

Jeremiah 1:1-19

¹ The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,

² 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.

³ It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the exile of Jerusalem in the fifth month.

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
And before you were born I consecrated you;
I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ Then I said, “Alas, Lord GOD!
Behold, I do not know how to speak,
Because I am a youth.”

⁷ But the LORD said to me,
“Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’
Because everywhere I send you, you shall go,
And all that I command you, you shall speak.

⁸ “Do not be afraid of them,
For I am with you to deliver you,” declares the LORD.

⁹ Then the LORD stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me,
“Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

¹⁰ “See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms,
To pluck up and to break down,
To destroy and to overthrow,
To build and to plant.”

- ¹¹ The word of the LORD came to me saying, “What do you see, Jeremiah?” And I said, “I see a rod of an almond tree.”
- ¹² Then the LORD said to me, “You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it.”
- ¹³ The word of the LORD came to me a second time saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a boiling pot, facing away from the north.”
- ¹⁴ Then the LORD said to me, “Out of the north the evil will break forth on all the inhabitants of the land.
- ¹⁵ For, behold, I am calling all the families of the kingdoms of the north,” declares the LORD; “and they will come and they will set each one his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all its walls round about and against all the cities of Judah.
- ¹⁶ I will pronounce My judgments on them concerning all their wickedness, whereby they have forsaken Me and have offered sacrifices to other gods, and worshiped the works of their own hands.
- ¹⁷ Now, gird up your loins and arise, and speak to them all which I command you. Do not be dismayed before them, or I will dismay you before them.
- ¹⁸ Now behold, I have made you today as a fortified city and as a pillar of iron and as walls of bronze against the whole land, to the kings of Judah, to its princes, to its priests and to the people of the land.
- ¹⁹ They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you,” declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 2:1-13

2 Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ²“Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem,

saying, ‘Thus says the LORD,

“I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth,

The love of your betrothals,

Your following after Me in the wilderness,

Through a land not sown.

³“Israel was holy to the LORD,

The first of His harvest.

All who ate of it became guilty;

Evil came upon them,” declares the LORD.””

⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

⁵ Thus says the LORD,

“What injustice did your fathers find in Me,

That they went far from Me

And walked after emptiness and became empty?

⁶“They did not say, ‘Where is the LORD

Who brought us up out of the land of Egypt,

Who led us through the wilderness,

Through a land of deserts and of pits,

Through a land of drought and of deep darkness,

Through a land that no one crossed

And where no man dwelt?’

⁷“I brought you into the fruitful land

To eat its fruit and its good things.

But you came and defiled My land,

And My inheritance you made an abomination.

⁸“The priests did not say, ‘Where is the LORD?’

And those who handle the law did not know Me;

The rulers also transgressed against Me,

And the prophets prophesied by Baal

And walked after things that did not profit.

⁹“Therefore I will yet contend with you,” declares the LORD,

“And with your sons’ sons I will contend.

¹⁰“For cross to the coastlands of Kittim and see,

And send to Kedar and observe closely

And see if there has been such *a thing* as this!

¹¹“Has a nation changed gods

When they were not gods?

But My people have changed their glory

For that which does not profit.

¹²“Be appalled, O heavens, at this,

And shudder, be very desolate,” declares the LORD.

¹³“For My people have committed two evils:

They have forsaken Me,

The fountain of living waters,

To hew for themselves cisterns,

Broken cisterns

That can hold no water.

Jeremiah 7:1-15

⁷ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

² “Stand in the gate of the LORD’S house and proclaim there this word and say, ‘Hear the word of the LORD, all you of Judah, who enter by these gates to worship the LORD!’”

³ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, “Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you dwell in this place.

⁴ Do not trust in deceptive words, saying, ‘This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.’

⁵ For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly practice justice between a man and his neighbor,

⁶ if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, nor walk after other gods to your own ruin,

⁷ then I will let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.

⁸ “Behold, you are trusting in deceptive words to no avail.

