



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

JEREMIAH 26:1-13

LESSON: GOD'S FAITHFUL JUSTICE—July 19, 2026

INTRODUCTION:

Jeremiah's birthplace was Anathoth in the land of Benjamin. Anathoth is the name of one of the Levitical cities given to "the children of Aaron" in the tribe of Benjamin. He is the son of a priest whose name is Hilkiyah. Hilkiyah discovered "the Book of the Law" in the Temple, in the 18th year of Josiah's reign. Since Jeremiah's father was a priest, that makes Jeremiah a "PK," a "priest's kid," or today's term a "preacher's kid." So, something had to rub off on Jeremiah. He was probably being groomed for the priesthood, but God had other plans for Jeremiah.

LESSON:

I. JEREMIAH 26:1-6

26:1 In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word from the Lord, saying,— Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah was a materialistic and self-centered king who persecuted and murdered innocent people. And God had to deal with Judah. So, early in Jehoiakim's reign, the Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah. ¹In other words, we're in a time period right after the exile of Jehoahaz, who reigned for only three months after King Josiah's death. So, here we are in Jeremiah 26 likely only a few months after the death of one of the godliest kings of Judah (Josiah). ²The reign of Jehoiakim was an active and difficult period in Jeremiah's life. That king was very different from his father, the reforming Josiah, whom Jeremiah commended for showing justice and righteousness. However, Jeremiah denounced Jehoiakim harshly for his selfishness, materialism, and practice of social injustice.

26:2 Thus saith the Lord; Stand in the court of the Lord's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the Lord's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:— the Lord gave specific instructions to Jeremiah.

- **Stand** in the court of the Lord's house—courtyard of the Lord's Temple.
- **Speak** to all the cities of Judah which come to worship in the Temple.
- **Speak All the words** that **I command** thee.
- **Diminish Not A Word!** That means don't leave anything out; don't omit a word.

THE TWO-FOLD WARNING:

1. **GOD WILL DELIVER US IF WE REPENT OF OUR EVIL (26:1-3).**

26:3 If so be they will hearken, and **turn every man from his evil way**, that I may **repent me of the evil**, which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings. Well, there's good news and there's bad news. Bad only if you don't obey. God is giving them an opportunity to come under His umbrella, and to not suffer the evil course. So, Jeremiah says to

¹ <https://www.explainingthebook.com/jeremiah-26-commentary/>

² <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jeremiah-Hebrew-prophet>
<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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those in the Temple who came to worship *"if you so listen and obey, and each man turn from his evil course, so that I may relent (become less severe or cruel), and withhold the evil which I plan to inflict upon you for your evil deeds."* This is God being lenient (merciful; compassionate).

2. GOD WILL DESTROY US AND THE TEMPLE IF WE REFUSE (26:4-6).

26:4 **And thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord; If ye will not hearken to me, to walk in my law, which I have set before you,—** However, Jeremiah's words from the Lord continues which was another option: *"If you will not listen and obey me, to walk in my law which I've set before you..."*

26:5 **To hearken to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I sent unto you, both rising up early, and sending them, but ye have not hearkened;—** Jeremiah says, *"Listen to the words of my servants the prophets."* Many prophets sent by the Lord had come and gone. Yes, the warnings came, but was ignored. Sending the prophets was a gracious act on God's part, but failure to listen and obey meant a rejection of God's grace!

26:6 **Then will I make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.** Well, now comes the consequences. God had no other choice when His offer was declined. This time became the last straw, and God's not putting up with it anymore. Jeremiah's word from the Lord says, *"Then I will make this Temple like Shiloh and it will make the city a curse to all the nations of the earth."*

Psalm 78:56-61 best tells what happened to Shiloh: **56** *"Yet they tempted and provoked the Most High God, and kept not His testimonies: 57 But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow. 58 For they provoked Him to anger with their high places, and moved Him to jealousy with their graven images. 59 When God heard this, He was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel: 60 So that He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which He placed among men; 61 And delivered His strength into captivity, and His glory into the enemy's hand."*

II. JEREMIAH 26:7-10

HIS ENEMIES:

(1) JUDAH'S WICKED PRIESTS — (2) PROPHETS — (3) AND OTHER PEOPLE (26:7-10). THEY WANTED DEATH (26:11).

26:7 **So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the Lord.** After the word Jeremiah gave, the crowd standing around became angry. Well, you probably wouldn't have thought it was the church people, but another crowd. No, it's the church people: priests prophets and all the people that were listening. They were the ones. The very ones who need God's Word are rejecting it.

26:8 **Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the Lord had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, Thou shalt surely die.** They did wait until he finished speaking the message from the Lord, then they let him have it. This was an ultimatum. These people were not just angry, they were infuriated for they uttered—*"Thou shalt surely die!"* These were death threats! These people didn't want to be changed.

