

Later Prophets, Book 2

**The Book of
Jeremiah**

In Large Print English

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New York, NY 10016

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Jeremiah

Chapter 1

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, till the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah, till the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.
4. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,
5. (K) Before I formed you in the belly I knew you; and before you came forth out of the womb I sanctified you, and I ordained you a prophet to the nations.
6. Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak; for I am a child.

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7. But the Lord said to me, Say not, I am a child; for you shall go to all to whom I shall send you, and whatever I command you you shall speak.

8. Be not afraid of their faces; for I am with you to save you, said the Lord.

9. Then the Lord put forth 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 this day set you 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.

11. Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Jeremiah, what do you see? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree.

12. Then said the Lord to me, You have seen well; for I will hasten my word to perform it.

13. And the word of the Lord came to me the second time, saying, What do you see? And I said, I see a boiling pot; and its face is from the north.

14. Then the Lord said to me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land.

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15. For, behold, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, said the Lord; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all its surrounding walls, and against all the cities of Judah.

16. And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, in that they have forsaken me, and have burned incense to other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.

17. You therefore gird up your loins, and arise, and speak to them all that I command you; be not dismayed at their faces, lest I dismay you before them.

18. For, behold, I have made you this day a fortified city, and an iron pillar, and bronze walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against its princes, against its priests, and against the people of the land.

19. And they shall fight against you; but they shall not prevail against you; for I am with you, said the Lord,

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to save you.

Chapter 2

1. And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,
2. Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus said the Lord; I remember you, the devotion of your youth, your love like a bride, when you went after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.
3. Israel is holy to the Lord, and the first fruits of his produce; all who devour him shall be held guilty; evil shall come upon them, said the Lord.
4. Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel;
5. Thus said the Lord, What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they have gone far from me, and have walked after vanity, and have become themselves worthless?
6. And they did not say, Where is the Lord who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, who led us

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through the wilderness, through a land of deserts and of pits, through a land of drought, and of the shadow of death, through a land that no man passed through, and where no man dwelt?

7. And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat its fruit and its goodness; but when you entered, you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.

8. The priests did not say, Where is the Lord? and they who handle the Torah knew me not; the rulers also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit.

9. Therefore I will yet plead with you, says the Lord, and with your children's children will I plead.

10. For cross over to the islands of Kittim, and see; and send to Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if there is such a thing.

11. Has a nation changed their gods, even though they are no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit.

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12. Be astonished, O you heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be greatly appalled, said the Lord.

13. For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and dug cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

14. Is Israel a servant? Is he a homeborn slave? Why has he become a prey?

15. (K) The young lions roared against him, they roared loudly, and they made his land a waste; his cities are burned, without inhabitant.

16. (K) Also the people of Noph and Tahpanhes have broken the crown of your head.

17. Have you not done this to yourself, in that you have forsaken the Lord your God, when he led you on the way?

18. And now what do you gain by going to Egypt? To drink the waters of Sihor? Or what do you gain by going to Assyria? To drink the waters of the river?

19. Your own wickedness shall correct you, and your backslidings shall reprove you; know therefore and

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see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that you have forsaken the Lord your God, and that my fear is not in you, says the Lord God of hosts.

20. (K) For long ago I have broken your yoke, and burst your bonds; and you said, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree you bowed down playing the harlot.

21. And I had planted you a noble vine, wholly a right seed; how then have you turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine to me?

22. For though you wash you with lye, and use much soap, yet the stain of your iniquity is before me, said the Lord God.

23. How can you say, I am not polluted, I have not gone after Baalim? See your way in the valley, know what you have done; you are a restive young camel doubling back on its tracks;

24. (K) A wild ass used to the wilderness, sniffing the wind in its desire; in its lust who can turn it away? All those who seek it need not weary themselves; in its month they shall find it.

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25. (K) Withhold your foot from being unshod, and your throat from thirst; but you said, There is no hope; no; for I have loved strangers, and after them will I go.

26. As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets,

27. (K) Who say to a piece of wood, You are my father; and to a stone, You have brought me forth; for they have turned their back to me, and not their face; but in the time of their trouble they will say, Arise, and save us.

28. But where are your gods that you have made for yourself? Let them arise, if they can save you in the time of your trouble; for as many as your cities are your gods, O Judah.

29. Why do you complain against me? You all have transgressed against me, says the Lord.

30. In vain did I strike your children; they received no correction; your own sword has devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion.

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31. O generation, see the word of the Lord. Have I been a wilderness to Israel? A land of darkness? Why do my people say, We are free; we will come no more to you?

32. Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? Yet my people have forgotten me days without number.

33. (K) How well you direct your course to seek love! Even to wicked women you have taught your ways!

34. Also on your skirts is found the lifeblood of the innocent poor; whom you did not find breaking in.

35. Yet in spite of all these things you say, Because I am innocent, surely his anger has turned from me. Behold, I will bring you to judgment, because you say I have not sinned.

36. Why do you cheapen yourself so much to change your way? You also shall be ashamed of Egypt, as you were ashamed of Assyria.

37. Yes, you shall go forth from him, and your hands upon your head; for the Lord has rejected those in whom you trust, and you shall not prosper by them.

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Chapter 3

1. It is said, If a man puts away his wife, and she goes from him, and becomes another man's, shall he return to her again? Shall not that land be greatly polluted? You have played the harlot with many lovers; and would you return to me? says the Lord.
2. (K) Lift up your eyes to the high hills, and see where you have not been lain with. On the roads have you sat for them, like an Arab in the wilderness; and you have polluted the land with your harlotries and with your wickedness.
3. Therefore the showers have been withheld, and there has been no latter rain; yet you have a harlot's forehead, you refuse to be ashamed.
4. Will you not from this time cry to me: My father, you are the guide of my youth?
5. Will he carry a grudge for ever? Will he keep it to the end? Behold, you have spoken and done all the evil things you could.

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6. The Lord said also to me in the days of Josiah the king, Have you seen what faithless Israel has done? She went up every high hill, and under every green tree, and there she played the harlot.

7. (K) And I said after she had done all these things, Return to me. But she did not return. And her false sister Judah saw it.

8. And I saw, when I had put faithless Israel away for having committed adultery, and had given her a bill of divorce; that her false sister Judah was not afraid, but went and played the harlot also.

9. And it came to pass through the lightness of her harlotry, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with wood.

10. And yet for all this her false sister Judah did not return to me with her whole heart, but in pretence, says the Lord.

11. And the Lord said to me, Faithless Israel has shown herself less guilty than false Judah.

12. Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, you faithless Israel, says the Lord;

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and I will not make my anger fall upon you; for I am merciful, says the Lord, and I will not bear a grudge for ever.

13. Only acknowledge your iniquity, that you have transgressed against the Lord your God, and have scattered your ways to strangers under every green tree, and you have not obeyed my voice, says the Lord.

14. Turn, O faithless children, says the Lord; for I have taken you to myself; and I will take you, from a city one, and from a family two, and I will bring you to Zion;

15. And I will give you shepherds according to my heart, who shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

16. And it shall come to pass, when you multiply and increase in the land, in those days, says the Lord, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of the Lord. It shall not come to mind, nor shall they remember it; nor shall they miss it; nor shall that be done any more.

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17. At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord; and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem; nor shall they walk any more after the stubbornness of their evil heart.

18. In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance to your fathers.

19. (K) But I said, How shall I set you among the sons, and give you a pleasant land, the finest heritage of the hosts of nations? and I said: You shall call me, My father; and shall not turn away from me.

20. Surely like a faithless wife departs from her husband, so you have been faithless to me, O house of Israel, says the Lord.

21. A voice was heard upon the high hills, weeping and supplications of the people of Israel; for they have perverted their way, and they have forgotten the Lord their God.

22. Return, you faithless children, and I will heal your

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faithlessness. Behold, we come to you; for you are the Lord our God.

23. Truly from worship in the hills comes delusion, and from the uproar in the mountains; truly in the Lord our God is the salvation of Israel.

24. From our youth shameful idolatry has devoured the labor of our fathers; their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters.

25. Let us lie down in our shame, and let our confusion cover us; for we have sinned against the Lord our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even to this day, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God.

Chapter 4

1. If you will return, O Israel, says the Lord, return to me; and if you will put away your abominations out of my sight, and do not waver,

2. And if you swear, The Lord lives, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness; and the nations

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shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory.

3. For thus says the Lord to the men of Judah and Jerusalem, Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns.

4. Circumcise yourselves to the Lord, and take away the foreskins of your heart, you men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn so that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

5. (K) Declare in Judah, and proclaim in Jerusalem; and say: Blow the shofar in the land; cry, gather together, and say, Assemble yourselves, and let us go into the fortified cities.

6. Raise up a standard toward Zion; flee, do not stay; for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction.

7. The lion has come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the nations is on his way; he has gone out from his place to make your land desolate; and your cities shall be laid waste, without inhabitant.

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8. For this gird yourself with sackcloth, lament and howl; for the fierce anger of the Lord is not turned back from us.

9. And it shall come to pass at that day, says the Lord, that the heart of the king shall perish, and the heart of the princes; and the priests shall be astonished, and the prophets shall wonder.

10. Then said I, Ah, Lord God! surely you have greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, You shall have peace; and the sword reaches into the soul.

11. At that time shall it be said to this people and to Jerusalem, A dry wind of the high hills in the wilderness toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow, or to cleanse,

12. A wind stronger than those shall come to me; now will I give sentence against them.

13. Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots shall be as a stormy wind; his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe unto us! for we are ruined.

14. O Jerusalem, wash your heart from wickedness,

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that you may be saved. How long shall your evil thoughts lodge inside you?

15. For a voice declares from Dan, and proclaims affliction from Mount Ephraim.

16. Warn the nations; behold, proclaim against Jerusalem, that watchers come from a far country, and shout their voice against the cities of Judah.

17. As keepers of a field, are they around against her; because she has been rebellious against me, says the Lord.

18. Your way and your doings have brought these things upon you; this is your wickedness, and it is bitter, it reaches to your heart.

19. (K) My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart moans in me; I cannot hold my peace, because you have heard, O my soul, the sound of the shofar, the alarm of war.

20. Destruction follows upon destruction; for the whole land is ruined; suddenly are my tents destroyed, and my curtains in a moment.

21. How long shall I see the standard, and hear the

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sound of the shofar?

22. For my people are foolish, they have not known me; they are foolish children, and they have no understanding; they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge.

23. I looked on the earth, and, behold, it was waste, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.

24. I looked on the mountains, and, behold, they trembled, and all the hills moved to and fro.

25. I looked on, and, behold, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens had fled.

26. I looked on, and, behold, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all its cities were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by his fierce anger.

27. For thus has the Lord said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet I will not make a full end.

28. For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black; because I have spoken it, I intend it, and will not relent, nor will I turn back from it.

29. The whole city shall flee at the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets,

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and climb up upon the rocks; every city shall be forsaken, and not a man dwell in there.

30. (K) And you, O ruined one, what will you do? Though you dress yourself with crimson, though you deck yourself with ornaments of gold, though you enlarge your eyes with paint, in vain shall you make yourself pretty; your lovers will despise you, they will seek your life.

31. For I have heard a voice as of a woman in labor, and the anguish as of her who brings forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, sobbing and spreading out her hands, saying, Woe is me now! for my soul faints before the killers.

Chapter 5

1. Run you to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in its broad places, if you can find a man, if there is any who does justice, who seeks the truth; and I will pardon it.

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2. And though they say, The Lord lives; surely they swear falsely.

3. O Lord, are not your eyes upon the truth? you have stricken them, but they have not grieved; you have consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction; they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return.

4. Therefore I said, Surely these are poor; they are foolish; for they know not the way of the Lord, nor the judgment of their God.

5. I will go to the great men, and will speak to them; for they have known the way of the Lord, and the judgment of their God; but they all alike have broken the yoke, and burst the bonds.

6. Therefore a lion from the forest shall slay them, and a wolf of the deserts shall destroy them, a leopard shall watch over their cities; every one who goes out there shall be torn in pieces; because their transgressions are many, and their apostasies are great.

7. (K) How shall I pardon you for this? Your children

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have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods; when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses.

8. (K) They were like well fed horses in the morning; each neighing for his neighbor's wife.

9. Shall I not punish for these things? says the Lord; and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

10. Go up through her wine rows, and destroy; but make not a full end; take away her branches; for they are not the Lord's.

11. For the house of Israel and the house of Judah have dealt very treacherously against me, says the Lord.

12. They have spoken falsely of the Lord, and said, It is not he; nor shall evil come upon us; nor shall we see sword nor famine;

13. And the prophets shall become wind, and the word is not in them; thus shall it be done to them.

14. Therefore thus says the Lord God of hosts,

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Because you speak this word, behold, I will make my words in your mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them.

15. Behold, I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel, says the Lord; it is a mighty nation, it is an ancient nation, a nation whose language you know not, nor do you understand what they say.

16. Their quiver is like an open sepulcher, they are all mighty men.

17. And they shall eat up your harvest, and your bread, which your sons and your daughters should eat; they shall eat up your flocks and your herds; they shall eat up your vines and your fig trees; they shall batter your fortified cities, on whom you trusted, with the sword.

18. Nevertheless in those days, says the Lord, I will not make a full end with you.

19. And it shall come to pass, when you shall say, Why does the Lord our God all these things to us? then shall you answer them, As you have forsaken me, and served strange gods in your land, so shall

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you serve strangers in a land that is not yours.

20. Declare this in the house of Jacob, and proclaim it in Judah, saying,

21. Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; who have ears, and hear not;

22. Do you not fear me? says the Lord. Will you not tremble at my presence? I, who have placed the sand as the bound of the sea by an everlasting barrier, that it cannot pass it; and though its waves toss themselves, yet they can not prevail; though they roar, they can not pass over it.

23. But this people have a stubborn and a rebellious heart; they are turned aside and gone.

24. (K) And they do not say in their heart, Let us now fear the Lord our God, who gives rain, both the first and the last, in his season; he keeps for us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

25. Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have kept good things from you.

26. For among my people are found wicked men; they

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lay wait, like he who sets snares; they set a trap, they catch men.

27. As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit; therefore they have become great, and grown rich.

28. They have become fat and sleek; indeed, they overpass the deeds of the wicked; they judge not the cause of the orphans, that they may prosper; and they do not judge the right of the needy.

29. Shall I not punish for these things? says the Lord; shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

30. An appalling and horrible thing is committed in the land;

31. The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so; and what will you do when the end of it comes?

Chapter 6

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1. O you sons of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem, and blow the shofar in Tekoa, and set up a sign of fire in Beth-HaKerem; for evil appears from the north, and great destruction.
2. You seem, O daughter of Zion, a handsome and delicate woman.
3. Yet shepherds with their flocks shall come to her; they shall pitch their tents around against her; they shall feed every one in his place.
4. Prepare war against her; arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe to us! For the day goes away, for the shadows of the evening are lengthened.
5. Arise, and let us go by night, and let us destroy her palaces.
6. For thus says the Lord of hosts, Cut down trees, and cast up a siege mound against Jerusalem; this is the city to be punished; she is oppression everywhere in her midst.
7. (K) As a well keeps its water fresh, so she keeps fresh her wickedness; violence and destruction, grief and wounds, are heard in her before me continually.

