

# THE AGES DIGITAL LIBRARY COMMENTARY

## COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

### **Jeremiah**

*by Matthew Henry*

*To the Students of the Words, Works and Ways of God:*

Welcome to the AGES Digital Library. We trust your experience with this and other volumes in the Library fulfills our motto and vision which is our commitment to you:

MAKING THE WORDS OF THE WISE  
AVAILABLE TO ALL — INEXPENSIVELY.

*Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: New  
Modern Edition Database* Copyright © 1991, 1994 by  
Hendrickson Publishers, Inc. Used by Permission.  
All Rights Reserved

**AGES Software, Rio, WI USA**  
**Version 2.0 © 2006**

# AN EXPOSITION, WITH PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS, OF

## THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET

### JEREMIAH

The Prophecies of the Old Testament, as the Epistles of the New, are placed rather according to their bulk than their seniority — the longest first, not the oldest. There were several prophets, and writing ones, that were contemporaries with Isaiah, as Micah, or a little before him, as Hosea, and Joel, and Amos, or soon after him, as Habakkuk and Nahum are supposed to have been; and yet the prophecy of Jeremiah, who began many years after Isaiah finished, is placed next to his, because there is so much in it. Where we meet with most of God's word, there let the preference be given; and yet those of less gifts are not to be despised nor excluded. Nothing now occurs to be observed further concerning prophecy in general; but concerning this prophet Jeremiah we may observe,

**I.** That he was betimes a prophet; he began young, and therefore could say, from his own experience, that it is good for a man to *bear the yoke in his youth*, the yoke both of service and of affliction, <sup><2187></sup>Lamentations 3:27. Jerome observes that Isaiah, who had more years over his head, had his tongue touched with a coal of fire, to purge away his iniquity (6:7), but that when God touched Jeremiah's mouth, who was yet but young, nothing was said of the purging of his iniquity (1:9), because, by reason of his tender years, he had not so much sin to answer for.

**II.** That he continued long a prophet, some reckon fifty years, others above forty. He began in the thirteenth year of Josiah, when things went well under that good king, but he continued through all the wicked reigns that followed; for when we set out for the service of God, though the wind may then be fair and favourable, we know not how soon it may turn and be tempestuous.

**III.** That he was a reproving prophet, was sent in God's name to tell Jacob of their sins and to warn them of the judgments of God that were coming upon them; and the critics observe that therefore his style or manner of

speaking is more plain and rough, and less polite, than that of Isaiah and some others of the prophets. Those that are sent to discover sin ought to lay aside the enticing words of man's wisdom. Plain-dealing is best when we are dealing with sinners to bring them to repentance.

**IV.** That he was a weeping prophet; so he is commonly called, not only because he penned the Lamentations, but because he was all along a mournful spectator of the sins of his people and of the desolating judgments that were coming upon them. And for this reason, perhaps, those who imagined our Saviour to be one of the prophets thought him of any of them to be most like to Jeremiah (~~4164~~ Matthew 16:14), because he was *a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief*.

**V.** That he was a suffering prophet. He was persecuted by his own people more than any of them, as we shall find in the story of this book; for he lived and preached just before the Jews' destruction by the Chaldeans, when their character seems to have been the same as it was just before their destruction by the Romans, when they *killed the Lord Jesus, and persecuted his disciples, pleased not God, and were contrary to all men, for wrath had come upon them to the uttermost,* ~~5105~~ 1 Thessalonians 2:15, 16. The last account we have of him in his history is that the remaining Jews forced him to go down with them into Egypt; whereas the current tradition is, among Jews and Christians, that he suffered martyrdom. Hottinger, out of Elmakin, an Arabic historian, relates that, continuing to prophesy in Egypt against the Egyptians and other nations, he was stoned to death; and that long after, when Alexander entered Egypt, he took up the bones of Jeremiah where they were buried in obscurity, and carried them to Alexandria, and buried them there. The prophecies of this book which we have in the first nineteen chapters seem to be the heads of the sermons he preached in a way of general reproof for sin and denunciation of judgment; afterwards they are more particular and occasional, and mixed with the history of his day, but not placed in due order of time. With the threatenings are intermixed many gracious promises of mercy to the penitent, of the deliverance of the Jews out of their captivity, and some that have a plain reference to the kingdom of the Messiah. Among the Apocryphal writings an epistle is extant said to be written by Jeremiah to the captives in Babylon, warning them against the worship of idols, by exposing the vanity of idols and the folly of idolaters. It is in Baruch, ch. 6. But it is supposed not to be authentic; nor has it, I think, any thing like

the life and spirit of Jeremiah's writings. It is also related concerning Jeremiah (2 Mac. 2:4) that, when Jerusalem was destroyed by the Chaldeans, he, by direction from God, took the ark and the altar of incense, and, carrying them to Mount Nebo lodged them in a hollow cave there and stopped the door; but some that followed him, and thought that they had marked the place, could not find it. He blamed them for seeking it, telling them that the place should be unknown till the time that God should gather his people together again. But I know not what credit is to be given to that story, though it is there said to be found in the records. We cannot but be concerned, in the reading of Jeremiah's prophecies, to find that they were so little regarded by the men of that generation; but let us make use of that as a reason why we should regard them the more; for they are written for our learning too, and for warning to us and to our land.

