

GOD HAS SPOKEN

Jeremiah 1

I. Anathoth (v. 1-3)

- A. Close enough to observe their daily living, yet far enough to not be afraid.
- B. Prophet: a spokesman, a tool through which God's words are spoken.
 - 1. "Don't speak unless you're spoken to!" (Deut. 18:15-22)
- C. **Forthtelling** vs. **Foretelling** Prophecy?
 - 1. Forthtelling - Directs us to the heart of God.
 - 2. Foretelling - Directs us to coming events.

II. Appointment (v. 4-10)

- A. Jeremiah now has a Prophecy to tell, & a Protector to trust.
 - 1. God reassures Jeremiah by foreknowing his value & vocation.
- B. We now have a Gospel to declare, & a God to delight in.
 - 1. God reassures us by foreknowing our salvation & service.
- C. "I am directly involved in how & when you come into this world, and how & when you leave it."

III. Analogy (v. 11-19)

- A. The Almond Branch is a symbol of new hope.
 - 1. "As the almond tree watches for the spring, I will watch for my Word."
- B. The Boiling Pot is a symbol of coming judgment.
 - 1. "As the boiling pot is gradually poured out, so will My wrath be."
- C. The True Danger: not the retreating Assyrians, nor the approaching Babylonians, but the Lord Himself.
- D. The Battle: "Gird up your loins" - get a grip on your minds, so that you're able to run after what is good & flee from what is evil. (cf. 1 Peter 1:13)

*"Obedience is a God-sized risk for a God-sized call.
Disobedience is a man-sized risk for a man-sized result." - Steven Smith*