26:9 **Why hast thou prophesied in the name of the Lord, saying, This house shall be like Shiloh,**





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and this city shall be desolate without an inhabitant? And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the Lord. To remind you, these people are gathered in the "house of the Lord." Even in today's times they have had fights in the Lord's house and thought nothing of it. Now, these people are wondering why Jeremiah had prophesied in such a way saying, "this is from the name of the Lord; what right did he have?" They seem to think all is well, and that God didn't have anything against them, they did no wrong. This is a shock to them that their city would be desolate and without inhabitants. They knew what happened in Shiloh, so they thought by killing the prophet, God wouldn't bother them. All they're thinking of is, "we've got to get him", so they all began to gather against Jeremiah; crowded around him in the Temple. Evidently, they've forgotten who God is; how mighty He is! And they didn't care who sent Jeremiah!

26:10 When the princes of Judah heard these things, then they came up from the king's house unto the house of the Lord, and sat down in the entry of the new gate of the Lord's house. Now things have changed. It was such a ruckus that when the princes of Judah (officials of Judah; civil magistrates) heard what was going on, they rushed over from the palace (the king's house) and sat down at the door of Temple of the new gate of the Lord's house to hold court (handle controversies). The dispute and controversy of the priest, prophets and all the other people were with and against Jeremiah, the Lord's prophet. I guess when you've done it once, you think you can get away with it another time (come at God's appointed vessel).

III. JEREMIAH 26:11-13

26:11 Then spake the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to all the people, saying, This man is worthy to die; for he hath prophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears. Seems like the accusers went first. The priests and the prophets sounded like the mob of priests that came against Jesus, crying crucify Him! They claimed to the authorities that Jeremiah had prophesied against the city, thereby committing treason. Mind you, the princes of Judah had not heard what Jeremiah had said. They were in the king's house, so they're only going on hear-say. It never fails, truth can be staring you in the face, and some will still deny it. We've got to remember the scriptures, and take note.

Isaiah 5:20 ESV says "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!"

2 Timothy 3:1-5 ESV "But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people."

HIS WITNESSES:

1. THE PROPHET HIMSELF (26:12-15).

26:12 Then spake Jeremiah unto all the princes and to all the people, saying, The Lord sent me to against this house and against this city all the words that ye have heard. Now it's time



for Jeremiah's to speak. Jeremiah defended himself in this extreme predicament to all the princes and to all the people, telling them that the Lord had sent him to prophesy. It wasn't him doing it along. Jeremiah spoke up for himself, for it was the Lord who told him to prophesy against this Temple and against this city. If you've said something to someone that needed to be said because the Lord had shown you something, and they ask, what made you say that? I would say my heart and the Spirit. Because the Spirit gives confirmation later after the incident had happened. He's always leading and in control. And truth is truth, and it don't ever change.

26:13 Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God; and the Lord will repent him of the evil that he hath pronounced against you. Jeremiah is back at it. He said what he had to say. So, now it's up to them. He's told them who sent him, now it's time to amend, make good your ways and deeds and obey the voice of the Lord your God. It's still within their power to make this right, to repent unto the Lord, for the Lord is ready to relent (*become less severe or cruel*) of the evil that would be pronounced against them.

SUMMARY:

In the early reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah came the word of the Lord to Jeremiah. His assignment was to stand in the Lord's court and speak all the Lord told him to speak and not to leave anything out. God is giving every man an opportunity to turn from evil so that He could be merciful. *"If the people of Judah will not listen to God to walk in His law which He set before them... and Listen to the words of God's servants the prophets whom He sent repeatedly..., and not listened, then the Lord will make their Temple like Shiloh and will make the city a curse to all the nations of the earth" (26:1-6).*

The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the Lord. Well, they waited until he finished speaking the message of all that the Lord had commanded him to speak, then the people let him have it. The priests, prophet, and all the people were not just angry, they were infuriated for they uttered—*"Thou shall surely die!"* Now, they're wondering why Jeremiah had prophesied in such a way saying this is from the Name of the Lord; what right did he have? This is a shock to them that their city would be desolate and without inhabitants. They knew what happened in Shiloh, so they thought to themselves that they had to get him, so they all began to gather against Jeremiah; they crowded around him in the Temple. When the high officials of Judah heard what was going on, they rushed over from the palace and sat down at the door of Temple to hold court (handle controversies) **(26:7-10).**

The priests and the prophets brought an accusation to the authorities that Jeremiah had prophesied against the city, thereby committing treason (26:11). Jeremiah still defended himself telling them the Lord sent him (26:12), gave them another warning (26:13), gave them room to mull over it by saying, do with me as you will (26:14), then he gave a final warning (26:15). **(26:11-15).**