

<sup>1</sup>The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkihah,  
of the priests that were in Anathoth in the  
land of Benjamin:<sup>2</sup>To whom the word of  
the LORD came in the days of Josiah the  
son of Amon king of Judah, in the  
thirteenth year of his reign.<sup>3</sup>It came also in  
the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah  
king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh  
year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of  
Judah, unto the carrying away of  
Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.<sup>4</sup>Then  
the word of the LORD came unto me,  
saying,<sup>5</sup>Before I formed thee in the belly I  
knew thee; and before thou camest forth  
out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I  
ordained thee a prophet unto the  
nations.<sup>6</sup>Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD!  
behold, I cannot speak: for I am a  
child.<sup>7</sup>But the LORD said unto me, Say not,  
I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I  
shall send thee, and whatsoever I  
command thee thou shalt speak.<sup>8</sup>Be not  
afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to  
deliver thee, saith the LORD.<sup>9</sup>Then the  
LORD put forth his hand, and touched my  
mouth. And the LORD said unto me,  
Behold, I have put my words in thy  
mouth.<sup>10</sup>See, I have this day set thee over  
the nations and over the kingdoms, to root  
out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and  
to throw down, to build, and to  
plant.<sup>11</sup>Moreover the word of the LORD  
came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what  
seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an  
almond tree.<sup>12</sup>Then said the LORD unto  
me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten  
my word to perform it.<sup>13</sup>And the word of  
the LORD came unto me the second time,  
saying, What seest thou? And I said, I see

a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north.<sup>14</sup> Then the LORD said unto me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land.<sup>15</sup> For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.<sup>16</sup> And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.<sup>17</sup> Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them.<sup>18</sup> For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brasen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land.<sup>19</sup> And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.