⁹ Will you steal, murder, and commit adultery and swear falsely, and offer sacrifices to Baal and walk after other gods that you have not known,

¹⁰ then come and stand before Me in this house, which is called by My name, and say, ‘We are delivered!’—that you may do all these abominations?

¹¹ Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of robbers in your sight? Behold, I, even I, have seen *it*,” declares the LORD.

¹² “But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I made My name dwell at the first, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel.

¹³ And now, because you have done all these things,” declares the LORD, “and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you but you did not answer,

¹⁴ therefore, I will do to the house which is called by My name, in which you trust, and to the place which I gave you and your fathers, as I did to Shiloh.

¹⁵ I will cast you out of My sight, as I have cast out all your brothers, all the offspring of Ephraim.

Jeremiah 17:1-11

17 The sin of Judah is written down with an iron stylus;

With a diamond point it is engraved upon the tablet of their heart

And on the horns of their altars,

² As they remember their children,

So they *remember* their altars and their Asherim

By green trees on the high hills.

³ O mountain of Mine in the countryside,

I will give over your wealth and all your treasures for booty,

Your high places for sin throughout your borders.

⁴ And you will, even of yourself, let go of your inheritance

That I gave you;

And I will make you serve your enemies

In the land which you do not know;

For you have kindled a fire in My anger

Which will burn forever.

⁵ Thus says the LORD,

“Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind

And makes flesh his strength,

And whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶ “For he will be like a bush in the desert

And will not see when prosperity comes,

But will live in stony wastes in the wilderness,

A land of salt without inhabitant.

⁷ “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD

And whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ “For he will be like a tree planted by the water,

That extends its roots by a stream

And will not fear when the heat comes;

But its leaves will be green,

And it will not be anxious in a year of drought

Nor cease to yield fruit.

⁹“The heart is more deceitful than all else

And is desperately sick;

Who can understand it?

¹⁰“I, the LORD, search the heart,

I test the mind,

Even to give to each man according to his ways,

According to the results of his deeds.

¹¹“As a partridge that hatches eggs which it has not laid,

So is he who makes a fortune, but unjustly;

In the midst of his days it will forsake him,

And in the end he will be a fool.”

Jeremiah 17:19-27

- ¹⁹ Thus the LORD said to me, “Go and stand in the public gate, through which the kings of Judah come in and go out, as well as in all the gates of Jerusalem;
- ²⁰ and say to them, ‘Listen to the word of the LORD, kings of Judah, and all Judah and all inhabitants of Jerusalem who come in through these gates:
- ²¹ Thus says the LORD, “Take heed for yourselves, and do not carry any load on the sabbath day or bring anything in through the gates of Jerusalem.
- ²² You shall not bring a load out of your houses on the sabbath day nor do any work, but keep the sabbath day holy, as I commanded your forefathers.
- ²³ Yet they did not listen or incline their ears, but stiffened their necks in order not to listen or take correction.
- ²⁴ “But it will come about, if you listen attentively to Me,” declares the LORD, “to bring no load in through the gates of this city on the sabbath day, but to keep the sabbath day holy by doing no work on it,
- ²⁵ then there will come in through the gates of this city kings and princes sitting on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and this city will be inhabited forever.
- ²⁶ They will come in from the cities of Judah and from the environs of Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin, from the lowland, from the hill country and from the Negev, bringing burnt offerings, sacrifices, grain offerings and incense, and bringing sacrifices of thanksgiving to the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ But if you do not listen to Me to keep the sabbath day holy by not carrying a load and coming in through the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates and it will devour the palaces of Jerusalem and not be quenched.”

