; to take away the thistles and thorns; to cause the fields of clover to be beautiful; to give a bountiful harvest; to have the trees of fruit to be in abundance; to speak to us words of comfort, words of kindness, words of encouragement.

EVE: All that's in the world, Adam, it's here for those who love God. Those who respond to His love. Come, Adam, let's go tell our children lest they go through life without God's care.

ADAM: We can try, Eve, but one must let God come in. One must open the door of his life to God that God might come in.

EVE: Adam, how could one not want God's love, God's tender mercy?

ADAM: Remember, Eve, we thought we didn't. We must assume others feel as we did.

EVE: Oh, Adam, if they only knew. Come, let us tell our story. Perhaps some with listen. Some will find love and happiness. If only one, what rejoicing that will be.

ADAM: Eve, how great God is to forgive, to forget, to accept ones such as us back into His fold.

EVE: Adam, I believe He was there all the while. He knew we needed Him if we were to live. He knew if we were to be happy, we needed His love. He knew we were a part of Him, and without Him we would suffer and die.

ADAM: Let us pray we will always be His. We can always keep His garden.

EVE: Hold my hand, Adam. Let's walk with God, together.

— Kendall Hastings

**Church News**

*Sermon topic selected*

The First Baptist Church Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. with Superintendent Mrs. R.B. Gibbs in charge. Morning worship starts at 11:00 a.m. Pastor J.H. London is preaching from the subject "Living In A Haunted House" Matthew 12:45. Youth Day and the Adult Choir is singing under the direction of Larry Felton, organist.

The annual celebration of the Rev. J.H. London's birthday, is Sunday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. This is a fund raising for the Rev. London to attend the Hampton University Ministers Conference. The special guest will be the Liberty Gospel Singers of St. Stephens Baptist church along with other singers and solists of the area.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

**Freedom Fund banquet set**

The fourth annual freedom fund banquet will be held Saturday night at Poole's Grove Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, Woodville community at 6:00 p.m. The Gates County Gospel Caravan and the J.H. London singers will render the music. The Honorable Attorney Ronald Penny will be the guest speaker. The tickets are \$8.00 each. The Rev. J.H. London is president, the Rev. J.L. Wills is the host pastor.

A door prize will be given.

**Clinic schedule**

The Perquimans County Health Department schedule for the month of June is as follows: June 2, Prenatal, a.m.; Family Planning, p.m.; June 4, Pediatric Clinic, p.m.; June 6, General Clinic, p.m. and WIC all day. June 9, 8:00, teen clinic; June 10, prenatal Recheck, a.m.; June 11, Child Health, all day; June 13, General Clinic, p.m.; June 16, Prenatal, a.m. and Family Planning, p.m. June 18, Child Health, p.m.; June 20, General Clinic, p.m. WIC, all day; June 24, Prenatal Recheck, a.m.; June 26, Adult Health, all day and June 27, General Clinic, p.m.

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**Dear Friends,**

Occasionally a bereaved person will want to deny the death that has occurred. However, it is necessary for mental health to admit to yourself death's reality, even though it is a painful experience. One of the ways to impress the reality of death is to view the body lying in state. The acknowledgment of death by relatives and friends can then help the bereaved toward acceptance of death and start the wholesome process of grief and recovery.

Respectfully,  
*Larry S. Sell*

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**Pastors Needed.**

We are looking for local ministers that are willing to share their faith from time to time with our readers. If you would be interested in writing a brief spiritual (350-400 word) anecdote or testimonial on an occasional basis for our church page, please let us know.

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