

EPISODE NO. 199

Jer. 1:1-10

God Called Jeremiah to Be a Prophet

1 These are the words of Jeremiah, the son of Hilkiah. He belonged to the family of priests who lived in the town of Anathoth. That town is in the land that belonged to the tribe of Benjamin. 2 Yahweh spoke His Word to Jeremiah. This happened during the 13th year that Josiah, the son of Amon, was the king of Judah. 3 The Always-Present One also spoke to Jeremiah while Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, was the king of Judah. And, God spoke to Jeremiah during the 11 years and 5 months that Zedekiah, the son of Josiah, was the king of Judah. After that, the people who lived in Jerusalem were taken away as slaves out of their country.

4 Yahweh spoke these words to me:

5 “Before I made you in your mother’s womb, I chose you.
Before you were born, I set you apart for a special work.
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

6 Then I said, “But, wait a minute, O Lord Yahweh, I don’t know how to speak well! I am only a boy!”

7 But Yahweh said to me, “Don’t say: ‘I am only a boy!’ You must go anywhere that I send you. And, you must say everything I tell you to say. 8 Don’t be afraid of anyone, because I am with you. I will protect you.” says Yahweh.

9 Then Yahweh reached out with His hand and touched my mouth. He said to me, “Behold, I am putting My words in your mouth. 10 Look, today I put you in charge of nations and of kingdoms. You will pull up and tear down. You will destroy, and you will overthrow. You will build up, and you will plant.”