The Bible does not specify Jeremiah’s exact age when God called him. However, many biblical scholars estimate he was about 17 to 20 years old, possibly even younger. This estimate comes from Jeremiah’s own response and cultural context.

When God called Jeremiah, he said, “I am only a child” (Jeremiah 1:6). This reflects his sense of inadequacy and youthfulness. Theologically, this highlights a key biblical theme: God often calls the humble and seemingly unqualified to fulfill His purposes (see 1 Corinthians 1:27-29).

Jeremiah 1:4-7 says:

> “The word of the Lord came to me, saying,
> ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.’
> ‘Alas, Sovereign Lord,’ I said, ‘I do not know how to speak; I am too young.’
> But the Lord said to me, ‘Do not say, “I am too young.” You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.’”

This passage reveals God’s sovereignty and His purpose in predestining Jeremiah as a prophet before his birth (see also Psalm 139:13-16). It also emphasizes God’s empowerment, assuring Jeremiah that despite his youth, God would equip him for the task.

Additionally, Jeremiah came from a priestly family. According to Numbers 8:24

> “This applies to the Levites: Twenty-five years old or more shall come to take part in the work at the tent of meeting.”

This suggests that Jeremiah, if younger than 25, may have felt unprepared to serve, reinforcing his hesitation.

When you feel God’s call, respond immediately. Don’t wait for the “right” age, situation, or qualification. God can use anyone—young or old—to fulfill His purposes. Trust in His promise to be with you and strengthen you.

May God bless you richly.

Shalom.

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