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8. Be warned, O Jerusalem, lest my soul depart from you; lest I make you desolate, a land not inhabited.

9. Thus says the Lord of hosts, They shall thoroughly glean the remnant of Israel like a vine; like a grape gatherer pass your hand again over the branches.

10. To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? Behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot listen; behold, the word of the Lord is to them a reproach; they have no delight in it.

11. Therefore I am full of the fury of the Lord; I am weary of holding it in; I will pour it out upon the infants in the street, and upon the assembly of young men together; for even the husband with the wife shall be taken, the aged with him who is full of days.

12. And their houses shall be turned to others, with their fields and wives together; for I will stretch out my hand upon the inhabitants of the land, says the Lord.

13. For from the least of them even to the greatest of them every one is greedy for gain; and from the

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prophet even to the priest every one deals falsely.

14. They have lightly healed the hurt of the daughter of my people, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

15. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed, nor could they blush; therefore they shall fall among those who fall; at the time that I punish them they shall stumble, says the Lord.

16. Thus says the Lord, Stand on the roads, and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk there, and you shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk there.

17. And I set watchmen over you, saying, Listen to the sound of the shofar. But they said, We will not listen.

18. Therefore hear, you nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them.

19. Hear, O earth; behold, I will bring evil upon this people, the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not listened to my words, nor to my Torah, but have rejected it.

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20. To what purpose comes to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor are your sacrifices sweet to me.

21. (K) Therefore thus says the Lord, Behold, I will lay stumbling blocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbor and his friend shall perish.

22. Thus says the Lord, Behold, a people comes from the north country, and a great nation shall stir from the sides of the earth.

23. They shall lay hold on bow and spear; they are cruel, and have no mercy; their voice roars like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against you, O daughter of Zion.

24. We have heard the report of it; our hands grow feeble; anguish has taken hold of us, and pain, as of a woman in labor.

25. (K) Go not forth to the field, nor walk by the way; for the sword of the enemy is there and fear is on every side.

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26. O daughter of my people, gird yourself with sackcloth, and roll yourself in ashes; make mourning, as for an only son, most bitter lamentation; for the destroyer shall suddenly come upon us.

27. I have set you for a tower and a fortress among my people, that you may know and test their way.

28. They are all grievous revolters, walking with slanders; they are bronze and iron; they all act corruptly.

29. (K) The bellows blow fiercely, the lead is consumed by the fire; the refiner melts in vain; for the wicked are not removed.

30. Base silver shall men call them, because the Lord has rejected them.

Chapter 7

1. The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

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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 these gates to worship the Lord.

3. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will make you dwell in this place.

4. Trust you not in lying words, saying, The temple of the Lord, The temple of the Lord, The temple of the Lord, are these.

5. For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your doings; if you thoroughly do justice between a man and his neighbor;

6. If you oppress not the stranger, the orphan, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, nor walk after other gods to your harm;

7. Then will I make you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.

8. Behold, you trust in lying words, that cannot profit.

9. Will you steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense to Baal, and walk

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after other gods whom you know not;

10. And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are saved; that you may do all these abominations?

11. Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it, says the Lord.

12. But go now to my place which was in Shiloh, where I set my name at first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of my people Israel.

13. And now, because you have done all these deeds, says the Lord, and though I spoke to you, from early in the morning, but you did not listen; and I called you, but you did not answer;

14. Therefore will I do to this house, which is called by my name, and in which you trust, and to the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

15. And I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brothers, the whole seed of Ephraim.

16. Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up cry

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nor prayer for them, nor make intercession to me; for I will not hear.

17. Do you not see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

18. The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.

19. Do they provoke me to anger? says the Lord; Do they not provoke themselves to their own disgrace?

20. Therefore thus says the Lord God; Behold, my anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched.

21. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices, and eat meat.

22. For I did not speak to your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out

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of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices;

23. But this thing I commanded them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.

24. But they did not listen, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the stubbornness of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.

25. Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt until this day I have sent to you all my servants the prophets, from early in the morning;

26. Yet they did not listen to me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck; they did worse than their fathers.

27. Therefore you shall speak all these words to them; but they will not listen to you; you shall also call to them; but they will not answer you.

28. But you shall say to them, This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the Lord their God, nor receives correction; truthfulness has perished, and is

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cut off from their mouth.

29. Cut off your hair, O Jerusalem, and throw it away, and take up a lamentation on the high hills; for the Lord has rejected and forsaken the generation of his wrath.

30. For the people of Judah have done evil in my sight, says the Lord; they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it.

31. And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of Ben-Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I did not command them, nor did it come into my heart.

32. Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, that it shall no more be called Tophet, nor the valley of Ben-Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter; for they shall bury in Tophet, because there is no place elsewhere.

33. And the carcasses of this people shall be food for the birds of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth; and none shall scare them away.

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34. Then will I cause to cease from the cities of Judah, and from the streets of Jerusalem, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride; for the land shall be desolate.

Chapter 8

1. (K) At that time, says the Lord, they shall bring out the bones of the kings of Judah, and the bones of his princes, and the bones of the priests, and the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, out of their graves;

2. And they shall spread them before the sun, and the moon, and all the host of heaven, whom they have loved, and whom they have served, and after whom they have walked, and whom they have sought, and whom they have worshipped; they shall not be gathered, nor be buried; they shall be for dung upon the face of the earth.

3. And death shall be chosen rather than life by all the

Jeremiah

remnant of those who remain of this evil family, who remain in all the places where I have driven them, says the Lord of hosts.

4. Moreover you shall say to them, Thus says the Lord; Shall they fall, and not rise up again? Shall a man turn away, and not return?

5. Why then has this people of Jerusalem turned away in an everlasting backsliding? They hold fast to deceit, they refuse to return.

6. (K) I listened and heard, but they have not spoken aright; no man repented of his wickedness, saying, What have I done? Every one turned to his own course, like a horse rushing into the battle.

7. (K) The stork in the heaven also knows her appointed times; and the turtle and the swallow and the crane observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the Lord.

8. How can you say, We are wise, and the Torah of the Lord is with us? Behold, certainly the pen wrote lies; the scribes made it into a lie.

9. The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed

Jeremiah

and taken; behold, they have rejected the word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them?

10. Therefore will I give their wives to others, and their fields to those who shall inherit them; for every one from the least even to the greatest is given to greed, from the prophet even to the priest every one deals falsely.

11. For they have lightly healed the hurt of the daughter of my people, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

12. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed, nor could they blush; therefore shall they fall among those who fall; in the time of their punishment they shall stumble, says the Lord.

13. I will surely consume them, says the Lord; there shall be no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig tree, and the leaf shall fade; and the things that I have given them shall pass away from them.

14. Why do we sit still? Assemble yourselves, and let us enter into the fortified cities, and let us perish

Jeremiah

there; for the Lord our God has doomed us to perish, and given us water of gall to drink, because we have sinned against the Lord.

15. We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold terror!

16. The snorting of his horses is heard from Dan; the whole land trembles at the sound of the neighing of its strong ones; for they have come, and have devoured the land, and all that is in it; the city, and those who dwell in there.

17. For, behold, I will send venomous serpents among you, which will not be charmed, and they shall bite you, says the Lord.

18. When I would comfort myself against sorrow, my heart is faint in me.

19. Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people coming from a far country; Is not the Lord in Zion? Is not her king in her? Why have they provoked me to anger with their carved idols, and with foreign vanities?

20. The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and

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we are not saved.

21. For the wound of the daughter of my people I am wounded; I am thrown into gloom; astonishment has taken hold on me.

22. Is there no balm in Gilead; Is there no physician there? Why then has not the health of the daughter of my people been restored?

23. Oh that my head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Chapter 9

1. Oh that I were in the wilderness, in a lodging place of wayfaring men; that I might leave my people, and go from them, for they are all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men!

2. And they bend their tongues like their bow of lies; but they are not brave for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they do not know me, says the Lord.

Jeremiah

3. Take heed every one of his neighbor, and trust not in any brother; for every brother acts deceitfully, and every neighbor goes about with slanders.

4. And they will deceive every one his neighbor, and will not speak the truth; they have taught their tongue to speak lies, and weary themselves to commit iniquity.

5. Your habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, says the Lord.

6. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, Behold, I will smelt them, and test them; for how else shall I do for the daughter of my people?

7. (K) Their tongue is a sharpened arrow; it speaks deceit; one speaks peacefully to his neighbor with his mouth, but in his heart he lies in ambush for him.

8. Shall I not punish them for these things? says the Lord; Shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

9. For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the habitations of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that

Jeremiah

none can pass through them; nor can men hear the voice of the cattle; both the bird of the heavens and the beast have fled; they are gone.

10. And I will make Jerusalem heaps, and a den of jackals; and I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant.

11. Who is the wise man, that may understand this? And who is he to whom the mouth of the Lord has spoken, that he may declare it? Why does the land perish and is burned up like a wilderness, that none passes through?

12. And the Lord said, Because they have forsaken my Torah which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice, nor walked in it;

13. But have walked after the stubbornness of their own heart, and after the Baalim, which their fathers taught them;

14. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will feed them, this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

15. I will scatter them also among the nations, whom

Jeremiah

nor they nor their fathers have known; and I will send a sword after them, till I have consumed them.

16. Thus says the Lord of hosts, Consider, and call for the mourning women, that they may come; and send for skilled women, that they may come;

17. And let them make haste, and take up a wailing for us, that our eyes may run down with tears, and our eyelids gush out with waters.

18. For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion, How are we ruined! We are greatly ashamed, because we have forsaken the land, because our dwellings have cast us out.

19. Yet hear the word of the Lord, O you women, and let your ear receive the word of his mouth, and teach your daughters wailing, and every one her neighbor lamentation.

20. For death has come up into our windows, and has entered into our palaces, to cut off the children from outside, and the young men from the streets.

21. Speak, Thus says the Lord, The carcasses of men shall fall as dung upon the open field, and as the

Jeremiah

handful after the reaper, and none shall gather them.

22. Thus says the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, nor let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches;

23. But let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who exercises loving kindness, justice, and righteousness, in the earth; for in these things I delight, says the Lord.

24. Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will punish all those who are circumcised with the uncircumcised;

25. Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the Ammonites, and Moab, and all who dwell in the wilderness; for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all of the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

Chapter 10

1. Hear the word which the Lord speaks to you, O house of Israel;

Jeremiah

2. Thus says the Lord, Learn not the way of the nations, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the nations are dismayed at them.
3. For the customs of the people are vanity; for one cuts a tree of the forest, the work of the hands of the craftsman, with the ax.
4. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it should not move.
5. They are upright as the palm tree, and they cannot speak; they must be carried, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, nor is it in them to do good.
6. There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great and your name is great in might.
7. Who would not fear you, O King of nations? For to you it is fitting; for among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like you.
8. Stupid and foolish they all are; the instruction of their idols is just wood!

Jeremiah

9. Beaten silver is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the craftsman, and of the hands of the goldsmith; blue and purple is their clothing; they are all the work of skilled men.

10. But the Lord is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king; at his anger the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.

11. Thus shall you say to them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens.

12. He has made the earth by his power, he has established the world by his wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

13. (K) When his voice resounds with the great mass of water in the heavens, and he raises the vapors from the ends of the earth; he makes lightning for the rain, and he brings forth the wind from his storehouse.

14. Every man becomes stupid without knowledge;

Jeremiah

every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols; for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

15. They are vanity, and the work of delusion; in the time of their punishment they shall perish.

16. He, who is the portion of Jacob, is not like them; for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of his inheritance; The Lord of hosts is his name.

17. (K) Gather up your wares from the ground, O inhabitant of the besieged city.

18. For thus says the Lord, Behold, I will sling out the inhabitants of the land at this time, and will distress them, that they may feel it.

19. Woe is me for my hurt! My wound is grievous; but I said, Truly this is an affliction, and I must bear it.

20. My Tent is ruined, and all my cords are broken; my children are gone from me, and they are not; there is none to stretch forth my tent any more, and to set up my curtains.

21. For the shepherds have become stupid, and have not sought the Lord; therefore they shall not prosper,

Jeremiah

and all their flocks shall be scattered.

22. Behold, the noise of the report has come, and a great commotion out of the north country, to make the cities of Judah desolate, and a den of jackals.

23. O Lord, I know that the way of man is not his own; it is not in man that walks to direct his steps as he walks.

24. O Lord, correct me, but in due measure; not in your anger, lest you bring me to nothing.

25. Pour out your fury upon the nations that know you not, and upon the families that call not on your name; for they have devoured Jacob, and consumed him, and have made his habitation desolate.

Chapter 11

1. The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

2. Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

Jeremiah

3. And say to them, Thus says the Lord God of Israel; Cursed be the man who obeys not the words of this covenant,

4. Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you; so shall you be my people, and I will be your God;

5. That I may perform the oath which I have sworn to your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day. Then answered I, and said, Amen, O Lord.

6. Then the Lord said to me, Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Hear the words of this covenant, and do them.

7. For I earnestly warned your fathers in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, even to this day, warning them from early in the morning, saying, Obey my voice.

8. Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but

Jeremiah

walked every one in the stubbornness of their evil heart; therefore I brought upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did not do them.

9. And the Lord said to me, A conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

10. They have turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear my words; and they went after other gods to serve them; the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken my covenant which I made with their fathers.

11. Therefore thus says the Lord, Behold, I will bring evil upon them, which they shall not be able to escape; and though they shall cry to me, I will not listen to them.

12. Then shall the cities of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem go, and cry to the gods to whom they offer incense; but they shall not save them at all in the time of their trouble.

13. For as many as your cities are your gods, O

Jeremiah

Judah; and as many as the the streets of Jerusalem are the altars you have set up to shame, altars to burn incense to Baal.

14. Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them; for I will not hear them in the time that they cry to me for their trouble.

15. What has my beloved to do in my house, seeing she has done vile deeds with many, and the holy flesh is passed from you? You rejoice when you do evil.

16. The Lord called your name, A green olive tree, fair, full of beautiful fruit; with the noise of a great tumult he has kindled fire upon it, and its branches are broken.

17. For the Lord of hosts, who planted you, has pronounced evil against you, for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke me to anger in offering incense to Baal.

18. And the Lord has given me knowledge of it, and I know it; then you showed me their doings.

Jeremiah

19. But I was like a gentle lamb brought to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised plans against me, saying, Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered.

20. But, O Lord of hosts, you who judge righteously, who tests the inwards and the heart, let me see your vengeance on them; for to you have I revealed my cause.

21. Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the men of Anathoth, who seek your life, saying, Do not prophesy in the name of the Lord, so that you will not die by our hand;

22. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, Behold, I will punish them; the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine;

23. And there shall be no remnant of them; for I will bring evil upon the men of Anathoth, the year of their punishment.

Jeremiah

Chapter 12

1. Righteous are you, O Lord, when I complain to you; yet I will plead these points of justice with you: Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why are all those who deal treacherously happy?
2. You have planted them, indeed, they have taken root; they grow, indeed, they bring forth fruit; you are near in their mouth, and far from their inwards.
3. But you, O Lord, know me; you have seen me, and tested my heart toward you; pull them out like sheep for the slaughter, and prepare them for the day of slaughter.
4. How long shall the land mourn, and the grass of every field wither? For the wickedness of those who dwell there the beasts are consumed, and the birds; because they said, He shall not see our last end.
5. If you have run with men of foot, and they have wearied you, then how can you compete with horses? And if in the land of peace, on which you

Jeremiah

trusted, they wearied you, then how will you do in the wilderness by the Jordan?