Jeremiah 17:19-27

- ¹⁹ Thus the LORD said to me, “Go and stand in the public gate, through which the kings of Judah come in and go out, as well as in all the gates of Jerusalem;
- ²⁰ and say to them, ‘Listen to the word of the LORD, kings of Judah, and all Judah and all inhabitants of Jerusalem who come in through these gates:
- ²¹ Thus says the LORD, “Take heed for yourselves, and do not carry any load on the sabbath day or bring anything in through the gates of Jerusalem.
- ²² You shall not bring a load out of your houses on the sabbath day nor do any work, but keep the sabbath day holy, as I commanded your forefathers.
- ²³ Yet they did not listen or incline their ears, but stiffened their necks in order not to listen or take correction.
- ²⁴ “But it will come about, if you listen attentively to Me,” declares the LORD, “to bring no load in through the gates of this city on the sabbath day, but to keep the sabbath day holy by doing no work on it,
- ²⁵ then there will come in through the gates of this city kings and princes sitting on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and this city will be inhabited forever.
- ²⁶ They will come in from the cities of Judah and from the environs of Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin, from the lowland, from the hill country and from the Negev, bringing burnt offerings, sacrifices, grain offerings and incense, and bringing sacrifices of thanksgiving to the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ But if you do not listen to Me to keep the sabbath day holy by not carrying a load and coming in through the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates and it will devour the palaces of Jerusalem and not be quenched.”

Jeremiah 18:1-17

18 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD saying,

² “Arise and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will announce My words to you.”

³ Then I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was, making something on the wheel.

⁴ But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it pleased the potter to make.

⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁶ “Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter *does*?” declares the LORD. “Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel.

⁷ At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy *it*;

⁸ if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it.

⁹ Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant *it*;

¹⁰ if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it.

¹¹ So now then, speak to the men of Judah and against the inhabitants of Jerusalem saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Behold, I am fashioning calamity against you and devising a plan against you. Oh turn back, each of you from his evil way, and reform your ways and your deeds.”’

¹² But they will say, ‘It’s hopeless! For we are going to follow our own plans, and each of us will act according to the stubbornness of his evil heart.’

¹³ “Therefore thus says the LORD,

‘Ask now among the nations,

Who ever heard the like of this?

The virgin of Israel

Has done a most appalling thing.

¹⁴ ‘Does the snow of Lebanon forsake the rock of the open country?

Or is the cold flowing water *from* a foreign *land* ever snatched away?

¹⁵ ‘For My people have forgotten Me,
They burn incense to worthless gods
And they have stumbled from their ways,
From the ancient paths,
To walk in bypaths,
Not on a highway,
¹⁶To make their land a desolation,
An object of perpetual hissing;
Everyone who passes by it will be astonished
And shake his head.
¹⁷ ‘Like an east wind I will scatter them
Before the enemy;
I will show them My back and not *My* face
In the day of their calamity.’”

Jeremiah 20:7-18

⁷ O LORD, You have deceived me and I was deceived;

You have overcome me and prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;

Everyone mocks me.

⁸ For each time I speak, I cry aloud;

I proclaim violence and destruction,

Because for me the word of the LORD has resulted

In reproach and derision all day long.

⁹ But if I say, "I will not remember Him

Or speak anymore in His name,"

Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire

Shut up in my bones;

And I am weary of holding *it* in,

And I cannot endure *it*.

¹⁰ For I have heard the whispering of many,

"Terror on every side!

Denounce *him*; yes, let us denounce him!"

All my trusted friends,

Watching for my fall, say:

"Perhaps he will be deceived, so that we may prevail against him

And take our revenge on him."

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a dread champion;

Therefore my persecutors will stumble and not prevail.

They will be utterly ashamed, because they have failed,

With an everlasting disgrace that will not be forgotten.

¹² Yet, O LORD of hosts, You who test the righteous,

Who see the mind and the heart;

Let me see Your vengeance on them;

For to You I have set forth my cause.

¹³ Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD!

For He has delivered the soul of the needy one

From the hand of evildoers.

¹⁴ Cursed be the day when I was born;

Let the day not be blessed when my mother bore me!

¹⁵ Cursed be the man who brought the news

To my father, saying,

“A baby boy has been born to you!”

And made him very happy.

¹⁶ But let that man be like the cities

Which the LORD overthrew without relenting,

And let him hear an outcry in the morning

And a shout of alarm at noon;

¹⁷ Because he did not kill me before birth,

So that my mother would have been my grave,

And her womb ever pregnant.

¹⁸ Why did I ever come forth from the womb

To look on trouble and sorrow,

So that my days have been spent in shame?

