

I. Importance of Commission in the Major Prophets

- A. Minor Prophets - look for the first illustration
- B. Major Prophets - look at the commission

II. Key Issues in Jeremiah's Commission

- A. Manner of the commission
 - 1. Jeremiah has no choice
 - a. Contrasted to Isaiah
 - b. Before you were born I knew you
 - c. I have appointed you
 - 2. Jeremiah's protest - I am a youth
 - 3. God's reply
 - a. Where I send you, you will go
 - b. What I give you, you will speak
 - c. I will protect you
 - 4. God chose a very sensitive man for a very difficult ministry
 - 5. I have appointed you over the nations and over the kingdoms
 - a. Humorous since Jeremiah was given so little respect
 - b. Jeremiah's words came to pass
 - c. Jeremiah's works still give blessing
- B. Visions given at the commission
 - 1. Almond rod
 - a. Almond tree blossoms were a sign of spring

b. Application: I will eventually fulfill all I am saying

- (1) This is important since there are over 40 years between the beginning of Jeremiah's ministry and the fall of Jerusalem

2. Pot facing out of the north

a. Kettle of boiling olive oil which has tipped over spilling its contents

b. Boiling oil speaks of judgment

c. Coming from the north indicates the judgement is an army from the Tigris - Euphrates area

- (1) At this point in time Assyria would be in mind

III. Jeremiah's Initial Message

A. I remember concerning you the devotions of your youth (2:2)

1. Love of the early period of their relationship

2. Because of this relationship departure is seen as adultery

B. Judah's sin

1. Unique among the nations - no one changes false Gods

2. Nature of the departure

a. Forsaken the fountain of living waters

b. Carve out cisterns

c. Despite the fact that the cisterns are unable to hold water Judah did not return to God