6. For your brothers, and the house of your father, even they have dealt treacherously with you; indeed, they have called a multitude after you; do not believe them, though they speak good words to you.

7. I have forsaken my house, I have left my heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of my soul into the hand of her enemies.

8. My heritage is to me like a lion in the forest; it cries out against me; therefore have I hated it.

9. My heritage is to me a speckled bird of prey, and the birds of prey around her? Come, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour.

10. Many shepherds have destroyed my vineyard, they have trampled my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

11. They have made it desolate, and being desolate it mourns to me; the whole land is made desolate, because no man lays it to heart.

12. The destroyers have come upon all high hills

Jeremiah

through the wilderness; for the sword of the Lord devours from one end of the land to the other end of the land; no flesh has peace.

13. They have sown wheat, but have reaped thorns; they have put themselves to pain, but shall not profit; and they shall be ashamed of your revenues because of the fierce anger of the Lord.

14. Thus says the Lord against all my evil neighbors, who touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them.

15. And it shall come to pass, after I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them back, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land.

16. And it shall come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, The Lord lives; as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then shall they be built in the midst of my people.

Jeremiah

17. But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, says the Lord.

Chapter 13

1. Thus says the Lord to me, Go and get a linen girdle, and put it upon your loins, and put it not in water.

2. So I got a girdle according to the word of the Lord, and put it on my loins.

3. And the word of the Lord came to me the second time, saying,

4. Take the girdle that you have got, which is upon your loins, and arise, go to Perat, and hide it there in a hole of the rock.

5. So I went, and hid it in Perat, as the Lord commanded me.

6. And it came to pass after many days, that the Lord said to me, Arise, go to Perat, and take the girdle from there, which I commanded you to hide there.

Jeremiah

7. Then I went to Perat, and dug, and took the girdle from the place where I had hidden it; and, behold, the girdle was spoiled, it was good for nothing.

8. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

9. Thus says the Lord, After this manner will I spoil the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem.

10. This evil people, who refuse to hear my words, who walk in the stubbornness of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.

11. For as the girdle fits tightly to the loins of a man, so have I caused to hold tightly to me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah, says the Lord; that they might be to me for a people, and for a name, and for a praise, and for a glory; but they would not hear.

12. Therefore you shall speak to them this word; Thus says the Lord God of Israel, Every jar shall be filled with wine; and they shall say to you, Do we not certainly know that every jar shall be filled with wine?

Jeremiah

13. Then shall you say to them, Thus says the Lord, Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings who sit upon David's throne, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.

14. And I will dash them one against another, the fathers and the sons together, says the Lord; I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them.

15. Hear you, and give ear; do not be proud; for the Lord has spoken.

16. (K) Give glory to the Lord your God, before he causes darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the mountains of twilights, and, while you look for light, he turns it into the shadow of death, and makes it a thick darkness.

17. But if you will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret for your pride; and my eye shall weep bitterly, and run down with tears, because the Lord's flock is carried away captive.

18. Say to the king and to the queen, Humble

Jeremiah

yourselves, sit down; for your glorious crown has fallen from your head.

19. The cities of the Negev shall be shut up, and none shall open them; Judah shall be carried away captive all of it, it shall be completely carried away captive.

20. (K) Lift up your eyes, and behold those who come from the north; where is the flock that was given you, your beautiful flock?

21. What will you say when he shall punish you? For you have taught them to be your captains, and as chief over you; shall not pangs take hold of you, like a woman in labor?

22. And if you say in your heart, Why do these things come upon me? For the greatness of your iniquity are your skirts uncovered, and your heels made bare.

23. Can the Kushite change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then you can also do good, who are accustomed to do evil.

24. Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that

Jeremiah

passes away by the wind of the wilderness.

25. This is your lot, the portion I have measured for you, said the Lord; because you have forgotten me, and trusted in falsehood.

26. Therefore will I uncover your skirts upon your face, that your shame may be seen.

27. I have seen your adulteries, and your neighings, the lewdness of your harlotry, and your abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe to you, O Jerusalem! Will you not be made clean? How much longer will it be?

Chapter 14

1. The word of the Lord that came to Jeremiah concerning the drought.

2. Judah mourns, and its gates languish in gloom to the ground; and the cry of Jerusalem has gone up.

3. (K) And their nobles send their little ones to the waters; they come to the pits, and find no water; they

Jeremiah

return with their vessels empty; they are ashamed and confounded, and cover their heads.

4. Because the ground is cracked, for there was no rain in the earth, the plowmen are ashamed, they cover their heads.

5. The hind also calves in the field, and forsakes its young, because there is no grass.

6. And the wild asses stand in the high hills, they snuff up the wind like jackals; their eyes fail, because there is no grass.

7. O Lord, though our iniquities testify against us, do you it for your name's sake; for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against you.

8. O the hope of Israel, its savior in time of trouble, why should you be like a stranger in the land, and like a wayfaring man that turns aside to stay for a night?

9. Why should you be like a man astonished, like a mighty man who cannot save? yet you, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; leave us not.

Jeremiah

10. Thus says the Lord to this people, Thus have they loved to wander, they have not refrained their feet, therefore the Lord does not accept them; he will now remember their iniquity, and punish their sins.

11. Then says the Lord to me, Pray not for this people for their good.

12. When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and a meal offering, I will not accept them; but I will consume them by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence.

13. Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, the prophets say to them, You shall not see the sword, nor shall you have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.

14. (K) Then the Lord said to me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name; I did not send them, nor did I command them, nor did I speak to them; they prophesy to you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nothing, and the deceit of their heart.

15. Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, And I sent them

Jeremiah

not, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land. By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.

16. And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them, them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters; for I will pour their wickedness upon them.

17. Therefore you shall say this word to them: Let my eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease; for the virgin daughter of my people is broken with a great wound, with a very grievous blow.

18. If I go out to the field, then behold the slain with the sword! and if I enter into the city, then behold those who are sick with famine! For both the prophet and the priest go about into a land that they know not.

19. Have you utterly rejected Judah? Does your soul loathe Zion? Why did you strike us, and there is no

Jeremiah

healing for us? We looked for peace, and there is no good; and for the time of healing, and behold terror!

20. We acknowledge, O Lord, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers; for we have sinned against you.

21. Do not loathe us, for your name's sake, do not disgrace the throne of your glory; remember, do not break your covenant with us.

22. Are there any among the worthless gods of the nations that can cause rain? Can the heavens give showers? Are you not he, O Lord our God? Therefore we will wait upon you; for you have made all these things.

Chapter 15

1. Then says the Lord to me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, my mind could not be toward this people; cast them out of my sight, and let them depart.

2. And it shall come to pass, if they say to you, Where

Jeremiah

shall we go forth? then you shall tell them, Thus says the Lord; Those who are for death, to death; and those who are for the sword, to the sword; and those who are for the famine, to the famine; and those who are for captivity, to the captivity.

3. And I will appoint over them four kinds of destroyers, says the Lord; the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the birds of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to devour and destroy.

4. (K) And I will make them a horror for all the kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem.

5. For who shall have pity upon you, O Jerusalem? Who shall bemoan you? Who shall go aside to ask you how you do?

6. You have forsaken me, says the Lord, you have gone backwards; therefore I will stretch out my hand against you, and destroy you; I am weary with relenting.

7. And I will winnow them with a winnowing fork in the

Jeremiah

gates of the land; I will bereave them of children, I will destroy my people, since they do not return from their ways.

8. I have made their widows more in number than the sand of the seas; I have brought upon them, upon the mothers of the young men a destroyer at noonday; I have caused tumult and terrors to fall upon it suddenly.

9. (K) She who has borne seven languishes; she has fainted away; her sun has gone down while it was still day; she has been ashamed and confounded; and the remnant of them will I deliver to the sword before their enemies, says the Lord.

10. Woe is me, my mother, that you have borne me a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have not lent, nor men have lent to me; yet every one of them curses me.

11. (K) The Lord said, Have I not provided for your welfare? Have I not made the enemy entreat by intercession, in the time of evil and in the time of affliction?

Jeremiah

12. Shall iron break the northern iron and the bronze?

13. Your wealth and your treasures will I give to the destroyer without price, for all your sins, in all your borders.

14. And I will make you pass with your enemies into a land which you know not; for a fire is kindled in my anger, which shall burn upon you.

15. O Lord, you know; remember me, and be mindful of me, and revenge me of my persecutors; take me not away in your long suffering; know that for your sake I have suffered insult.

16. (K) Your words were found, and I ate them; and your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord God of hosts.

17. I sat not in the assembly of the merry makers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of your hand; for you have filled me with indignation.

18. Why is my pain everlasting, and my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, and like waters that fail?

Jeremiah

19. Therefore thus says the Lord, If you return, then will I bring you back, and you shall stand before me; and if you take out the precious from the vile, you shall be as my mouth; let them return to you; but do not return to them.

20. And I will make you to this people a fortified bronze wall; and they shall fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you; for I am with you to rescue you and to save you, says the Lord.

21. And I will save you from the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem you from the hand of the terrible.

Chapter 16

1. The word of the Lord came also to me, saying,

2. You shall not take a wife, nor shall you have sons or daughters in this place.

3. For thus says the Lord concerning the sons and concerning the daughters who are born in this place, and concerning their mothers who bore them, and

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concerning their fathers who begot them in this land;

4. They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; nor shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth; and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcasses shall be food for the birds of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

5. For thus says the Lord, Enter not into the house of mourning, nor go to lament nor bemoan them; for I have taken away my peace from this people, says the Lord, both loving kindness and mercy.

6. Both the great and the small shall die in this land; they shall not be buried, nor shall men lament for them, nor gash themselves, nor make themselves bald for them;

7. No men shall break bread during the mourning, to comfort him for the dead; nor shall men give them the cup of consolation to drink for his father or for his mother.

8. You shall also not go into the house of feasting, to sit with them to eat and to drink.

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9. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will cause to cease from this place before your eyes, and in your days, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride.

10. And it shall come to pass, when you shall tell this people all these words, and they shall say to you, Why has the Lord pronounced all this great evil against us? What is our iniquity? What is our sin that we have committed against the Lord our God?

11. Then shall you say to them, Because your fathers have forsaken me, says the Lord, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshipped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my Torah;

12. And you have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, you walk every one after the stubbornness of his evil heart, that they may not listen to me;

13. Therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that you know not, nor you nor your fathers; and there shall you serve other gods day and night;

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where I will not show you favor.

14. Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, that it shall no more be said, As the Lord lives, who brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

15. But, As the Lord lives, who brought the people of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands where he had driven them; and I will bring them back to their land that I gave to their fathers.

16. (K) Behold, I will send for many fishers, says the Lord, and they shall catch them; and afterwards will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.

17. For my eyes are upon all their ways; they are not hidden from my face, nor is their iniquity hidden from my eyes.

18. And first I will repay their iniquity and their sin double; because they have defiled my land, they have filled my inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable things.

19. O Lord, my strength, and my fortress, and my

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refuge in the day of affliction, nations shall come to you from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, worthless idols, and things in which there is no profit.

20. Shall a man make gods to himself, and they are no gods?

21. Therefore, behold, I will this once make know to them, I will cause them to know my hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is The Lord.

Chapter 17

1. The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond; it is engraved on the tablet of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars;

2. As they remember their children so they remember their altars and their Asherim by the green trees upon the high hills.

3. O mountain dweller in the field, I will give your

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wealth and all your treasures to the destroyers, and your high hills because of sin, through out all your borders.

4. And you, yourself, shall discontinue from your heritage that I gave you; and I will cause you to serve your enemies in the land which you know not; for you have kindled a fire in my anger, which shall burn for ever.

5. Thus says the Lord; Cursed be the man who trusts in man, and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart departs from the Lord.

6. For he shall be like the juniper tree in the desert, and shall not see when good comes; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.

7. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord.

8. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, that spreads out its roots by the river, and shall not see when heat comes, but its leaf shall be green; and shall not be anxious in the year of drought, nor

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shall it cease from yielding fruit.

9. The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?

10. I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the inwards, to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

11. As the partridge sits on eggs, and hatches them not; so is he who gets riches, and not by right; he shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool.

12. A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary.

13. (K) O Lord, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you shall be ashamed, and those who depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living waters.

14. Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved; for you are my praise.

15. Behold, they say to me, Where is the word of the Lord? Let it come now.

16. As for me, I did not hasten from being a shepherd

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to follow you; nor have I desired the woeful day; you know, that which came out of my lips was right before you.

17. Be not a terror to me; you are my hope in the day of evil.

18. Let those who persecute me be confounded, but let not me be confounded; let them be dismayed, but let not me be dismayed; bring upon them the day of evil, and destroy them with double destruction.

19. (K) Thus says the Lord to me; Go and stand in the Gate of the Sons of the People, by which the kings of Judah come in, and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem;

20. And say to them, Hear the word of the Lord, you kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, who enter in by these gates;

21. Thus says the Lord; Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the sabbath day, nor bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem;

22. Do not carry a burden out of your houses on the sabbath day, nor do you any work, but sanctify the

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sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers.

23. (K) But they did not obey, nor inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction.

24. And it shall come to pass, if you diligently listen to me, said the Lord, not to bring any burden through the gates of this city on the sabbath day, but sanctify the sabbath day, by not doing any work;

25. Then kings and princes shall enter into the gates of this city, who sit upon 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 shall remain for ever.

26. And they shall come from the cities of Judah, and from the places around Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the Shephelah, and from the mountains, and from the Negev, bringing burnt offerings, and sacrifices, and meal offerings, and incense, and bringing sacrifices of praise, to the house of the Lord.

27. But if you will not listen to me to sanctify the

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sabbath day, and to not carry a burden and enter the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in its gates, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.

Chapter 18

1. The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,
2. Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear my words.
3. (K) Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he was working at the wheels.
4. And the utensil that he made of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he made again another utensil, as it seemed good to the potter to make.
5. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,
6. O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? said the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of

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Israel.

7. If at any time I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, that I will pluck it up, and that I will pull it down, and that I will destroy it;

8. If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turns from its evil, I will repent of the evil that I intended to do to them.

9. And, if at any time, I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build it and to plant it;

10. (K) If it does evil in my sight, by not obeying my voice, then I will repent of the good, with which I said I would benefit them.

11. Now therefore go, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus says the Lord; Behold, I shape evil against you, and devise a plan against you; return now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.

12. And they said, There is no hope; but we will walk after our own plans, and we will every one do the

Jeremiah

stubbornness of his evil heart.

13. Therefore thus says the Lord; Ask you now among the nations, who has heard such things; the virgin of Israel has done a very horrible thing.

