

HANDOUT: BARUCH LESSON 1

The Book of Baruch is divided into five parts:

Part I: Introduction: Baruch and the Jews in Babylon (1:1-14).

Part II: A prayer of the exiles admitting the covenant people’s guilt but expressing hope for redemption (1:15-3:8).

Part III: A wisdom poem in which “Wisdom” is identified with the Law (3:9-4:4).

Part IV: A prophetic passage that personified Jerusalem addresses the exiles and consoles them with reminders of Messianic hopes (4:5-5:9).

Part V: A copy of Jeremiah’s letter to those about to be led as captives to Babylon, telling them what God had commanded him (6:1-72).

Summary Outline for the Book of Baruch

BIBLICAL PERIOD	The Babylonian Conquest of Judah				
FOCUS	Baruch’s Letter to the Babylonian Exiles			Jeremiah’s Letter	
COVENANT	The Sinai Covenant and Davidic Covenant				
SCRIPTURE	1:1-----1:15-----3:9-----4:5-----6:1-----72				
DIVISION	Introduction	Prayer admitting guilt	A Wisdom poem	Personified Jerusalem consoles the exiles	Jeremiah’s letter to the exiles
TOPIC	Jeremiah’s book read to the exiles	Confession of sins	Hope in the mercy of God	Messianic promises	Their fate is in the hands of Israel’s true God
LOCATION	Citizens of Judah and Jerusalem living in the Babylonian Exile				
TIME	582 BC, on the 5 th anniversary of the fall of Jerusalem				