Matthew Henry's Complete Bible Commentary provides an exhaustive look at every verse. Study the bible online. Please enter your email address associated with your Salem All-Pass account, then click Continue. We'll send you an email with steps on how to reset your password. Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Bible Author(s): Henry, Matthew Publisher: Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library Description: The Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible brings exceptional depth to familiar Biblical passages. Henry astutely presents the historical and cultural background for each book of the Bible, always beginning with a brief summary of the book's setting and larger purpose. This work is a one-volume abridgement of Henry's greatest work, so the text is less cumbersome than that of the original publication; yet it might still require an An Online Bible Commentary You Can Understand. Welcome to BibleRef.com, the free online Bible study site. Our goal is to provide easy-to-understand discussion of the Scriptures, without relying on jargon or slogans. Here, you can find book-by-book, chapter-by-chapter, and verse-by-verse commentary on the entire Bible (eventually). At the same time, you'll find links to related passages and biblical themes. These connections will help to show how the Scriptures fit together. And, we believe in promoting a whole-person commitment to Christianity, including thoughts, deeds, and actions. New content is constantly under development, so feel free to subscribe for updates. Have a look around, and thanks again for visiting BibleRef.com! Conservative and devotional commentary on the whole Bible by a Church of Christ scholar, James Burton Coffman. Useful for beginning students, but rather florid in style, and theologically Arminian. Adam Clarke's Commentaries. The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge. Not really a commentary, but a collection of cross-references for every verse of the Bible. Scripture is its own best interpreter! Commentaries on the Old Testament. Whole Bible Commentaries. 1. Barnes' Notes 2. Benson Commentary 3. Biblical Illustrator 4. Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges 5. Clarke's Commentary 6. Darby's Bible Synopsis 7. Expositor's Bible Commentary 8. Expositor's Dictionary of Texts 9. Geneva Study Bible 10. Gill's Bible Exposition 11. Gray's Concise Bible Commentary 12. Guzik Bible Commentary 13. Jamieson-Fausset-Brown 14. KJV Translator's Notes 15. Lange Commentary on the Holy Scriptures 16. Essential 40: Summaries, Commentaries, Bible Studies, Outlines BibleSupport.com: E-Sword Modules, Tools, Support "Study Notes on the Holy Scriptures" by Gary Everett FreeBibleCommentary.org - Bible commentaries in 25 Languages. Directory. Law.

A Free Biblical Commentary Developed Over the Last Twenty Years. For over twenty years Pastor David Guzik has been researching each Bible Passage and creating what Thousands of people have come to know as The Enduring Word Bible Commentary. Organized Chapter by Chapter and Verse by Verse. Finally, a free Bible Commentary that is easy to use and organized chapter by chapter. Each chapter is also outlined verse by verse through the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Moreover, it is easy to understand and has become a daily guide to the Scriptures by Pastors, Bible Teachers, Sunday School Le Conservative and devotional commentary on the whole Bible by a Church of Christ scholar, James Burton Coffman. Useful for beginning students, but rather florid in style, and theologically Arminian. Adam Clarke's Commentaries.Â The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge. Not really a commentary, but a collection of cross-references for every verse of the Bible. Scripture is its own best interpreter! Commentaries on the Old Testament. Matthew Henry's Complete Bible Commentary provides an exhaustive look at every verse. Study the bible online.Â Please enter your email address associated with your Salem All-Pass account, then click Continue. We'll send you an email with steps on how to reset your password. Whole Bible Commentaries. 1. Barnes' Notes 2. Benson Commentary 3. Biblical Illustrator 4. Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges 5. Clarke's Commentary 6. Darby's Bible Synopsis 7. Expositor's Bible Commentary 8. Expositor's Dictionary of Texts 9. Geneva Study Bible 10. Gill's Bible Exposition 11. Gray's Concise Bible Commentary 12. Guzik Bible Commentary 13. Jamieson-Fausset-Brown 14. KJV Translator's Notes 15. Lange Commentary on the Holy Scriptures 16.Â Essential 40: Summaries, Commentaries, Bible Studies, Outlines BibleSupport.com: E-Sword Modules, Tools, Support "Study Notes on the Holy Scriptures" by Gary Everett FreeBibleCommentary.org - Bible commentaries in 25 Languages. Directory. Law. This is an outline of commentaries and commentators. Discussed are the salient points of Jewish, patristic, medieval, and modern commentaries on the Bible. The article includes discussion of the Targums, Mishna, and Talmuds, which are not regarded as Bible commentaries in the modern sense of the word, but which provide the foundation for later commentary. With the exception of these classical Jewish works, this article focuses on Christian Biblical commentaries; for more on Jewish Biblical