14. Does the snow of Lebanon leave the crags of the field? Shall the cold flowing waters that come from another place cease to run?

15. (K) Because my people has forgotten me, they have burned incense to worthless gods, and they have caused them to stumble in their ways from the old paths, to walk in paths, in a way not levelled;

16. (K) To make their land a horror, and a thing to be hissed; every one who passes by shall be astonished, and shake his head.

17. I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will show them my back, and not my face, in the day of their calamity.

18. Then said they, Come, and let us devise plans against Jeremiah; for the Torah shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, and let us strike him with

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the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words.

19. Give heed to me, O Lord, and listen to the voice of those who contend with me.

20. Shall evil be recompensed for good? For they have dug a pit for my soul. Remember that I stood before you to speak good for them, and to turn away your anger from them.

21. Therefore deliver their children to the famine, and pour out their blood by the sword; and let their wives be bereaved of their children, and be widows; and let their men be put to death; let their young men be killed by the sword in battle.

22. (K) Let a cry be heard from their houses, when you shall bring a troop suddenly upon them; for they have dug a pit to take me, and laid snares for my feet.

23. (K) Yet, Lord, you know all their counsel against me to slay me; forgive not their iniquity, nor blot out their sin from your sight, but let them be overthrown before you; deal thus with them in the time of your

Jeremiah

anger.

Chapter 19

1. Thus says the Lord, Go and get a potter's earthen jar, and take some of the elders of the people, and of the elders of the priests;

2. (K) And go forth to the valley of Ben-Hinnom, which is by the entrance of the East Gate, and proclaim there the words that I shall tell you,

3. And say, Hear the word of the Lord, O kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem; Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, which will tingle the ears of whoever hears about it.

4. Because they have forsaken me, and have profaned this place, and have burned incense in it to other gods, whom they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents;

5. They have also built the high hills of Baal, to burn

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their sons with fire for burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command, nor did I speak it, nor did it come into my mind;

6. Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, that this place shall no more be called Tophet, nor the valley of Ben-Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter.

7. And I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place; and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hands of those who seek their lives; and their carcasses will I give to be food for the birds of the heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

8. And I will make this city a horror, and a thing to be hissed; every one who passes by shall be astonished and hiss because of all its disasters.

9. And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat every one the flesh of his friend in the siege and in the distress, with which their enemies, and those who seek their lives, shall afflict them.

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10. Then shall you break the jar in the sight of the men who go with you.

11. And you shall say to them, Thus says the Lord of hosts; So will I break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again; and they shall bury them in Tophet, because there will be no place else to bury.

12. Thus will I do to this place, says the Lord, and to its inhabitants, and make this city as Tophet;

13. And the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, shall be defiled as the place of Tophet, because of all the houses upon whose roofs they have burned incense to all the host of heaven, and have poured out drink offerings to other gods.

14. Then came Jeremiah from Tophet, where the Lord had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court of the Lord's house; and said to all the people,

15. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it, because they have stiffened their necks, that they

Jeremiah

might not hear my words.

Chapter 20

1. Now Pashur the son of Immer the priest, who was also chief governor in the house of the Lord, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things.

2. Then Pashur struck Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the upper Gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the Lord.

3. And it came to pass on the next day, that Pashur brought Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then said Jeremiah to him, The Lord has not called your name Pashur, but Magor-Missabib ("Terror all around").

4. For thus says the Lord, Behold, I will make you a terror to yourself, and to all your friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and your eyes shall behold it; and I will give all Judah to the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive to Babylon, and shall slay them with the sword.

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5. Moreover I will deliver all the wealth of this city, and all its gains, and all its precious things, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah will I give to the hand of their enemies, who shall plunder them, and take them, and carry them to Babylon.

6. And you, Pashur, and all who dwell in your house shall go into captivity; and you shall come to Babylon, and there you shall die, and shall be buried there, you, and all your friends, to whom you have prophesied lies.

7. O Lord, you persuaded me, and I was persuaded; you are stronger than I, and have prevailed; I am in derision daily, every one mocks me.

8. For whenever I speak, I cry out loud, I shout of violence and ruin; the word of the Lord is a reproach to me, and a derision all day.

9. Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with restraining myself, and I could not.

10. For I heard the calumny of many, fear on every

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side. Denounce him, we will denounce him, say my close friends as they watch for my stumbling. Perhaps he will be persuaded, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him.

11. But the Lord is with me like a mighty awesome one; therefore my persecutors shall stumble, and they shall not prevail; they shall be greatly ashamed; for they shall not succeed; their everlasting confusion shall never be forgotten.

12. But, O Lord of hosts, who tests the righteous, and sees the inwards and the heart, let me see your vengeance on them; for to you have I opened my cause.

13. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord; for he has saved the soul of the poor from the hand of evildoers.

14. Cursed be the day when I was born; let not the day when my mother bore me be blessed.

15. Cursed be the man who brought news to my father, saying, A son has been born to you; making him very glad.

16. And let that man be as the cities which the Lord

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overthrew, and repented not; and let him hear a cry in the morning, and a shouting at noontime;

17. Because he did not kill me in the womb, so that my mother would have been my grave, and her womb for ever great.

18. Why did I come out of the womb to see labor and sorrow, that my days should be consumed with shame?

Chapter 21

1. The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, when king Zedekiah sent to him Pashur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying,

2. Inquire, I beseech you, of the Lord for us; for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon makes war against us; perhaps the Lord will deal with us according to all his wondrous works, so that he may go away from us.

3. Then said Jeremiah to them, Thus shall you say to

Jeremiah

Zedekiah;

4. Thus says the Lord God of Israel; Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, with which you fight against the king of Babylon, and against the Chaldeans, which besiege you outside the walls, and I will assemble them into the midst of this city.

5. And I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath.

6. And I will strike the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast; they shall die of a great pestilence.

7. And afterward, says the Lord, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and those who are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, to the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and to the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life; and he shall strike them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, nor have pity, nor have mercy.

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8. And to this people you shall say, Thus says the Lord; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death.

9. (K) He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence; but he who goes out, and falls to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be to him for booty.

10. For I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, says the Lord; it shall be given to the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

11. And concerning the house of the king of Judah, say, Hear the word of the Lord;

12. (K) O house of David, thus says the Lord; Execute judgment in the morning, and deliver he who is robbed from the hand of the oppressor, lest my fury go out like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

13. Behold, I am against you, O inhabitant of the valley, and rock of the plain, says the Lord; who say,

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Who shall come down against us? Who shall enter into our habitations?

14. But I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, said the Lord; and I will kindle a fire in its forest, and it shall devour all things around it.

Chapter 22

1. Thus says the Lord; Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word,

2. And say, Hear the word of the Lord, O king of Judah, who sits upon the throne of David, you, and your servants, and your people who enter in by these gates;

3. Thus says the Lord; Execute you judgment and righteousness, and deliver the robbed from the hand of the oppressor; and do no wrong, do no violence to the foreigner, the orphan, or the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.

4. For if you do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon

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the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people.

5. But if you will not hear these words, I swear by myself, said the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation.

6. (K) For thus says the Lord to the king's house of Judah; You are Gilead to me, and the head of Lebanon; yet surely I will make you a wilderness, and cities which are not inhabited.

7. And I will prepare destroyers against you, every one with his weapons; and they shall cut down your choice cedars, and cast them into the fire.

8. And many nations shall pass by this city, and they shall say every man to his neighbor, Why has the Lord done thus to this great city?

9. Then they shall answer, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord their God, and worshipped other gods, and served them.

10. Weep you not for the dead, nor bemoan him; but weep bitterly for him who goes away; for he shall return no more, nor see his native country.

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11. For thus says the Lord concerning Shallum the son of Josiah king of Judah, who reigned instead of Josiah his father, who went forth from this place; He shall not return there any more;

12. But he shall die in the place where they have led him captive, and shall see this land no more.

13. Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by injustice; who uses his neighbor's service without wages, and does not give him his wages;

14. Who said, I will build a wide house and large chambers; and cuts out windows; and it is covered with rafters of cedar, and painted with vermilion.

15. Shall you reign, because you compete in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink, and do judgment and justice, and then it was well with him?

16. He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well with him; Was not this to know me? says the Lord.

17. But you have eyes and heart only for your dishonest gain, and for shedding innocent blood,

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and for oppression, and for doing violence.

18. Therefore thus says the Lord concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah; They shall not lament for him, saying, Ah my brother! or, Ah sister! they shall not lament for him, saying, Ah lord! or, Ah his glory!

19. He shall be buried with the burial of an ass, drawn and thrown out beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

20. Go up to Lebanon, and cry; and lift up your voice in Bashan, and cry from Avarim; for all your lovers are destroyed.

21. I spoke to you in your prosperity; but you said, I will not hear. This has been your custom from your youth, that you obeyed not my voice.

22. The wind shall eat up all your shepherds, and your lovers shall go into captivity; surely then shall you be ashamed and confounded for all your wickedness.

23. (K) O inhabitant of Lebanon, who makes your nest in the cedars, how gracious shall you be when pangs come upon you, the pain as of a woman in labor!

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24. As I live, says the Lord, though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were the signet upon my right hand, yet I would tear you off.

25. And I will give you to the hand of those who seek your life, and to the hand of those whose face you fear, to the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and to the hand of the Chaldeans.

26. And I will cast you out, and your mother who bore you, to another country, where you were not born; and there shall you die.

27. But to the land to which they desire to return, there shall they not return.

28. Is this man Coniah a despised broken vessel? An object that no one cares for? Why are they cast out, he and his seed, and banished to a land which they know not?

29. O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the Lord.

30. Thus says the Lord, Write this man down as childless, a man who shall not prosper in his days; for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.

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Chapter 23

1. Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord.
2. Therefore thus says the Lord God of Israel against the shepherds who feed my people; You have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not punished them; behold, I will punish you for the evil of your doings, says the Lord.
3. And I will gather the remnant of my flock from all countries where I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.
4. And I will set up shepherds over them who shall feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking, says the Lord.
5. Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will raise to David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

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6. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is his name whereby he shall be called, "The Lord is Our Righteousness".

7. Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, that they shall no more say, As the Lord lives, who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

8. But, As the Lord lives, who brought up and who led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries where I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

9. My heart inside me is broken because of the prophets; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine has overcome, because of the Lord, and because of his holy words.

10. For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourns; the pastures of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their force unjust.

11. For both prophet and priest are hypocrites; even in my house have I found their wickedness, says the

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Lord.

12. Therefore their way shall be to them as slippery ways in the darkness; they shall be driven on, and fall in there; for I will bring evil upon them, the year of their punishment, says the Lord.

13. And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied by the Baal, and caused my people Israel to stray.

14. I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem a horrible thing; they commit adultery, and walk in lies; they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, so that none returns from his wickedness; all of them are to me like Sodom, and its inhabitants like Gomorrah.

15. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall; for from the prophets of Jerusalem has hypocrisy gone out to all the land.

16. Thus says the Lord of hosts, Listen not to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you; they lead you into vanity; they speak a vision of their own

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heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord.

17. They say still to those who despise me, The Lord has said, You shall have peace; and they say to every one who walks after the stubbornness of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

18. (K) For who has stood in the counsel of the Lord, and has perceived and heard his word? Who has marked his word, and heard it?

19. Behold, the stormy wind of the Lord, gone forth in fury, a whirling tempest; it shall fall upon the head of the wicked.

20. The anger of the Lord shall not return, until he has executed, and till he has performed the thoughts of his heart; in the latter days you shall consider it perfectly.

21. I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran; I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

22. But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

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23. Am I a God near at hand, says the Lord, and not a God far away?

24. Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? said the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord.

25. I have heard what the prophets said, who prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.

26. How long shall this be? It is in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies and the prophets of the deceit of their own heart;

27. Who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers forgot my name for Baal.

28. The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; and he who has my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? says the Lord.

29. Is not my word like a fire? says the Lord; and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

30. Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, says

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the Lord, who steal my words every one from his neighbor.

31. Behold, I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who use their tongues, and say, He said.

32. Behold, I am against those who prophesy false dreams, said the Lord, and tell them, and cause my people to stray by their lies, and by their vain boasting; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them; therefore they shall not profit this people at all, says the Lord.

33. And when this people, or the prophet, or a priest, shall ask you, saying, What is the burden of the Lord? you shall then say to them, What burden? I will forsake you, says the Lord.

34. And as for the prophet, and the priest, and the people, who shall say, The burden of the Lord, I will punish that man and his house.

35. Thus shall you say every one to his neighbor, and every one to his brother, What has the Lord answered? and, What has the Lord spoken?

36. And the burden of the Lord shall you mention no

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more; for every man's word shall be his burden; for you have perverted the words of the living God, of the Lord of hosts our God.

37. Thus shall you say to the prophet, What has the Lord answered you? and, What has the Lord spoken?

38. But since you say, The burden of the Lord; therefore thus said the Lord; Because you say this word, The burden of the Lord, and I have sent to you, saying, You shall not say, The burden of the Lord;

39. Therefore, behold, I, myself, will utterly forget you, and I will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence;

40. And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and an everlasting shame, which shall not be forgotten.

Chapter 24

1. After Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, had carried

Jeremiah

away Jeconiah, the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, and the princes of Judah, with the carpenters and metal workers, from Jerusalem, and had brought them to Babylon, the Lord showed me a vision, and behold, two baskets of figs placed before the temple of the Lord.

2. One basket had very good figs, like the figs that are first ripe; and the other basket had very bad figs, which were so bad that they could not be eaten.

3. Then said the Lord to me, What do you see, Jeremiah? And I said, Figs; the good figs, very good; and the bad, very bad, that cannot be eaten, they are so bad.

4. Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

5. Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel; Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge those who are carried away captive of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place to the land of the Chaldeans for their good.

6. For I will set my eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them back to this land; and I will build them,

Jeremiah

and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up.

7. And I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God; for they shall return to me with their whole heart.

8. And as the bad figs, which cannot be eaten, they are so bad; surely thus says the Lord, So will I give Zedekiah the king of Judah, and his princes, and the remnant of Jerusalem, who remain in this land, and those who dwell in the land of Egypt;

9. (K) And I will make them a horror for evil to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all the places to which I shall drive them.

10. And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they are consumed from off the land that I gave to them and to their fathers.

Chapter 25

Jeremiah

1. The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon;
2. Which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying,
3. From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even to this day, which is the twenty third year, the word of the Lord has come to me, and I have spoken to you, from early in the morning; but you have not listened.
4. And the Lord has sent to you all his servants the prophets, from early in the morning; but you have not listened, nor inclined your ear to hear.
5. They said, Turn again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the Lord has given to you and to your fathers for ever and ever;
6. And do not go after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and do not provoke me to anger

Jeremiah

with the works of your hands; and I will not harm you.

7. (K) Yet you have not listened to me, says the Lord; that you might provoke me to anger with the works of your hands to your own harm.

8. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts; Because you have not heard my words,

9. Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, said the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against its inhabitants, and against all these surrounding nations, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an horror, a thing to be hissed, an everlasting ruin.

10. Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the lamp.

11. And this whole land shall be a ruin, and a waste; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Jeremiah

12. And it shall come to pass, when the seventy years are fulfilled, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, says the Lord, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it an everlasting desolation.

