

The Broken Covenant and the Resulting Judgment

11:1 to 12:17

During the reign of Josiah

This message from **God's prophet** focuses on **Judah's broken covenant (11:1-17)**. Though the message itself is not dated, several indicators help date the passage to 621 BC, six years after **Jeremiah** began his ministry. That year the Temple was being repaired as part of King Josiah's reforms, and a copy of the scroll of **Deuteronomy** was discovered in the renovation (see **Ai - Josiah Ruled For 31 Years from 640 to 609 BC**). Several of **Yirmeyahu's** references seem to allude to this discovery of the **Second Law** and the realization of just how badly **they** had missed the mark. **God's prophet** called on the **people** to heed the words of the **covenant** that Josiah read to **them**.

The consequences of violating the **covenant** were devastating (11:18-12:17). The **people** responded to **Jeremiah's** rebuke by trying to kill **him**, but **God revealed their plot to him**. This was the first episode in **their** continuing opposition to **his** ministry. The **prophet's** response was to ask **Ha'Shem** to execute **His vengeance on the conspirators**. **God** responded by assuring **Yirmeyahu** of **His** swift judgment. The plot against **Jeremiah** was formulated by **the men of Anathoth**, **Yirmeyahu's** own hometown, who ordered **him not to prophesy or he would die by their hands**. **YHVH** promised to punish **the rebels with the sword and with famine**. **Anathoth** would suffer disaster because of **her** opposition to the **LORD's messenger**.