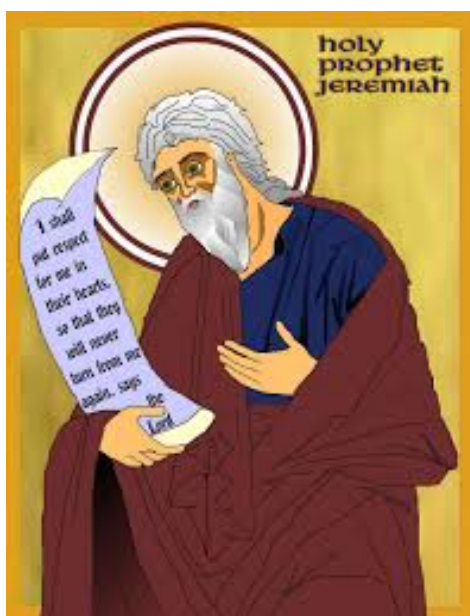


## JEREMIAH

### Jeremiah 1 : 4 – 10

*Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.' Then I said, 'Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' But the LORD said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.' Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'*



God chose Jeremiah before he was born to bring God's word to the nations. Like Moses, and Isaiah, Jeremiah was very aware of his own limitations, for Jeremiah he felt too young and inexperienced. Again, like other divine calls, God's answer is 'Do not be afraid.... For I am with you.'

It is curious that in his call, Jeremiah encountered God in some sort of human form: 'the Lord put out his hand and touched his mouth.' (Jeremiah 1: 9). This is similar to the call of Samuel who also experienced God with human characteristics: 'the Lord came and stood there' (1 Samuel 3: 10). In the Hebrew Scriptures it is very unusual for God to have human features. It is more usual for God to use human beings to speak his words and

proclaim is message of love.

- Who has spoken God's word to you?
- Who has been the human face of God for you?
- Using your imagination listen to God speaking to you saying '*You shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you*'  
What is your reaction to these words.
- In you Bible read the words God spoke to Jeremiah in Jeremiah 29 : 11 – 14.  
What would you like God's plans to be for you