Jeremiah 23:1-8

23 “Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of My pasture!”
declares the LORD.

²Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel concerning the shepherds who are tending My
people: “You have scattered My flock and driven them away, and have not attended to
them; behold, I am about to attend to you for the evil of your deeds,” declares the LORD.

³“Then I Myself will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries where I have
driven them and bring them back to their pasture, and they will be fruitful and multiply.

⁴I will also raise up shepherds over them and they will tend them; and they will not be afraid
any longer, nor be terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the LORD.

⁵“Behold, *the* days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch;
And He will reign as king and act wisely
And do justice and righteousness in the land.

⁶“In His days Judah will be saved,
And Israel will dwell securely;
And this is His name by which He will be called,
‘The LORD our righteousness.’

⁷“Therefore behold, *the* days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when they will no longer say,
‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt,’

⁸but, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up and led back the descendants of the household of
Israel from *the* north land and from all the countries where I had driven them.’ Then they
will live on their own soil.”

Jeremiah 23:9-32

⁹ As for the prophets:

My heart is broken within me,
All my bones tremble;
I have become like a drunken man,
Even like a man overcome with wine,
Because of the LORD
And because of His holy words.

¹⁰ For the land is full of adulterers;
For the land mourns because of the curse.
The pastures of the wilderness have dried up.
Their course also is evil
And their might is not right.

¹¹ “For both prophet and priest are polluted;
Even in My house I have found their wickedness,” declares the LORD.

¹² “Therefore their way will be like slippery paths to them,
They will be driven away into the gloom and fall down in it;
For I will bring calamity upon them,
The year of their punishment,” declares the LORD.

¹³ “Moreover, among the prophets of Samaria I saw an offensive thing:
They prophesied by Baal and led My people Israel astray.

¹⁴ “Also among the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen a horrible thing:
The committing of adultery and walking in falsehood;
And they strengthen the hands of evildoers,
So that no one has turned back from his wickedness.
All of them have become to Me like Sodom,
And her inhabitants like Gomorrah.

¹⁵ “Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets,
‘Behold, I am going to feed them wormwood
And make them drink poisonous water,
For from the prophets of Jerusalem
Pollution has gone forth into all the land.’”

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD of hosts,

“Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are prophesying to you.

They are leading you into futility;

They speak a vision of their own imagination,

Not from the mouth of the LORD.

¹⁷ “They keep saying to those who despise Me,

‘The LORD has said, “You will have peace”’;

And as for everyone who walks in the stubbornness of his own heart,

They say, ‘Calamity will not come upon you.’

¹⁸ “But who has stood in the council of the LORD,

That he should see and hear His word?

Who has given heed to His word and listened?

¹⁹ “Behold, the storm of the LORD has gone forth in wrath,

Even a whirling tempest;

It will swirl down on the head of the wicked.

²⁰ “The anger of the LORD will not turn back

Until He has performed and carried out the purposes of His heart;

In the last days you will clearly understand it.

²¹ “I did not send *these* prophets,

But they ran.

I did not speak to them,

But they prophesied.

²² “But if they had stood in My council,

Then they would have announced My words to My people,

And would have turned them back from their evil way

And from the evil of their deeds.

²³ “Am I a God who is near,” declares the LORD,

“And not a God far off?

²⁴ “Can a man hide himself in hiding places

So I do not see him?” declares the LORD.

“Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the LORD.

- ²⁵ “I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy falsely in My name, saying, ‘I had a dream, I had a dream!’
- ²⁶ How long? Is there *anything* in the hearts of the prophets who prophesy falsehood, even *these* prophets of the deception of their own heart,
- ²⁷ who intend to make My people forget My name by their dreams which they relate to one another, just as their fathers forgot My name because of Baal?
- ²⁸ The prophet who has a dream may relate *his* dream, but let him who has My word speak My word in truth. What does straw have *in common* with grain?” declares the LORD.
- ²⁹ “Is not My word like fire?” declares the LORD, “and like a hammer which shatters a rock?”
- ³⁰ Therefore behold, I am against the prophets,” declares the LORD, “who steal My words from each other.
- ³¹ Behold, I am against the prophets,” declares the LORD, “who use their tongues and declare, ‘*The Lord* declares.’
- ³² Behold, I am against those who have prophesied false dreams,” declares the LORD, “and related them and led My people astray by their falsehoods and reckless boasting; yet I did not send them or command them, nor do they furnish this people the slightest benefit,” declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 29:1-14

29 Now these are the words of the letter which Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the rest of the elders of the exile, the priests, the prophets and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

² (This was after King Jeconiah and the queen mother, the court officials, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem.)

