



## The Imperfect Prophet

---

### Jeremiah, The Weeping Prophet

“The Lord Throws”, “The Lord exalts”, “The Lord establishes”

#### Character

##### *1. Self-analysis and Introspection*

###### **Jeremiah 10:24**

Correct me, Lord, but only with justice---not in your anger, lest you reduce me to nothing.

##### **2. Self-evaluation**

###### **Jeremiah 1:6**

“Ah, Sovereign Lord, “I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.”

##### **3. Self-pity**

###### **Jeremiah 15:10**

Alas, my mother, that you gave me birth, a man with whom the whole land strives and contents!

###### **Jeremiah 20:7-8**

...I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me.

Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the Lord has brought me insult and reproach all day long.

##### **4. Fiery preacher of righteousness**



**Jeremiah 5:14**

**Jeremiah 20:9**

**Jeremiah 23:29**

### **Interpersonal Struggles**

**I.** Prayed for vengeance against his enemies from a just God, but left it in the hands of the Lord

**a. Jeremiah 11:20**

But, O Lord Almighty, you who judge righteously and test the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

**b. Jeremiah 15:15**

You understand, O Lord; remember me and care for me. Avenge me on my persecutors. You are long-suffering---do not take me away; think of how I suffer reproach for your sake.

**c. Jeremiah 17:18**

Let my persecutors be put to shame; but keep me from shame; let them be terrified, but keep me from terror. Bring in them the day of disaster; destroy them with double destruction.

**d. Jeremiah 18:21**

So give their children over to famine; hand them over to the power of the sword. Let their wives be made childless and widows; let their men be put to death, let their young men be slain by the sword in battle.

### **II. Questioned God's decisions, but states a disclaimer at the beginning**

**a. Jeremiah 12:1**

You are always righteous, O Lord, when I bring a case before you. Yet I would speak with you



Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why do all the faithless live at ease?

**God's answer**

**Jeremiah 12:5** "If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? If you stumble in safe country how will you manage in the treacherous by the Jordan?"

**b. Jeremiah 15:18**

Why is my pain unending and my wounds grievous and incurable? Will you be to me a deceptive brook, like a spring that fails?

**c. Jeremiah 18:20**

Should good be repaid with evil? Yet they have dug a pit for me. Remember that I stood before you and spoke in their behalf to turn your wrath away from them.

**III. Challenged by people:**

**Jeremiah 17:15**

They keep saying to me, "Where is the word of the Lord? Let it now be fulfilled!"

**IV. Anguished in spirit for the condition of his people, the prophets of the day, and the leaders in the land**

**a. Jeremiah 9:1**

Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people.

**b. Jeremiah 10:19**

"Woe to me because of my injury!" My wound is incurable! Yet I said to myself, "This is my sickness, and I must endure it." (speaking prophetically on the behalf of Judah)

**c. Jeremiah 23:9-10**

Concerning the prophets of the land:

My heart is broken within me; all my bones tremble. I am like a drunken man, like a man



overcome with wine, because of the Lord and His holy words...The prophets follow an evil course and use their power unjustly.

#### **V. Trusted in God implicitly**

##### **Jeremiah 14:22**

Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, O Lord our God. Therefore our hope is in you, for you are the one who does all this.

#### **VI. Willingness to bring forth in the word of the Lord even to the point of imprisonment and even death**

##### **a. Jeremiah**

##### **b. Jeremiah 26:8**

But as soon as Jeremiah had finished saying all that the Lord had told him to say, the priests, the prophets, and the people seized him and said, "You must die!"

#### **VII. Had contempt for the false prophets of the day**

##### **a. Jeremiah 14:13-18**

##### **b. Jeremiah 23:13-40**

##### **c. Jeremiah 27:14-18**

##### **d. Jeremiah 28:15-16**

Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, "Listen, Hananiah! The Lord has not sent you, yet you have persuaded this nation to trust in lies. Therefore, this is what the Lord says: 'I am about to remove you from the face of the earth. This very year you are going to die, because you have preached rebellion against the Lord.'"

Vs 17 In the seventh month of that same year, Hananiah the prophet died.

##### **e. Jeremiah 29:24-32 Shemaiah**



## **VIII. Willingness to stand up against the kings of the day**

### **a. Jeremiah 34:2**

“This is what the Lord, the God of Israel says: Go to Zedekiah king of Judah and tell him, ‘This is what the Lord says: I am about to hand this city over to the king of Babylon, and he will burn it down.

### **b. Jeremiah 36:29-30**

Also tell Jehoiakim king of Judah, This is what the Lord says: ...

He will have no one to sit on the throne of David; his body will be thrown out and exposed to the heat by day and the frost by night.

## **IX. Known for holding His countrymen to standards of individual accountability**

### **Jeremiah 32:29-30**

### **Promise for the prophet from the Lord with a condition**

#### **a. Jeremiah 15:19**

“If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless words, you will be my spokesperson.” Let this people turn to you but you must not turn to them.

#### **b. Jeremiah 15:20**

“I will make you a wall to this people, a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you to rescue and save you.”