

# Jeremiah 25:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The which Jeremiah the prophet spake unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying,

## Analysis

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**The which Jeremiah the prophet spake unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem**—This comprehensive audience indicates the universal scope of God's message. The Hebrew *nābî* (נָבִי, prophet) identifies Jeremiah as God's authorized spokesman, one who speaks not his own thoughts but divine revelation. The inclusion of both 'people of Judah' and 'inhabitants of Jerusalem' emphasizes that rural and urban populations alike stood under this word of judgment.

Jeremiah's public proclamation of this message required immense courage. He was declaring imminent destruction to a nation that wanted to hear promises of peace (6:14, 8:11). False prophets were proclaiming prosperity while Jeremiah announced catastrophe. This pattern—God's messenger standing alone against popular religious sentiment—appears throughout Scripture. Micaiah versus the 400 false prophets (1 Kings 22), Jesus versus the religious establishment, Paul versus the Judaizers. Truth is not determined by majority opinion but by conformity to God's revealed word.

## Historical Context

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Jerusalem in 605 BC was still intact, the temple functioning, sacrifices being offered. To the casual observer, covenant life appeared normal. Yet spiritual reality contradicted external appearances—the people had abandoned Yahweh for idols while maintaining religious rituals. Jeremiah's public proclamation of this message

likely occurred in the temple courts, where he frequently preached (7:2, 19:14, 26:2). His message was considered treasonous by many, as it predicted Judah's defeat.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What gives a prophet or preacher the authority to proclaim an unpopular message, and how can we discern true from false authority?
2. How can religious activity and external observance coexist with spiritual apostasy, and what does this reveal about the nature of genuine faith?
3. In what ways might we be tempted to prefer comforting messages over the challenging truth of God's word?

## Interlinear Text

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רֹאשׁ רְבָבִיא יְרֵמִי הָוּ בְּלִי עַל כָּל עַם  
H834 spake The which Jeremiah the prophet H5921 H3605 unto all the people  
H1696 H3414 H5030 H5971

לְאָמַר: יְרוּשָׁלָם וְשַׁבְּ בָּיִת כָּל וְאֶל יְהוָה הָיָה  
of Jerusalem saying and to all the inhabitants of Judah  
H559 H3389 H3427 H3605 H413 H3063

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 18:11** (References Jerusalem): Now therefore go to, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you: return ye now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.

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