13. (K) And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced against it, all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah has prophesied against all the nations.

14. For many nations and great kings shall make slaves of them also; and I will reward them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands.

15. For thus says the Lord God of Israel to me; Take the wine cup of this fury from my hand, and make all the nations, to whom I send you, drink it.

16. And they shall drink, and stagger, and be crazed, because of the sword that I will send among them.

17. Then I took the cup from the Lord's hand, and made all the nations drink, to whom the Lord had sent me;

Jeremiah

18. Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and its kings, and its princes, to make them a desolation and a waste, a thing to be hissed, and a curse; as it is this day;

19. Pharaoh king of Egypt, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people;

20. And all the mixed tribes, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod, Edom, and Moab, and the

21. Ammonites,

22. And all the kings of Tyre, and all the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the islands which are beyond the sea,

23. Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all who cut the corners of their hair,

24. And all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mixed tribes who dwell in the desert,

25. And all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes,

Jeremiah

26. And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world, which are upon the face of the earth; and the king of Sheshach shall drink after them.

27. Therefore you shall say to them, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Drink, and be drunk, and vomit, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.

28. And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup from your hand to drink, then shall you say to them, Thus says the Lord of hosts; You shall certainly drink.

29. For, behold, I begin to bring evil to the city which is called by my name, and should you go utterly unpunished? You shall not be unpunished; for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, says the Lord of hosts.

30. Therefore prophesy against them all these words, and say to them, The Lord shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as those who trample the grapes, against all

Jeremiah

the inhabitants of the earth.

31. A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with the nations, he will enter into judgment with all flesh; he will give those who are wicked to the sword, says the Lord.

32. Thus says the Lord of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great stormy wind shall be raised up from the far ends of the earth.

33. And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth till the other end of the earth; they shall not be lamented, nor gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

34. Howl, you shepherds, and cry; and roll yourselves in the ashes, you chiefs of the flock; for the days have come for you to be slaughtered and dispersed; and you shall fall like a choice vessel.

35. And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the chiefs of the flock to escape.

36. A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and a howling of the chiefs of the flock, shall be heard; for the Lord has ruined their pasture.

Jeremiah

37. And the peaceable habitations are cut down because of the fierce anger of the Lord.

38. He has left his covert, like the lion; for their land is desolate because of the fierceness of the oppressor, and because of his fierce anger.

Chapter 26

1. In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word from the Lord, saying,

2. Thus says the Lord; Stand in the court of the Lord's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the Lord's house, all the words that I command you to speak to them; leave nothing out.

3. Perhaps they will listen, and turn every man from his evil way, that I may relent of the evil, which I intend to do to them because of the evil of their doings.

Jeremiah

4. And you shall say to them, Thus says the Lord; If you will not listen to me, to walk in my Torah, which I have set before you,
5. To listen to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I sent to you, sending them from early in the morning, but you have not listened.
6. (K) Then will I make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.
7. So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the Lord.
8. Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the Lord had commanded him to speak to all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, You shall surely die.
9. Why have you prophesied in the name of the Lord, saying, This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate without an inhabitant? And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the Lord.

Jeremiah

10. When the princes of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to the house of the Lord, and sat down at the entrance of the New Gate of the Lord's house.

11. Then spoke the priests and the prophets to the princes and to all the people, saying, This man deserves to die; for he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your ears.

12. Then spoke Jeremiah to all the princes and to all the people, saying, The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city all the words that you have heard.

13. Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God; and the Lord will relent of the evil that he has pronounced against you.

14. As for me, behold, I am in your hand; do with me as seems good and proper to you.

15. But know you for certain, that if you put me to death, you shall surely bring innocent blood upon yourselves, and upon this city, and upon its

Jeremiah

inhabitants; for of a truth the Lord has sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.

16. Then said the princes and all the people to the priests and to the prophets; This man does not deserve to die; for he has spoken to us in the name of the Lord our God.

17. Then rose up some of the elders of the land, and spoke to all the assembly of the people, saying,

18. (K) Micah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spoke to all the people of Judah, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts; Zion shall be plowed like a field, and Jerusalem shall become a heap, and the mountain of the house a wooded height.

19. Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him to death? Did he not fear the Lord, and pleaded with the Lord, and the Lord relented of the evil which he had pronounced against them? And shall we bring such a great evil against our souls?

20. And there was also a man who prophesied in the name of the Lord, Uriahu the son of Shemaiah of

Jeremiah

Kiriath-HaJearim, who prophesied against this city and against this land according to all the words of Jeremiah;

21. And when Jehoiakim the king, with all his mighty men, and all the princes, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death; but when Uriahu heard it, he was afraid, and fled, and went to Egypt;

22. And Jehoiakim the king sent men to Egypt, Elnathan the son of Achbor, and others with him to Egypt.

23. And they brought Uriahu from Egypt, and brought him to Jehoiakim the king; who slew him with the sword, and threw his dead body to the graves of the common people.

24. Nevertheless the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah, that they should not give him to the hand of the people to put him to death.

Chapter 27

Jeremiah

1. In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,
2. Thus says the Lord to me; Make thongs and yokes, and put them around your neck,
3. And send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the Ammonites, and to the king of Tyre, and to the king of Sidon, by the hand of the messengers who come to Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah;
4. And command them to say to their masters, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Thus shall you say to your masters;
5. I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it to whom it seemed proper to me.
6. And now I have given all these lands to the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him.

Jeremiah

7. And all nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the time of his own land also comes; and then many nations and great kings shall make him a slave.

8. And it shall come to pass, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I punish, says the Lord, with the sword, and with the famine, and with the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand.

9. Therefore do not listen to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak to you, saying, You shall not serve the king of Babylon;

10. For they prophesy a lie to you, to remove you far from your land; and that I should drive you out, and you should perish.

11. But the nations that bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him, those will I let remain still in their own land, says the Lord;

Jeremiah

and they shall till it, and dwell there.

12. I spoke also to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live.

13. Why will you die, you and your people, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as the Lord has spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

14. Therefore listen not to the words of the prophets that speak to you, saying, You shall not serve the king of Babylon; for they prophesy a lie to you.

15. For I have not sent them, says the Lord, yet they prophesy a lie in my name; that I might drive you out, and that you might perish, you, and the prophets that prophesy to you.

16. Also I spoke to the priests and to all this people, saying, Thus said the Lord; Listen not to the words of your prophets that prophesy to you, saying, Behold, the utensils of the Lord's house shall now soon be brought again from Babylon; for they

Jeremiah

prophecy a lie to you.

17. Do not listen to them; serve the king of Babylon, and live; why should this city be laid waste?

18. But if they are prophets, and if the word of the Lord is with them, let them now make intercession to the Lord of hosts, that the utensils which are left in the house of the Lord, and in the house of the king of Judah, and in Jerusalem, do not go to Babylon.

19. For thus says the Lord of hosts concerning the pillars, and concerning the sea, and concerning the bases, and concerning the rest of the utensils that remain in this city,

20. (K) Which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon did not take, when he carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem;

21. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the utensils that remain in the house of the Lord, and in the house of the king of Judah and of Jerusalem;

22. They shall be carried to Babylon, and there shall

Jeremiah

they remain until the day when I give attention to them, says the Lord; then will I bring them, and restore them to this place.

Chapter 28

1.(K) And it came to pass the same year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year, and in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, who was of Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the Lord, in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying,

2.Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.

3.Within two full years will I bring again to this place all the utensils of the Lord's house, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place, and carried to Babylon;

4.And I will bring again to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, with all the captives of

Jeremiah

Judah, who went to Babylon, says the Lord; for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.

5. Then the prophet Jeremiah said to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests, and in the presence of all the people who stood in the house of the Lord,

6. The prophet Jeremiah said, Amen; the Lord do so; the Lord perform your words which you have prophesied, to bring back the utensils of the Lord's house, and all who were carried away captive, from Babylon to this place.

7. Nevertheless hear now this word that I speak in your ears, and in the ears of all the people;

8. The prophets that have been before me and before you of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of war, and of evil, and of pestilence.

9. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet shall come to pass, then shall it be known that the Lord has truly sent that prophet.

Jeremiah

10. Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and broke it.

11. And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, Thus says the Lord; So will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the period of two full years. And the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

12. Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, after Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

13. Go and tell Hananiah, saying, Thus says the Lord; You have broken the yokes of wood; but you shall make for them yokes of iron.

14. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; I have put a yoke of iron upon the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him; and I have given him the beasts of the field also.

15. Then said the prophet Jeremiah to Hananiah the prophet, Hear now, Hananiah; The Lord has not sent

Jeremiah

you; but you make this people trust in a lie.

16. Therefore thus says the Lord; Behold, I will cast you from off the face of the earth; this year you shall die, because you have uttered rebellion against the Lord.

17. So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.

Chapter 29

1. And these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the remnant of the elders who were carried away captives, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon;

2. After Jeconiah the king, and the queen mother, and the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the craftsmen, and the metal workers had departed from Jerusalem;

3. By the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and

Jeremiah

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 who are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon;

5. Build houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat their fruit;

6. Take wives, and father sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that you may be increased there, and not diminished.

7. And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace shall you have peace.

8. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that are in your midst, deceive you, nor listen to your dreams which you encourage them to dream.

Jeremiah

9. For they prophesy falsely to you in my name; I have not sent them, says the Lord.

10. For thus says the Lord, That after seventy years are fulfilled at Babylon I will take heed of you, and perform my good word toward you, making you return to this place.

11. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

12. Then shall you call upon me, and you shall go and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

13. And you shall seek me, and find me, when you shall search for me with all your heart.

14. (K) And I will allow myself to be found by you, says the Lord; and I will restore you from your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places into which I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I caused you to be driven away.

15. Because you have said, The Lord has raised us up prophets in Babylon;

Jeremiah

16. Know that thus says the Lord of the king that sits upon the throne of David, and of all the people who dwell in this city, and of your brothers who have not gone forth with you to captivity;

17. Thus says the Lord of hosts; Behold, I will send upon them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like vile figs, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil.

18. (K) And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will make them for a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and a thing to be hissed, and a reproach among all the nations where I have driven them;

19. Because they have not listened to my words, says the Lord, which I sent to them by my servants the prophets, sending them from early in the morning; but you would not hear, says the Lord.

20. Hear therefore the word of the Lord, all you of the captivity, whom I have sent from Jerusalem to Babylon;

Jeremiah

21. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, of Ahab the son of Kolaiah, and of Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah, who prophesy a lie to you in my name; Behold, I will deliver them to the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall slay them before your eyes;

22. And of them shall be taken up a curse by all the captivity of Judah who are in Babylon, saying, The Lord should make you like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire;

23. (K) Because they have committed villainy in Israel, and have committed adultery with their neighbors' wives, and have spoken lying words in my name, which I have not commanded them; but I am he who knows, and I am a witness, says the Lord.

24. Thus shall you also speak to Shemaiah the Nehelamite, saying,

25. Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, Because you have sent letters in your name to all the people who are in Jerusalem, and to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all

Jeremiah

the priests, saying,

26. The Lord has made you priest in place of Jehoiada the priest, that there should be officers in the house of the Lord, for every man who is mad, and makes himself a prophet, that you should put him in the stocks, and collar.

27. Now therefore why have you not reprov'd Jeremiah of Anathoth, who makes himself a prophet to you?

28. For he sent to us in Babylon, saying, This captivity is long; build houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat their fruit.

29. And Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the ears of Jeremiah the prophet.

30. Then came the word of the Lord to Jeremiah, saying,

31. Send to all those the captivity, saying, Thus says the Lord concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite; Because Shemaiah has prophesied to you, and I did not send him, and he caused you to trust in a lie;

32. Therefore thus says the Lord; Behold, I will punish

Jeremiah

Shemaiah the Nehelamite, and his seed; he shall not have a man to dwell among this people; nor shall he behold the good that I will do for my people, says the Lord; because he has uttered rebellion against the Lord.

Chapter 30

1. The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,
2. Thus speaks the Lord God of Israel, saying, Write all the words that I have spoken to you in a book.
3. For, behold, the days come, says the Lord, when I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, says the Lord; and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.
4. And these are the words that the Lord spoke concerning Israel and concerning Judah.
5. For thus says the Lord; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace.

Jeremiah

6. Ask now, and see whether a man labors with child? Why do I see every man with his hands on his loins, like a woman in labor, and all faces are turned to paleness?

7. Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it; it is a time of trouble for Jacob; but he shall be saved out of it.

8. For it shall come to pass in that day, says the Lord of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off your neck, and will burst your bonds, and strangers shall no more enslave him;

9. But they shall serve the Lord their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up to them.

10. Therefore do not fear, O my servant Jacob, says the Lord; nor be dismayed, O Israel; for, behold, I will save you from afar, and your seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be quiet and at ease, and none shall make him afraid.

11. For I am with you, says the Lord, to save you; though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, yet I will not make a full end of you;

Jeremiah

but I will correct you in due measure, and will not leave you altogether unpunished.

12. For thus says the Lord, Your hurt is incurable, and your wound is grievous.

13. There is none to plead your cause, that you may be bound up; you have no healing medicines.

14. All your lovers have forgotten you; they seek you not; for I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the multitude of your iniquity; because your sins were increased.

15. Why do you cry over your hurt? Your pain is incurable for the multitude of your iniquity; because your sins were increased, I have done these things to you.

16. Therefore all those who devour you shall be devoured; and all your adversaries, every one of them, shall go to captivity; and those who plunder you shall be plundered, and all those who prey upon you will I give for a prey.

17. For I will restore health to you, and I will heal your

Jeremiah

wounds, says the Lord; because they called you an outcast, saying, This is Zion, for whom no man cares.

18. Thus says the Lord; Behold, I will bring back the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwelling places; and the city shall be build upon her own mound, and the palace shall stand where it used to be.

19. And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of those who make merry; and I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small.

20. Their children also shall be as before, and their congregation shall shall be established before me, and I will punish all who oppress them.

21. And their nobles shall be of themselves, and their governor shall proceed from their midst; and I will cause him to draw near, and he shall approach me; for who is this who engaged his heart to approach me? says the Lord.

22. And you shall be my people, and I will be your

Jeremiah

God.

23. Behold, the stormy wind of the Lord goes forth with fury, a continuing stormy wind; it shall fall with pain upon the head of the wicked.

24. The fierce anger of the Lord shall not return, until he has done it, and until he has performed the intents of his heart; in the latter days you shall consider it.

25. At the same time, says the Lord, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

Chapter 31

1. Thus says the Lord, The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest.

2. The Lord has appeared to me, far away, saying, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have remained true to you.

Jeremiah

3. Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin of Israel; you shall again be adorned with your tambourines, and shall go out dancing with those who make merry.

4. You shall yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit.

5. For there shall be a day, when the watchmen upon Mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise, and let us go up to Zion to the Lord our God.

6. For thus says the Lord; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout on the hilltops of the nations; proclaim, praise, and say, O Lord, save your people, the remnant of Israel.

7. Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the ends of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and she who labors with child together; a great company shall return there.