³ *The letter was sent* by the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, saying,

⁴ “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon,

⁵ ‘Build houses and live *in them*; and plant gardens and eat their produce.

⁶ Take wives and become the fathers of sons and daughters, and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; and multiply there and do not decrease.

⁷ Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.’

⁸ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, ‘Do not let your prophets who are in your midst and your diviners deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams which they dream.

⁹ For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them,’ declares the LORD.

¹⁰ “For thus says the LORD, ‘When seventy years have been completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place.

¹¹ For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

¹² Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

¹³ You will seek Me and find *Me* when you search for Me with all your heart.

¹⁴ I will be found by you,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will restore your fortunes and will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.’

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ “Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,

³² not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD.

³³ “But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the LORD, “I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

³⁴ They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the LORD, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

Jeremiah 32:1-15

32 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar.

² Now at that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the guard, which *was in* the house of the king of Judah,

³ because Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, “Why do you prophesy, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Behold, I am about to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he will take it;

⁴ and Zedekiah king of Judah will not escape out of the hand of the Chaldeans, but he will surely be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he will speak with him face to face and see him eye to eye;

⁵ and he will take Zedekiah to Babylon, and he will be there until I visit him,” declares the LORD. “If you fight against the Chaldeans, you will not succeed”?”

⁶ And Jeremiah said, “The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁷ ‘Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle is coming to you, saying, “Buy for yourself my field which is at Anathoth, for you have the right of redemption to buy *it*.”’

⁸ Then Hanamel my uncle’s son came to me in the court of the guard according to the word of the LORD and said to me, ‘Buy my field, please, that is at Anathoth, which is in the land of Benjamin; for you have the right of possession and the redemption is yours; buy *it* for yourself.’ Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

⁹ “I bought the field which was at Anathoth from Hanamel my uncle’s son, and I weighed out the silver for him, seventeen shekels of silver.

¹⁰ I signed and sealed the deed, and called in witnesses, and weighed out the silver on the scales.

¹¹ Then I took the deeds of purchase, both the sealed *copy containing* the terms and conditions and the open *copy*;

¹² and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Mahseiah, in the sight of Hanamel my uncle’s *son* and in the sight of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, before all the Jews who were sitting in the court of the guard.

¹³ And I commanded Baruch in their presence, saying,

¹⁴ “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, “Take these deeds, this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, that they may last a long time.”

¹⁵ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, “Houses and fields and vineyards will again be bought in this land.””

Jeremiah 36

36 In the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to

Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

²“Take a scroll and write on it all the words which I have spoken to you concerning Israel and concerning Judah, and concerning all the nations, from the day I *first* spoke to you, from the days of Josiah, even to this day.

³Perhaps the house of Judah will hear all the calamity which I plan to bring on them, in order that every man will turn from his evil way; then I will forgive their iniquity and their sin.”

⁴Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah, and Baruch wrote on a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD which He had spoken to him.

⁵Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, “I am restricted; I cannot go into the house of the LORD.

⁶So you go and read from the scroll which you have written at my dictation the words of the LORD to the people in the LORD’S house on a fast day. And also you shall read them to all *the people of Judah* who come from their cities.

⁷Perhaps their supplication will come before the LORD, and everyone will turn from his evil way, for great is the anger and the wrath that the LORD has pronounced against this people.”

⁸Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading from the book the words of the LORD in the LORD’S house.

⁹Now in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, in the ninth month, all the people in Jerusalem and all the people who came from the cities of Judah to Jerusalem proclaimed a fast before the LORD.

