

Thoughts on Jeremiah 22

When Jeremiah re-dictated his prophecies to Baruch, the order of Jeremiah became jumbled. Since re-dictation took place in 604 (5th year of Jehoiakim), then:

- vs. 1-9 refers to Jehoiakim, given at the time of the re-dictation (604)
- vs. 10-12 seems to be in past tense (after Jehoahaz had been taken to Egypt) – 608
- vs. 13-23 relates to Jehoiakim and could have been given in 608, but since there seems to have been time to show the actions of Jehoiakim, a 598 date may seem best (just before his death).
- Vs. 21 may be the reason Jehoahaz was chosen over Jehoiakim to succeed Josiah.
- vs.24-30 regarding Jehoiachin in 598. He and his mother are mentioned in vs. 26 and also in 13:18 and 21:2. I link ch 13 to this time, even though the early part of the chapter is un-dateable.
- Overall, this chapter seems to be stitched together with prophecies from different times. Baruch must have done some editing of Jeremiah's prophecies, but he did not complete the job.

Other notes

- Ch 26 seems to be the consequences of the Temple Addresses in ch 7-10 and 608 seems reasonable.
- 36:1-8 (the command to write down the prophecies) dated as 605 must have been given before 25:13.
- Ch 46-49 (except Elam in 49:34-39) must come before ch 25:13 also.
- Ch 35 (the Recabites) must have happened before ch 20 for it seems reasonable that Jeremiah would have been banned from the Temple after 20:6. Vs 7-18 may have been prompted by his ban.
- Note in ch 14-19, Babylon is not mentioned by name – only "the land of the north" or "a land you do not know." It's possible that Jeremiah was uncertain (though God would know and Isaiah foretold it) just who was coming from the north, and hence would be early Jehoiakim.
- Ch 20, which seems to follow ch 19, mentions Babylon as does ch 35 which must come before ch 20 if the banning took place after 20:6.

Suggested order

606 – ch 14-19 (before Babylon invaded Judah, after defeating the Egyptians at Carchemish in 605)

605 – in the following order: ch 35, 20, 46-49 (except Elam), 36:1-8, ch 25, 45

604 – 36:9-32 (5th year of Jehoiakim)

598 – 22:24-30 and ch 13

597 – in the following order: 52:1-2, ch 24, 49:34-39, ch 23

Another suggested chronology of Jeremiah:

608 = 22:1-19, then ch. 26

607 = none

606 = none

605 = 46-49, then 25:1-13 (with 25:13 being a key reference), then 36:1-8

604 = ch. 35 ??? (the Recabites are seeking refuge from famine, invasion; Plus, Jeremiah still has access to the Temple Mount), then ch. 45; then 36:9-32

603 = 13-20

602 = none

601 = none

600 = none

599 = none

598 = 22:20-30 ???

597 = 24