8. They shall come weeping, and with supplications will I lead them; I will make them walk by the rivers

Jeremiah

of waters in a straight way, where they shall not stumble; for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

9. Hear the word of the Lord, O you nations, and declare it in the islands far away, and say, He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, like a shepherd keeps his flock.

10. For the Lord has redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him who was stronger than he.

11. Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow to the goodness of the Lord, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd; and their soul shall be like a watered garden; and they shall not languish in sorrow any more.

12. Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together; for I will turn their mourning to joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

13. And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my

Jeremiah

goodness, says the Lord.

14. Thus says the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

15. Thus says the Lord; Refrain your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for your work shall be rewarded, says the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.

16. And there is hope for your future, says the Lord, that your children shall come again to their own border.

17. I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; You have chastised me, and I was chastised, like a bull unaccustomed to the yoke; turn me back, and I shall be turned; for you are the Lord my God.

18. For after I had returned away, I repented; and after I was instructed, I struck upon my thigh; I was ashamed and even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

19. Is Ephraim my dear son? Is he a darling child? For

Jeremiah

whenever I speak of him, I earnestly remember him still; therefore my inward parts are troubled for him; I will surely have mercy upon him, says the Lord.

20. (K) Set up road marks for yourself, make signposts; set your heart towards the road, the way on which you go; turn back, O virgin of Israel, turn back to these your cities.

21. How long will you go about, O you faithless daughter? for the Lord has created a new thing in the earth: A woman shall court a man.

22. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Again they shall use these words in the land of Judah and in its cities, when I shall bring back their captivity; The Lord bless you, O habitation of justice, and mountain of holiness.

23. And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all its cities together, farmers, and those who go forth with flocks.

24. For I have will satisfy the weary soul, and I will replenish every sorrowful soul.

25. Upon this I awoke, and looked on; and my sleep

Jeremiah

was sweet to me.

26. Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast.

27. And it shall come to pass, that just as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to break down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, said the Lord.

28. In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.

29. But every one shall die for his own iniquity; every man who eats sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge.

30. Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah;

31. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; my covenant

Jeremiah

which they broke, although I was their master, says the Lord;

32. But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, says the Lord, I will put my Torah in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

33. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord; for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will no longer remember their sin.

34. Thus says the Lord, who gives the sun for a light by day, and the fixed order of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divides the sea when its waves roar; The Lord of hosts is his name.

35. If those ordinances depart from before me, says the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

36. Thus says the Lord; If heaven above can be

Jeremiah

measured, and the foundations of the earth explored below, then I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, says the Lord.

37. (K) Behold, the days come, says the Lord, when the city shall be built to the Lord from the Tower of Hananeel to the Corner's Gate.

38. (K) And the measuring line shall go further straight to the hill Gareb, and shall turn around to go to Goath.

39. (K) And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook of Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy to the Lord; it shall not be plucked up, nor pulled down any more for ever.

Chapter 32

1. (K) The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar.

2. At that time the king of Babylon's army besieged

Jeremiah

Jerusalem; and Jeremiah, the prophet, was imprisoned in the court of the prison, which was in the house of the king of Judah.

3. For Zedekiah king of Judah had imprisoned him, saying, Why do you prophesy, and say, Thus says the Lord, Behold, I will give this city to the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it;

4. And Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape from the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered to the hand of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him mouth to mouth, and his eyes shall behold his eyes;

5. And he shall lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there shall he be until I visit him, says the Lord; though you fight with the Chaldeans, you shall not succeed.

6. And Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

7. Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum your uncle shall come to you, saying, Buy my field that is in Anathoth; for the right of redemption is yours to buy it.

Jeremiah

8. So Hanameel my uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the Lord, and said to me, Buy my field, I beg you, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin; for the right of inheritance is yours, and the redemption is yours; buy it for yourself. Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

9. And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, seventeen shekels of silver.

10. And I signed the deed, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed the money on scales.

11. So I took the deed of the purchase, both the one which was sealed, containing the terms and conditions, and the one which was open;

12. And I gave the deed of the purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the presence of Hanameel my uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of the purchase, before all the men of Judah who sat in the court of the prison.

Jeremiah

13. And I charged Baruch in their presence, saying,

14. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Take these deeds, this deed of the purchase, both the one which is sealed, and this deed which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may last for many days.

15. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Houses and fields and vineyards shall be bought again in this land.

16. Now when I had delivered the deed of the purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the Lord, saying,

17. Ah Lord God! behold, you have made the heaven and the earth by your great power and by your stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for you;

18. You show loving kindness to thousands, and recompense the iniquity of the fathers to the bosom of their children after them; O great and mighty God, the Lord of hosts, is his name,

19. Great in counsel, and mighty in work; for your eyes

Jeremiah

are open upon all the ways of the sons of men; to give to every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings;

20. Who set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even to this day, and in Israel, and among mankind; and you have made a name for yourself, as at this day;

21. And have brought forth your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with great terror;

22. And you have given them this land, which you swore to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey;

23. (K) And they came in, and possessed it; but they obeyed not your voice, nor walked in your Torah; they have done nothing of all that you commanded them to do; therefore you have caused all this evil to come upon them;

24. Behold the siege works, they have come to the city to take it; and the city is given to the hand of the

Jeremiah

Chaldeans, who fight against it, because of the sword, and of the famine, and of the pestilence; and what you have spoken has come to pass; and, behold, you see it.

25. And you have said to me, O Lord God, Buy the field for money, and take witnesses; though the city is given to the hand of the Chaldeans.

26. Then came the word of the Lord to Jeremiah, saying,

27. Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is there any thing too hard for me?

28. Therefore thus says the Lord; Behold, I will give this city to the hand of the Chaldeans, and to the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it;

29. And the Chaldeans, who fight against this city, shall come and set this city on fire, and burn it with the houses, upon whose roofs they have offered incense to Baal, and poured out drink offerings to other gods, to provoke me to anger.

30. For the people of Israel and the people of Judah

Jeremiah

have done only evil before me from their youth; for the people of Israel have provoked me to anger with the work of their hands, says the Lord.

31. For this city has been to me like a provocation of my anger and of my fury from the day that they built it even till this day; that I should remove it from before my face,

32. Because of all the evil of the people of Israel and of the people of Judah, which they have done to provoke me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

33. And they have turned to me their back, and not their face; though I taught them, teaching them from early in the morning, yet they have not listened to receive instruction.

34. But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it.

35. And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of Ben-Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire to Molech;

Jeremiah

which I commanded them not, nor came it to my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

36. And now therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning this city, about which you say, It shall be delivered to the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence.

37. Behold, I will gather them from all countries, where I have driven them in my anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again to this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely;

38. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God;

39. And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for their good, and for their children after them;

40. And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.

Jeremiah

41. And I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul.

42. For thus says the Lord; Just as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them.

43. And fields shall be bought in this land, about which you say, It is desolate without man or beast; it is given to the hand of the Chaldeans.

44. Men shall buy fields for money, and sign deeds, and seal them, and take witnesses in the land of Benjamin, and in the places around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, and in the cities of the mountains, and in the cities of the valley, and in the cities of the Negev; for I will cause their captivity to return, says the Lord.

Chapter 33

1. And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the second time, while he was still imprisoned in the

Jeremiah

court of the prison, saying,

2. Thus says the Lord its maker, the Lord who formed it, to establish it; the Lord is his name;

3. Call me, and I will answer you, and tell you great and mighty things, which you know not.

4. For thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city, and concerning the houses of the kings of Judah, which were torn down to make a defense against the siege works, and by the sword;

5. They come to fight with the Chaldeans, and to fill them with the dead bodies of men, whom I have slain in my anger and in my fury, for I have hidden my face from this city, for all their wickedness.

6. Behold, I will bring health and cure to it, and I will cure them, and will reveal to them abundance of peace and truth.

7. And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first.

8. (K) And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, in

Jeremiah

which they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, in which they have sinned, and in which they have transgressed against me.

9. And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honor before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do to them; and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I provide to it.

10. Thus says the Lord; Again there shall be heard in this place, which you say shall be desolate without man and without beast, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, that are desolate, without man, and without inhabitant, and without beast,

11. The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who shall say, Praise the Lord of hosts; for the Lord is good; for his mercy endures for ever; and of those who shall bring the sacrifice of praise to the house of the Lord. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, says the Lord.

Jeremiah

12. Thus says the Lord of hosts; Again in this place, which is desolate without man and without beast, and in all its cities, shall be a habitation of shepherds who make their flocks lie down.

13. In the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the Shephelah, and in the cities of the Negev, and in the land of Benjamin, and in the places around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, shall the flocks pass again under the hands of him who tells them, says the Lord.

14. Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

15. In those days, and at that time, will I cause an offshoot of righteousness to grow up to David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

16. In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely; and this is the name by which she shall be called, The Lord is our righteousness.

Jeremiah

17. For thus says the Lord; David shall never lack a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;

18. Neither shall the priests the Levites lack a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meal offerings, and to do sacrifice continually.

19. And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

20. Thus says the Lord; If you can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season;

21. Then also my covenant with David my servant may be broken, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.

22. As the host of heaven cannot be counted, nor the sand of the sea measured; so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites who minister to me.

23. And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

24. Have you not observed what this people have

Jeremiah

spoken, saying, The Lord has cast off the two families which he chose? Thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them.

25. Thus says the Lord; If my covenant is not established with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth;

26. (K) Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, and not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.

Chapter 34

1. The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and all his army, and all the kingdoms of the earth of his dominion, and all the people, fought against Jerusalem, and against all its cities, saying,

2. Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel; Go and

Jeremiah

Speak to Zedekiah king of Judah, and tell him, Thus says the Lord; Behold, I will give this city to the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire;

3. And you shall not escape from his hand, but shall surely be taken, and delivered to his hand; and your eyes shall behold the eyes of the king of Babylon, and he shall speak with you mouth to mouth, and you shall go to Babylon.

4. Yet hear the word of the Lord, O Zedekiah king of Judah; Thus said the Lord of you, You shall not die by the sword;

5. But you shall die in peace; and as spices were burned for your fathers, the previous kings who were before you, so shall they burn spices for you; and they will lament you, saying, Ah lord! For I have pronounced the word, says the Lord.

6. Then Jeremiah the prophet spoke all these words to Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem,

7. When the king of Babylon's army fought against Jerusalem, and against all the cities of Judah that were left, against Lachish, and against Azekah; for

Jeremiah

these fortified cities remained of the cities of Judah.

8. This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, after the king Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people who were in Jerusalem, to proclaim liberty to them;

9. That every man should let his Hebrew male slave, and every man his Hebrew female slave, go free; that none should enslave any of them, namely, a man of Judah, being his brother.

10. Now when all the princes, and all the people, who had entered into the covenant, heard that every one should let his male slave, and every one his female slave, go free, that none should enslave them any more, then they obeyed, and let them go.

11. (K) But afterward they relapsed, and caused the male slaves, and the female slaves, whom they had let go free, to return, and brought them into subjection as slaves.

12. Therefore the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

13. Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel; I made a

Jeremiah

covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slaves, saying,

14. At the end of seven years set free every man his Hebrew brother, who has been sold to you; and when he has served you six years, you shall let him go free from you; but your fathers did not listen to me, nor inclined their ear.

15. And you now turned, and have done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbor; and you have made a covenant before me in the house which is called by my name;

16. But you turned and polluted my name, and caused every man his male slave, and every man his female slave, whom he had set free according to their desire, to return, and brought them into subjection, to be your slaves.

17. (K) Therefore thus says the Lord; Since you have not listened to me, in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother, and every man to his neighbor; behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, says the Lord, to

Jeremiah

the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine; and I will make you a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.

18. And I will give the men who have transgressed my covenant, which have not kept the words of the covenant which they had made before me, when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts.

19. The princes of Judah, and the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, and the priests, and all the people of the land, who passed between the parts of the calf;

20. I will give them to the hand of their enemies, and to the hand of those who seek their life; and their dead bodies shall be food for the birds of the heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

21. And Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes will I give to the hand of their enemies, and to the hand of those who seek their life, and to the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which are gone up from you.

22. Behold, I will command, says the Lord, and cause

Jeremiah

them to return to this city; and they shall fight against it, and take it, and burn it with fire; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation without inhabitant.

Chapter 35

1. The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying,

2. Go to the house of the Rechabites, and speak to them, and bring them to the house of the Lord, to one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink.

3. Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habaziah, and his brothers, and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites;

4. And I brought them to the house of the Lord, to the chamber of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which was near the chamber of the princes, which was above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the gatekeeper;

5. And I set before the sons of the house of the

Jeremiah

Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups, and I said to them, Drink you wine.

6. But they said, We will drink no wine; for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, You shall drink no wine, nor you, nor your sons for ever;

7. Neither shall you build house, nor sow seed, nor plant vineyard, nor have any; but all your days you shall dwell in tents; that you may live many days in the land where you sojourn.

8. Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he has charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters;

9. Nor to build houses for us to dwell in; nor have we vineyards, nor fields, nor seed;

10. But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.

11. But it came to pass, when Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came up to the land, that we said, Come,

Jeremiah

and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Arameans; so we dwell at Jerusalem.

12. Then came the word of the Lord to Jeremiah, saying,

13. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, Will you not receive instruction to listen to my words? says the Lord.

14. The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine, have been kept; for to this day they drink none, but obey their father's commandment; however I have spoken to you, from early in the morning; but you listened not to me.

15. I have sent also to you all my servants the prophets, sending them from early in the morning, saying, Return now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and you shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers; but you have

Jeremiah

not inclined your ear, nor listened to me.

16. Because the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have kept the commandment of their father, which he commanded them; but this people has not listened to me;

17. Therefore thus says the Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them; because I have spoken to them, but they have not heard; and I have called to them, but they have not answered.

18. And Jeremiah said to the house of the Rechabites, Thus said the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Because you have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according to all that he has commanded you;

19. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not lack a man to stand before me for ever.

Chapter 36

Jeremiah

1. And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,
2. Take a scroll, and write in there all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah, even till this day.
3. It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I intend to do to them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.
4. Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah; and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the Lord, which he had spoken to him, upon a scroll.
5. And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I am imprisoned; I cannot go to the house of the Lord;
6. Therefore go, and read from the scroll, which you have written from my mouth, the words of the Lord in

Jeremiah

the ears of the people in the Lord's house in the day of fast; and also you shall read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities.

7. Perhaps they will present their supplication before the Lord, and will return every one from his evil way; for great is the anger and the fury that the Lord has pronounced against this people.

8. And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading from the scroll the words of the Lord in the Lord's house.

9. And it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the Lord to all the people in Jerusalem, and to all the people who came from the cities of Judah to Jerusalem.

10. Then Baruch read from the scroll the words of Jeremiah in the house of the Lord, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher court, at the entrance of the New Gate of the Lord's house, in the ears of all the people.

Jeremiah

11. When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard from the scroll all the words of the Lord,

12. Then he went down to the king's house, to the scribe's chamber; and, behold, all the princes sat 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 princes.

13. Then Michaiah told them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the scroll in the ears of the people.

14. Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Kushi, to Baruch, saying, Take in your hand the scroll which you have read in the ears of the people, and come. So Baruch the son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand, and came to them.