¹⁰Then Baruch read from the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the upper court, at the entry of the New Gate of the LORD’S house, to all the people.

¹¹Now when Micaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard all the words of the LORD from the book,

¹²he went down to the king’s house, into the scribe’s chamber. And behold, all the officials were sitting there—Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the *other* officials.

- ¹³ Micaiah declared to them all the words that he had heard when Baruch read from the book to the people.
- ¹⁴ Then all the officials sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, to Baruch, saying, “Take in your hand the scroll from which you have read to the people and come.” So Baruch the son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand and went to them.
- ¹⁵ They said to him, “Sit down, please, and read it to us.” So Baruch read it to them.
- ¹⁶ When they had heard all the words, they turned in fear one to another and said to Baruch, “We will surely report all these words to the king.”
- ¹⁷ And they asked Baruch, saying, “Tell us, please, how did you write all these words? *Was it* at his dictation?”
- ¹⁸ Then Baruch said to them, “He dictated all these words to me, and I wrote them with ink on the book.”
- ¹⁹ Then the officials said to Baruch, “Go, hide yourself, you and Jeremiah, and do not let anyone know where you are.”
- ²⁰ So they went to the king in the court, but they had deposited the scroll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and they reported all the words to the king.
- ²¹ Then the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and he took it out of the chamber of Elishama the scribe. And Jehudi read it to the king as well as to all the officials who stood beside the king.
- ²² Now the king was sitting in the winter house in the ninth month, with *a fire* burning in the brazier before him.
- ²³ When Jehudi had read three or four columns, *the king* cut it with a scribe’s knife and threw *it* into the fire that was in the brazier, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier.
- ²⁴ Yet the king and all his servants who heard all these words were not afraid, nor did they rend their garments.
- ²⁵ Even though Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah pleaded with the king not to burn the scroll, he would not listen to them.
- ²⁶ And the king commanded Jerahmeel the king’s son, Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel to seize Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet, but the LORD hid them.

- ²⁷ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah after the king had burned the scroll and the words which Baruch had written at the dictation of Jeremiah, saying,
- ²⁸ “Take again another scroll and write on it all the former words that were on the first scroll which Jehoiakim the king of Judah burned.
- ²⁹ And concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah you shall say, ‘Thus says the LORD, “You have burned this scroll, saying, ‘Why have you written on it that the king of Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land, and will make man and beast to cease from it?’”
- ³⁰ Therefore thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah, “He shall have no one to sit on the throne of David, and his dead body shall be cast out to the heat of the day and the frost of the night.
- ³¹ I will also punish him and his descendants and his servants for their iniquity, and I will bring on them and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the men of Judah all the calamity that I have declared to them—but they did not listen.””
- ³² Then Jeremiah took another scroll and gave it to Baruch the son of Neriah, the scribe, and he wrote on it at the dictation of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire; and many similar words were added to them.

Jeremiah 38:1-13

38 Now Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of Malchijah heard the words that Jeremiah was speaking to all the people, saying,

²“Thus says the LORD, ‘He who stays in this city will die by the sword and by famine and by pestilence, but he who goes out to the Chaldeans will live and have his *own* life as booty and stay alive.’

³Thus says the LORD, ‘This city will certainly be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon and he will capture it.’”

⁴Then the officials said to the king, “Now let this man be put to death, inasmuch as he is discouraging the men of war who are left in this city and all the people, by speaking such words to them; for this man is not seeking the well-being of this people but rather their harm.”

⁵So King Zedekiah said, “Behold, he is in your hands; for the king can *do* nothing against you.”

⁶Then they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern *of* Malchijah the king’s son, which was in the court of the guardhouse; and they let Jeremiah down with ropes. Now in the cistern there was no water but only mud, and Jeremiah sank into the mud.

⁷But Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a eunuch, while he was in the king’s palace, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern. Now the king was sitting in the Gate of Benjamin;

⁸and Ebed-melech went out from the king’s palace and spoke to the king, saying,

⁹“My lord the king, these men have acted wickedly in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet whom they have cast into the cistern; and he will die right where he is because of the famine, for there is no more bread in the city.”

