

## JEREMIAH HAD A CHOICE TO MAKE

Jeremiah 1:5 I knew you, I formed you, I chose you for service before you were born, I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Principle: God chooses for “faithful service” those who have a humble repentant heart and who have received new birth.

God had foreknowledge of Jeremiah’s humble believing spirit, including his reluctant acceptance of this appointment as prophet.

God has foreknowledge of what every person will do with the potential given.

God formed Jeremiah at conception giving him potential for ministry as a prophet.

God forms all life with potential for living and displaying His image.

God did not force Jeremiah to accept his appointment, nor did God force Jeremiah to complete his assignment. Jer. 15:19 God rebuked Jeremiah for his doubt and self-pity. If you return to Me, I will restore you, and you shall stand before Me. If you utter the truth, you shall be as my mouth. They shall have opportunity to turn to Me, but you shall not do their bidding.

God does not force any person to turn to God, pursue righteousness, and have a holy purpose.

Read Jeremiah 1:4-10 All are made in the image of God at conception to display His glory.

Jeremiah had a humble and repentant heart seeking for God, and he had to repent in times of doubt and self-pity throughout his ministry.

The life of every believer consists of continued repentance, continued confessing with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and continued calling upon the name of Jesus.

There are three stages in your salvation. Your work, in stage two, is to let God do His work in you. Our work is simple yet it is not easy. Confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, talk to Jesus about everything, and receive His directives. God will empower that which He directs.

Philippians 2:12 “Work out your salvation with fear and trembling”

**Jeremiah was the “weeping prophet” because no matter how hard he tried, the people would not listen. The people of Judah had become so hardened by sin that they no longer believed God, nor did they fear Him.**

**Jeremiah preached for 40 years, and not once did he see any real success in changing or softening the hearts and minds of stubborn, idolatrous people.**

**Israel continued to set up kings contrary to God’s will because of their idolatrous hearts.**

**God allows leadership to arise in a nation that is evil and destructive to purge out idolatry.**

**Hosea 8:3,4 Israel has rejected what is good; an enemy will pursue him. Israel set up kings without My consent; they choose princes without My approval.**

**Romans 13:1b The authorities that exist have been established by God.**