15. And they said to him, Sit down now, and read it in our ears. So Baruch read it in their ears.

16. Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the

Jeremiah

words, they turned to one another in fear, and said to Baruch, We must report to the king all these words.

17. And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, How did you write all these words, from his mouth?

18. Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these words to me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the scroll.

19. Then said the princes to Baruch, Go, hide, you and Jeremiah; and let no man know where you are.

20. And they went to the king to the court, but they deposited the scroll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and reported all the words to the ears of the king.

21. So the king sent Jehudi to bring the scroll; and he took it out of Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes who stood beside the king.

22. And the king sat in the winter house in the ninth month; and there was a fire on the brazier burning before him.

Jeremiah

23. And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he would cut them off with a penknife, and throw them to the fire that was on the brazier, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was on the brazier.

24. Yet they were not afraid, nor did they tear their garments, not the king, nor any of his servants who had heard all these words.

25. Nevertheless Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had pleaded with the king not to burn the scroll; but he would not hear them.

26. And the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of Hammelech, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet; but the Lord hid them.

27. And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, after the king had burned the scroll, and the words which Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,

28. Take again another scroll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first scroll, which

Jeremiah

Jehoiakim the king of Judah has burned.

29. And you shall say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, Thus says the Lord; You have burned this scroll, saying, Why have you written in there, saying, The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from there man and beast?

30. Therefore thus says the Lord of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David; and his dead body shall be thrown out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.

31. And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they listened not.

32. Then took Jeremiah another scroll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote in there from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the scroll which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire; and there were added to them many

Jeremiah

similar words.

Chapter 37

1. And king Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah.
2. But not he, nor his servants, nor the people of the land, listened to the words of the Lord, which he spoke by the prophet Jeremiah.
3. And Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, Pray now to the Lord our God for us.
4. (K) Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the people; for they had not put him in prison.
5. Then Pharaoh's army came forth out of Egypt; and when the Chaldeans who besieged Jerusalem heard news of them, they departed from Jerusalem.

Jeremiah

6. Then came the word of the Lord to the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

7. Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel; Thus shall you say to the king of Judah, who sent you to me to inquire of me; Behold, Pharaoh's army, which has come forth to help you, shall return to Egypt to their own land.

8. And the Chaldeans shall come again, and fight against this city, and take it, and burn it with fire.

9. Thus says the Lord; Deceive not yourselves, saying, The Chaldeans shall surely depart from us; for they shall not depart.

10. For even if you had defeated the whole army of the Chaldeans who fight against you, and there remained only wounded men among them, they would rise up every man in his tent, and burn this city with fire.

11. And it came to pass, that when the army of the Chaldeans had withdrawn from Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's army,

12. Then Jeremiah went out of Jerusalem to go to the

Jeremiah

land of Benjamin, to slip out from these in the midst of the people.

13. And when he was in the Gate of Benjamin, a sentry was there, whose name was Irijah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah; and he seized Jeremiah the prophet, saying, You are deserting to the Chaldeans.

14. Then said Jeremiah, It is false; I am not deserting to the Chaldeans. But he listened not to him; so Irijah took Jeremiah, and brought him to the princes.

15. Therefore the princes were angry with Jeremiah, and struck him, and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe; for they had made that the prison.

16. When Jeremiah was put in the dungeon, in the cells, and Jeremiah had remained there many days;

17. Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took him out; and the king asked him secretly in his house, and said, Is there any word from the Lord? And Jeremiah said, There is; for, said he, you shall be delivered to the hand of the king of Babylon.

Jeremiah

18. Moreover Jeremiah said to king Zedekiah, What have I offended against you, or against your servants, or against this people, that you have put me in prison?

19. (K) Where are now your prophets who prophesied to you, saying, The king of Babylon shall not come against you, nor against this land?

20. Therefore hear now, I beg you, O my lord the king; let my supplication, I beg you, be accepted before you; that you not make me return to the house of Jonathan the scribe, lest I die there.

21. Then Zedekiah the king commanded that they should commit Jeremiah into the court of the guard, and that they should give him daily a piece of bread from the bakers' street, until all the bread in the city was gone. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.

Chapter 38

1. Then Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah

Jeremiah

the son of Pashur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashur the son of Malchiah, heard the words that Jeremiah had spoken to all the people, saying,

2. (K) Thus says the Lord, He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence; but he who goes forth to the Chaldeans shall live; for he shall have his life for a prey, and shall live.

3. Thus says the Lord, This city shall surely be given to the hand of the army of the king of Babylon, who shall take it.

4. Therefore the princes said to the king, We beseech you, let this man be put to death; for thus he weakens the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words to them; for this man does not seek the welfare of this people, but their harm.

5. Then Zedekiah the king said, Behold, he is in your hand; for the king can not do any thing against you.

6. Then they took Jeremiah, and cast him into the pit of Malchiah the son of Hammelech, that was in the

Jeremiah

court of the guard; and they let down Jeremiah with ropes. And in the pit there was no water, but mire; and Jeremiah sunk in the mire.

7. Now when Ebed-Melech the Kushite, one of the eunuchs who was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the pit; the king was sitting then in the Gate of Benjamin;

8. Ebed-Melech went forth from the king's house, and spoke to the king, saying,

9. My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the pit; and he is likely to die of hunger in the place where he is; for there is no more bread in the city.

10. Then the king commanded Ebed-Melech the Kushite, saying, Take from here thirty men with you, and pull up Jeremiah the prophet out of the pit, before he dies.

11. (K) So Ebed-Melech took the men with him, and went to the house of the king under the treasury, and took from there old rags and worn out clothes, and

Jeremiah

let them down by ropes into the pit to Jeremiah.

12. And Ebed-Melech the Kushite said to Jeremiah, Put now these old rags and worn out clothes under your armpits under the ropes. And Jeremiah did so.

13. And they pulled up Jeremiah with ropes, and took him up out of the pit; and Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.

14. Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took Jeremiah the prophet to him to the third entrance that is in the house of the Lord; and the king said to Jeremiah, I will ask you something; hide nothing from me.

15. Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, If I declare it to you, will you not surely put me to death? And if I give you counsel, you will not listen to me.

16. So Zedekiah the king swore secretly to Jeremiah, saying, As the Lord lives, who made us this soul, I will not put you to death, nor will I give you to the hand of these men who seek your life.

17. Then said Jeremiah to Zedekiah, Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the God of Israel; If you will assuredly go forth to the princes of the king of

Jeremiah

Babylon, then your soul shall live, and this city shall not be burned with fire; and you shall live, and your house;

18. But if you will not go forth to the princes of the king of Babylon, then this city shall be given to the hand of the Chaldeans, and they shall burn it with fire, and you shall not escape from their hand.

19. And Zedekiah the king said to Jeremiah, I am afraid of the men of Judah who have deserted to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me to their hand, and they abuse me.

20. But Jeremiah said, They shall not deliver you. Obey, I beseech you, the voice of the Lord, which I speak to you; so it shall be well to you, and your soul shall live.

21. But if you refuse to go forth, this is the word that the Lord has told me;

22. And, behold, all the women who are left in the house of the king of Judah shall be brought forth to the king of Babylon's princes, and these women shall say, Your friends have set you on, and have

Jeremiah

prevailed against you; your feet are sunk in the mire, and they are turned away back.

23. So they shall bring out all your wives and your children to the Chaldeans; and you shall not escape from their hand, but shall be taken by the hand of the king of Babylon; and you shall cause this city to be burned with fire.

24. Then said Zedekiah to Jeremiah, Let no man know of these words, and you shall not die.

25. But if the princes hear that I have talked with you, and they come to you, and say to you, Declare to us now what you have said to the king, hide it not from us, and we will not put you to death; also what the king said to you;

26. Then you shall say to them, I presented my supplication before the king, that he would not make me return to Jonathan's house, to die there.

27. Then came all the princes to Jeremiah, and asked him; and he told them according to all these words that the king had commanded. So they left off speaking with him; for the conversation was not

Jeremiah

overhead.

28. So Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard until the day that Jerusalem was taken; and he was there when Jerusalem was taken.

Chapter 39

1. In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, came Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon and all his army against Jerusalem, and they besieged it.

2. And in the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, the ninth day of the month, a breach was made in the city.

3. And all the princes of the king of Babylon came in, and sat in the middle gate, Nergalsharezer, Samgarnebo, Sarsechim, Rabsaris, Nergalsharezer, Rabmag, with all the remnant of the princes of the king of Babylon.

4. And it came to pass, that when Zedekiah the king of Judah saw them, and all the men of war, then

Jeremiah

they fled, and went forth out of the city by night, by the way of the king's garden, by the gate between the two walls; and he went out the way of the Arabah.

5. But the Chaldeans' army pursued after them, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho; and when they had taken him, they brought him to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath, where he gave judgment upon him.

6. Then the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah in Riblah before his eyes; also the king of Babylon slew all the nobles of Judah.

7. And he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him with chains, to carry him to Babylon.

8. And the Chaldeans burned the king's house, and the houses of the people, with fire, and broke down the walls of Jerusalem.

9. Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive to Babylon the remnant of the people who remained in the city, and the deserters who had deserted to him, with the rest of the people who

Jeremiah

remained.

10. But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left of the poor of the people, who had nothing, in the land of Judah, and gave them vineyards and fields at the same time.

11. Now Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon gave charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying,

12. Take him, and look well to him, and do him no harm; but do to him as he shall say to you.

13. So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard sent, and Nebushasban, Rabsaris, and Nergalsharezer, Rabmag, and all the king of Babylon's princes;

14. They sent, and took Jeremiah out of the court of the prison, and committed him to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, that he should carry him home; so he dwelt among the people.

15. Now the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, while he was imprisoned in the court of the guard, saying,

16. Go and speak to Ebed-Melech the Kushite, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel;

Jeremiah

Behold, I will bring my words upon this city for evil, and not for good; and they shall be accomplished in that day before you.

17. But I will deliver you in that day, says the Lord; and you shall not be given to the hand of the men of whom you are afraid.

18. For I will surely deliver you, and you shall not fall by the sword, but your life shall be for a prey to you; because you have put your trust in me, says the Lord.

Chapter 40

1. The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, after Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him bound in chains among all those who were carried away captive from Jerusalem and Judah, who were carried away captive to Babylon.

2. And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah, and said to him, The Lord your God has pronounced this

Jeremiah

evil upon this place.

3. (K) Now the Lord has brought it, and done according as he has said; because you have sinned against the Lord, and have not obeyed his voice, therefore this thing has come upon you.

4. And now, behold, I free you this day from the chains which were upon your hand. If it seems good to you to come with me to Babylon, come; and I will look well to you; but if it seems ill to you to come with me to Babylon, do not come; behold, all the land is before you; where it seems good and convenient for you to go, go there.

5. Now while he was not yet turned back, he said, Go back also to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon has made governor over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the people; or go wherever it seems convenient to you to go. And the captain of the guard gave him provisions and a present, and let him go.

6. Then went Jeremiah to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam

Jeremiah

to Mizpah; and dwelt with him among the people who were left in the land.

7. Now when all the captains of the forces which were in the fields, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam governor in the land, and had committed to him men, and women, and children, and the poor of the land, those who were not carried away captive to Babylon;

8. (K) Then they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan and Jonathan the sons of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Jezaniah the son of the Maachathite, they and their men.

9. And Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan swore to them and to their men, saying, Fear not to serve the Chaldeans; dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.

10. As for me, behold, I will dwell at Mizpah, to serve the Chaldeans, which will come to us; but you,

Jeremiah

gather wine, and summer fruits, and oil, and put them in your utensils, and dwell in your cities that you have taken.

11. Likewise when all those from Judah who were in Moab, and among the Ammonites, and in Edom, and those who were in all the countries, heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant of Judah, and that he had set over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan;

12. All the men of Judah returned from all the places where they had been driven and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah, to Mizpah, and gathered a great abundance of wine and summer fruits.

13. And Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were in the fields, came to Gedaliah to Mizpah,

14. And said to him, Do you know that Baalis the king of the Ammonites has sent Ishmael the son of Nethaniah to kill you? But Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, did not believe them.

15. Then Johanan the son of Kareah spoke to

Jeremiah

Gedaliah in Mizpah secretly, saying, Let me go, I beg you, and I will kill Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and no man shall know it; why should he kill you, that all the men of Judah who are gathered to you should be scattered, and the remnant in Judah perish?

16. But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said to Johanan the son of Kareah, You shall not do this thing; for you speak falsely of Ishmael.

Chapter 41

1. Now it came to pass in the seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama, of the royal seed, and the princes of the king, ten men with him, came to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah; and there they ate bread together in Mizpah.

2. Then arose Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and the ten men who were with him, and struck Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan with the sword,

Jeremiah

and killed him, whom the king of Babylon had made governor over the land.

3. Ishmael also killed all those from Judah who were with him, with Gedaliah, at Mizpah, and the Chaldeans who were found there, and the men of war.

4. And it came to pass the second day after he had killed Gedaliah, and no man knew it,

5. That there came some men from Shechem, from Shiloh, and from Samaria, eighty men, having their beards shaven, and their clothes torn, and having cut themselves, with offerings and incense in their hand, to bring them to the house of the Lord.

6. And Ishmael the son of Nethaniah went out from Mizpah to meet them, weeping all along as he went; and it came to pass, as he met them, he said to them, Come to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam.

7. And it was so, when they came to the midst of the city, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah killed them, and threw them to the midst of the pit, he, and the men who were with him.

Jeremiah

8. But ten men were found among those who said to Ishmael, Do not kill us, for we have hidden stores in the field, of wheat, and of barley, and of oil, and of honey. So he refrained, and did not kill them among their brothers.

9. And the pit where Ishmael had thrown all the dead bodies of the men, whom he had killed because of Gedaliah, was the one which Asa the king had made for fear of Baasha king of Israel; and Ishmael the son of Nethaniah filled it with those who were killed.

10. Then Ishmael carried away captive all the remnant of the people who were in Mizpah, even the king's daughters, and all the people who remained in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had committed to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam; and Ishmael the son of Nethaniah carried them away captive, and departed to go over to the Ammonites.

11. But when Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, heard of all the evil that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had done,

Jeremiah

12. Then they took all the men, and went to fight with Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and found him by the large pool of waters that are in Gibeon.

13. Now it came to pass, that when all the people who were with Ishmael saw Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, then they were glad.

14. So all the people that Ishmael had carried away captive from Mizpah turned about and came back, and went to Johanan the son of Kareah.

15. But Ishmael the son of Nethaniah escaped from Johanan with eight men, and went to the Ammonites.

16. Then took Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, all the remnant of the people whom he had recovered from Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, from Mizpah, after he had killed Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, mighty men of war, and the women, and the children, and the eunuchs, whom he had brought back from Gibeon;

17. (K) And they departed, and dwelt in

Jeremiah

Gerut-Kimaham, which is by Beth-Lehem, to go to enter to Egypt,

18. Because of the Chaldeans; for they were afraid of them, because Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had killed Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon made governor in the land.