¹⁰Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, “Take thirty men from here under your authority and bring up Jeremiah the prophet from the cistern before he dies.”

¹¹So Ebed-melech took the men under his authority and went into the king’s palace to *a place* beneath the storeroom and took from there worn-out clothes and worn-out rags and let them down by ropes into the cistern to Jeremiah.

¹²Then Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, “Now put these worn-out clothes and rags under your armpits under the ropes”; and Jeremiah did so.

¹³So they pulled Jeremiah up with the ropes and lifted him out of the cistern, and Jeremiah stayed in the court of the guardhouse.

Jeremiah 50:1-20

50 The word which the LORD spoke concerning Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans, through Jeremiah the prophet:

²“Declare and proclaim among the nations.

Proclaim it and lift up a standard.

Do not conceal *it but* say,

‘Babylon has been captured,

Bel has been put to shame, Marduk has been shattered;

Her images have been put to shame, her idols have been shattered.’

³For a nation has come up against her out of the north; it will make her land an object of horror, and there will be no inhabitant in it. Both man and beast have wandered off, they have gone away!

⁴“In those days and at that time,” declares the LORD, “the sons of Israel will come, *both* they and the sons of Judah as well; they will go along weeping as they go, and it will be the LORD their God they will seek. ⁵They will ask for the way to Zion, *turning* their faces in its direction; they will come that they may join themselves to the LORD *in* an everlasting covenant that will not be forgotten.

⁶“My people have become lost sheep;

Their shepherds have led them astray.

They have made them turn aside *on* the mountains;

They have gone along from mountain to hill

And have forgotten their resting place.

⁷“All who came upon them have devoured them;

And their adversaries have said, ‘We are not guilty,

Inasmuch as they have sinned against the LORD *who is* the habitation of righteousness,

Even the LORD, the hope of their fathers.’

⁸“Wander away from the midst of Babylon

And go forth from the land of the Chaldeans;

Be also like male goats at the head of the flock.

⁹“For behold, I am going to arouse and bring up against Babylon

A horde of great nations from the land of the north,
And they will draw up *their* battle lines against her;
From there she will be taken captive.

Their arrows will be like an expert warrior
Who does not return empty-handed.

¹⁰“Chaldea will become plunder;
All who plunder her will have enough,” declares the LORD.

¹¹“Because you are glad, because you are jubilant,

O you who pillage My heritage,
Because you skip about like a threshing heifer
And neigh like stallions,

¹²Your mother will be greatly ashamed,
She who gave you birth will be humiliated.
Behold, *she will be* the least of the nations,
A wilderness, a parched land and a desert.

¹³“Because of the indignation of the LORD she will not be inhabited,
But she will be completely desolate;
Everyone who passes by Babylon will be horrified
And will hiss because of all her wounds.

¹⁴“Draw up your battle lines against Babylon on every side,
All you who bend the bow;
Shoot at her, do not be sparing with *your* arrows,
For she has sinned against the LORD.

¹⁵“Raise your battle cry against her on every side!
She has given herself up, her pillars have fallen,
Her walls have been torn down.
For this is the vengeance of the LORD:

Take vengeance on her;
As she has done *to others*, *so* do to her.

¹⁶“Cut off the sower from Babylon
And the one who wields the sickle at the time of harvest;
From before the sword of the oppressor
They will each turn back to his own people
And they will each flee to his own land.

¹⁷“Israel is a scattered flock, the lions have driven *them* away. The first one *who* devoured him was the king of Assyria, and this last one *who* has broken his bones is Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.

¹⁸Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Behold, I am going to punish the king of Babylon and his land, just as I punished the king of Assyria.

¹⁹And I will bring Israel back to his pasture and he will graze on Carmel and Bashan, and his desire will be satisfied in the hill country of Ephraim and Gilead.

²⁰In those days and at that time,’ declares the LORD, ‘search will be made for the iniquity of Israel, but there will be none; and for the sins of Judah, but they will not be found; for I will pardon those whom I leave as a remnant.’