

The Bible Jesus Used

A Gospel-Centered Glance at the Old Testament

Bethlehem Baptist Church, sp 2013
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Review

❖ **Synthesis of Israel's problem: Two evils (Jer 2:13)—forsaken the source of life and pursued what will not satisfy**

❖ **No fear of God (2:19)**

❖ **Unfaithful wife,
following false gods
(2:19; 5:7, 19)**

❖ **Spiritual disability
(5:21)**

❖ **Stubborn and rebellious
(5:23)**

❖ **Sinful deeds with false
presumption of God's
favor (7:4–11)**

❖ **No knowledge of God's
law (8:7)**

❖ **No knowledge of God
(9:3)**

Review

- ❖ **Synthesis of Israel's problem: Two evils (Jer 2:13)—forsaken the source of life and pursued what will not satisfy**
- ❖ **The prophets were covenant ambassadors, sent . . .**
 - ❖ **As preachers** to call the people back to relationship with Yahweh (Jer 11:1, 9–13);
 - ❖ **As prayers**, called to ward off God's impending judgment by interceding for God's people.

❖ The prophets as *prayers* (intercession):

❖ Jer. 11:12–17.

- ❖ God charged *Jeremiah* to act opposite of his prophetic role: “Do not pray for this people, or lift up a cry or prayer on their behalf, for I will not listen” (Jer. 11:14; cf. 7:16; 14:11–12).
- ❖ Jeremiah’s response: he proclaimed God’s word *and prayed* (e.g., 14:7–9; 17:1–13, esp. v. 13)
- ❖ He later implored God to protect him in return for his standing on behalf of the people before God: “Remember how I stood before you to speak good for [the people], to turn away your wrath from them” (18:20).

❖ Other examples:

- ❖ *Abraham's* role as prophet was closely tied to his praying for sinners to enjoy divine pardon (Gen. 20:7; cf. 18:22–33).
- ❖ *Samuel* said he would sin if he failed to pray for the people, along with teaching them the ways of God (1 Sam. 12:23)
- ❖ God told *Ezekiel* that sin caused a breach in Israel's defensive wall and that he sought a man to “build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land, that I should not destroy it” (Ezek. 22:30). To Israel's destruction, none could be found.

- ❖ The psalmist declares that at the golden calf incident *Moses* “stood in the breach before [God], to turn away his wrath from destroying them” (Ps. 106:23).
- ❖ Twice *Amos* pled with Yahweh to forgive Israel and to stop his judgment against the northern kingdom, and Yahweh relented (Amos 7:1–3, 4–6).

- ❖ The NT apostle and elder as an extension of the prophets: men of the word and prayer
- ❖ Acts 6:2–4. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves **to prayer and to the ministry of the word**.”
- ❖ Phil. 1:1. Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons.

A Broad Overview of Jeremiah's New Covenant

- ❖ **A New Temple and People and the Fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant (Jer 3:16–18 and 4:1–2)**
 - ❖ The return to Yahweh and reunification of Israel (3:14, 18)
 - ❖ The inclusion of transformed Gentiles (3:17 with 5:23; 17:1)
 - ❖ A new ark of the covenant (3:16–17)

❖ **A new ark of the covenant (3:16–17)**

- ❖ **Jer. 17:1**. The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron; with a point of diamond it is engraved on the tablet of their heart.
- ❖ **Jer. 31:33**. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares Yahweh: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.
- ❖ **2 Cor. 3:3, 6**. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. . . . 6 [God] has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

- ❖ **The fulfillment of the Abrahamic covenant (4:1–2; cf. Gen. 12:3; 22:18)**