Chapter 42

1. Then all the captains of the forces, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least even to the greatest, came near,

2. And said to Jeremiah the prophet, We beseech you, let our supplication be accepted before you, and pray for us to the Lord your God, for all this remnant; for we are left but a few of many, as your eyes see us;

3. That the Lord your God may show us the way where we may walk, and the thing that we may do.

4. Then Jeremiah the prophet said to them, I have

Jeremiah

heard you; behold, I will pray to the Lord your God according to your words; and it shall come to pass, that whatever thing the Lord shall answer you, I will declare it to you; I will keep nothing back from you.

5. Then they said to Jeremiah, The Lord be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not act according to all things for which the Lord your God shall send you to us.

6. (K) Whether it be good, or whether it be evil, we will obey the voice of the Lord our God, to whom we send you; that it may be well with us, when we obey the voice of the Lord our God.

7. And it came to pass after ten days, that the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah.

8. Then he called Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest,

9. And said to them, Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me to present your supplication before him;

10. If you will still remain in this land, then I will build

Jeremiah

you, and not pull you down, and I will plant you, and not pluck you up; for I repent me of the evil that I have done to you.

11. Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom you are afraid; be not afraid of him, says the Lord; for I am with you to save you, and to rescue you from his hand.

12. And I will show mercy to you, that he may have mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own land.

13. But if you say, We will not dwell in this land, nor obey the voice of the Lord your God,

14. Saying, No; but we will go to the land of Egypt, where we shall see no war, nor hear the sound of the shofar, nor have hunger of bread; and there will we dwell;

15. And now therefore hear the word of the Lord, you remnant of Judah; Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; If indeed you set your faces to enter to Egypt, and go to sojourn there;

16. Then it shall come to pass, that the sword, which

Jeremiah

you feared, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and the famine, of which you were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there you shall die.

17. So shall it be with all the men who set their faces to go to Egypt to sojourn there; they shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence; and none of them shall remain or escape from the evil that I will bring upon them.

18. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; As my anger and my fury has been poured forth upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so shall my fury be poured forth upon you, when you shall enter into Egypt; and you shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach; and you shall see this place no more.

19. The Lord has said concerning you, O you remnant of Judah; Do not go to Egypt; know certainly that I have warned you this day.

20. (K) For you have gone astray at peril to your lives, when you sent me to the Lord, your God, saying,

Jeremiah

Pray for us to the Lord our God; and according to all that the Lord our God shall say, so declare to us, and we will do it.

21. And now I have this day declared it to you; but you have not obeyed the voice of the Lord your God, nor any thing for which he has sent me to you.

22. Now therefore know certainly that you shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, in the place where you wish to go and to sojourn.

Chapter 43

1. And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had finished speaking to all the people all the words of the Lord their God, for which the Lord their God had sent him to them, all these words,

2. Then spoke Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, saying to Jeremiah, You speak falsely; the Lord our God has not sent you to say, Do not go to Egypt to sojourn there;

Jeremiah

3. But Baruch the son of Neriah sets you on against us, to deliver us to the hand of the Chaldeans, that they might put us to death, and carry us away captives to Babylon.

4. So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, obeyed not the voice of the Lord, to dwell in the land of Judah.

5. But Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, took all the remnant of Judah, who had returned from all nations, where they had been driven, to dwell in the land of Judah;

6. Men, and women, and children, and the king's daughters, and every person that Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch the son of Neriah.

7. So they came to the land of Egypt; for they obeyed not the voice of the Lord; thus came they to Tahpanhes.

8. Then came the word of the Lord to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,

Jeremiah

9. Take great stones in your hand, and hide them in the mortar in the brick work, which is at the entrance of Pharaoh's house in Tahpanhes, in the sight of the men of Judah;

10. (K) And say to them, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will set his throne upon these stones that I have hidden; and he shall spread his royal pavilion over them.

11. (K) And when he comes, he shall strike the land of Egypt, and deliver those who are for death to death; and those who are for captivity to captivity; and those who are for the sword to the sword.

12. And I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt; and he shall burn them, and carry them away captives; and he shall fold up the land of Egypt, like a shepherd folds up his garment; and he shall go forth from there in peace.

13. He shall break also the obelisks of Heliopolis, that is in the land of Egypt; and the houses of the gods of

Jeremiah

the Egyptians shall he burn with fire.

Chapter 44

1. The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the men of Judah who dwell in the land of Egypt, who dwell at Migdol, and at Tahpanhes, and at Noph, and in the country of Pathros, saying,
2. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; You have seen all the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, and upon all the cities of Judah; and, behold, this day they are a desolation, and no man dwells in there,
3. Because of their wickedness which they have committed to provoke me to anger, in that they went to burn incense, and to serve other gods, whom they knew not, nor they, you, nor your fathers.
4. But I sent to you all my servants the prophets, sending them from early in the morning, saying, Oh, do not do this abominable thing that I hate.
5. But they did not listen, nor inclined their ear to turn

Jeremiah

from their wickedness, to burn no incense to other gods.

6. Therefore my fury and my anger was poured forth, and was kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and they are wasted and desolate, as at this day.

7. Therefore now thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: Why do you commit this great evil against your souls, to cut off from you man and woman, child and suckling, out of Judah, to leave none to remain?

8. You provoke me to anger with the works of your hands, burning incense to other gods in the land of Egypt, where you have gone to dwell, that you might cut yourselves off, and that you might be a curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth.

9. Have you forgotten the wickedness of your fathers, and the wickedness of the kings of Judah, and the wickedness of their wives, and your own wickedness, and the wickedness of your wives, which they have committed in the land of Judah, and

Jeremiah

in the streets of Jerusalem?

10. They are not humbled even till this day, nor have they feared, nor walked in my Torah, nor in my statutes, that I set before you and before your fathers.

11. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will set my face against you for evil, and to cut off all Judah.

12. And I will take the remnant of Judah, who have set their faces to go to the land of Egypt to sojourn there, and they shall all be consumed, and fall in the land of Egypt; they shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine; they shall die, from the least even to the greatest, by the sword and by the famine; and they shall become an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach.

13. For I will punish those who dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence;

14. So that none of the remnant of Judah, who have gone to the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall

Jeremiah

escape or remain, that they should return to the land of Judah, to the which they wish to return to dwell there; for none shall return but those who shall escape.

15. Then all the men who knew that their wives had burned incense to other gods, and all the women who stood by, a great multitude, all the people who dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying,

16. As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the Lord, we will not listen to you.

17. But we will certainly do whatever thing goes forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the Queen of Heaven, and to pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem; for then had we plenty of bread, and were well, and saw no evil.

18. But since we ceased burning incense to the Queen of Heaven, and to pour out drink offerings to her, we have lacked all things, and have been

Jeremiah

consumed by the sword and by the famine.

19. And when we burned incense to the Queen of Heaven, and poured out drink offerings to her, did we alone make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her, without our men?

20. Then Jeremiah said to all the people, to the men, and to the women, and to all the people who had given him that answer, saying,

21. The incense that you burned in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, you, and your fathers, your kings, and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the Lord remember them, and came it not to his mind?

22. So that the Lord could no longer bear, because of the evil of your doings, and because of the abominations which you have committed; therefore is your land a desolation, and an astonishment, and a curse, without an inhabitant, as at this day.

23. Because you have burned incense, and because you have sinned against the Lord, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord, nor walked in his

Jeremiah

Torah, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil has happened to you, as at this day.

24. And Jeremiah said to all the people, and to all the women, Hear the word of the Lord, all those of Judah who are in the land of Egypt;

25. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, saying; You and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and fulfilled with your hand, saying, We will surely keep our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the Queen of Heaven, and to pour out drink offerings to her; you will surely accomplish your vows, and surely keep your vows.

26. Therefore hear the word of the Lord, all those of Judah who dwell in the land of Egypt: Behold, I have sworn by my great name, says the Lord, that my name shall no more be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, The Lord God lives.

27. Behold, I will watch over them for evil, and not for good; and all the men of Judah who are in the land

Jeremiah

of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until there is an end to them.

28. Yet a small number who escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt to the land of Judah, and all the remnant of Judah, who have gone to the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall know whose words shall stand, mine, or theirs.

29. And this shall be a sign to you, says the Lord, that I will punish you in this place, that you may know that my words shall surely stand against you for evil;

30. Thus says the Lord; Behold, I will give Pharaoh Hophra king of Egypt to the hand of his enemies, and to the hand of those who seek his life; as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah to the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, his enemy, who sought his life.

Chapter 45

1. The word that Jeremiah the prophet spoke to Baruch the son of Neriah, when he had written these

Jeremiah

words in a scroll from the mouth of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying,

2. Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch;

3. You said: Woe is me now! for the Lord has added grief to my pain; I am weary in my sighing, and I find no rest.

4. Thus shall you say to him, The Lord said thus: Behold, that which I have built will I break down, and that which I have planted I will pluck up, even this whole land.

5. And do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them; for, behold, I will bring evil upon all flesh, says the Lord; but your life will I give to you for a prey in all places to which you go.

Chapter 46

1. The word of the Lord which came to Jeremiah the prophet against the nations;

Jeremiah

2. Against Egypt, against the army of Pharaoh Necho king of Egypt, who was by the river Euphrates in Carchemish, whom Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah.

3. Order the buckler and shield, and draw near to battle.

4. Harness the horses; and get up, you horsemen, and stand forth with your helmets; polish the spears, and put on the coats of mail.

5. Why have I seen them dismayed and turned away back? And their mighty ones are beaten down, and have fled away, and do not look back; for fear was all around, says the Lord.

6. Let not the swift flee away, nor the mighty man escape; they shall stumble, and fall towards the north by the river Euphrates.

7. Who is this who rises like the river, and like streams of turbulent waters?

8. Egypt rises up like a river, and like streams of turbulent waters; and he said, I will go up, and will

Jeremiah

cover the earth; I will destroy the city and its inhabitants.

9. Come up, O horses; and rage, O chariots; and let the mighty men come forth: Kush and Put, who handle the shield, and Ludim, who handle and bend the bow.

10. For this is the day of the Lord God of hosts, a day of vengeance, that he may avenge him of his adversaries; and the sword shall devour, and it shall be sated and drink its fill of their blood; for the Lord God of hosts has a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates.

11. (K) Go up to Gilead, and take balm, O virgin, daughter of Egypt; in vain shall you use many medicines; for you shall not be cured.

12. The nations have heard of your shame, and your cry has filled the land; for the mighty man has stumbled against the mighty, and they have fallen both together.

13. The word that the Lord spoke to Jeremiah the prophet, how Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon

Jeremiah

should come and strike the land of Egypt.

14. Announce in Egypt, and proclaim in Migdol, and report in Noph and in Tahpanhes; say, Stand fast, and prepare; for the sword shall devour around you.

15. Why are your brave men swept away? None of them stood, because the Lord thrust him down.

16. He made many to fall, indeed, one fell upon another; and they said, Arise, and let us go again to our own people, and to the land of our birth, from the oppressing sword.

17. They cried there, Pharaoh king of Egypt is but a noise; he has passed the time appointed.

18. As I live, said the King, whose name is the Lord of hosts, Surely as Tabor is among the mountains, and as Carmel is by the sea, so shall he come.

19. O you daughter dwelling in Egypt! Furnish yourself with the baggage of exile; for Noph shall be waste and desolate without an inhabitant.

20. Egypt is like a very beautiful heifer, but destruction comes; it comes from the north.

21. Also her hired men are in the midst of her like

Jeremiah

fatted bulls; for they also are turned back, and have fled away together; they did not stand, because the day of their calamity came upon them, and the time of their punishment.

22. Her sound is like that of a serpent on the move; for they shall march with force, and come against her with axes, like wood cutters.

23. They shall cut down her forest, says the Lord, though it cannot be searched; because they are more numerous than locusts, and are without number.

24. The daughter of Egypt shall be confounded; she shall be delivered to the hand of the people of the north.

25. The Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, said: Behold, I will punish the multitude of No, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, with their gods, and their kings; even Pharaoh, and all those who trust in him;

26. And I will deliver them to the hand of those who seek their lives, and to the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and to the hand of his servants; and

Jeremiah

afterwards it shall be inhabited, as in the days of old, says the Lord.

27. But do not fear, O my servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, O Israel; for, behold, I will save you from far away, and your seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid.

28. Do not fear, O my servant Jacob, says the Lord; for I am with you; for I will make a full end of all the nations where I have driven you; but I will not make a full end of you, but correct you in due measure; yet I will not leave you unpunished.

Chapter 47

1. The word of the Lord that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Philistines, before Pharaoh struck Gaza.

2. Thus says the Lord; Behold, waters rise up from the north, and shall be an overflowing flood, and shall overflow the land, and all that is in there; the

Jeremiah

city, and those who dwell in there; then the men shall cry, and all the inhabitants of the land shall howl.

3. At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs of his strong horses, at the rushing of his chariots, and at the rumbling of his wheels, the fathers shall not look back to their children for feebleness of hands;

4. Because of the day that comes to destroy all the Philistines, and to cut off from Tyre and Sidon every helper who remains; for the Lord will destroy the Philistines, the remnant of the country of Caphtor.

5. Baldness has come upon Gaza; Ashkelon is cut off. O, remnant of their valley! How long will you gash yourself?

6. O you sword of the Lord, how long will it be before you are quiet? Put yourself into your scabbard, rest, and be still.

7. How can you be quiet, seeing the Lord has given it a charge against Ashkelon, and against the sea shore? there has he appointed it.

Jeremiah

Chapter 48

1. Against Moab thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Woe to Nebo! for it is ruined; Kiriathayim is confounded and taken; Misgab is confounded and dismayed.
2. There shall be no more praise of Moab; in Heshbon they have devised evil against it; come, and let us cut it off from being a nation. Also you shall be cut down, O Madmen; the sword shall pursue you.
3. A voice of crying shall be from Horonaim, spoiling and great destruction.
4. (K) Moab is destroyed; her little ones have raised a cry.
5. (K) For in the ascent of Luhith with continual weeping shall they go; for in the descent of Horonaim the enemies have heard a cry of destruction.
6. Flee, save your lives, and be like the juniper tree in the wilderness.

Jeremiah

7. (K) Because you have trusted in your works and in your treasures, you shall also be taken; and Kemosh shall go forth to captivity with his priests and his princes together.

8. And the destroyer shall come upon every city, and no city shall escape; the valley also shall perish, and the plain shall be destroyed, as the Lord has spoken.

9. Give wings to Moab, that it may flee and get away; for its cities shall be desolate, without anyone to dwell in there.

10. Cursed be he who does the work of the Lord negligently, and cursed be he who keeps back his sword from blood.

11. Moab has been at ease from his youth, and he has settled on his lees, and has not been emptied from vessel to vessel, nor has he gone to exile; therefore his taste remained in him, and his scent is not changed.

12. Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, when I will send to him tilters, who will tilt him, and shall empty his vessels, and break their jars in

Jeremiah

pieces.

13. And Moab shall be ashamed of Kemosh, as the house of Israel was ashamed of Beth-El, their confidence.

14. How can you say, We are mighty and strong men for the war?

15. Moab is ruined, and they gone up into her cities, and his chosen young men are gone down to the slaughter, says the King, whose name is the Lord of hosts.

16. The calamity of Moab is near at hand, and his affliction hastens fast.

17. All you who are around him, bemoan him; and all you who know his name, say, How is the strong staff broken, and the glorious rod!

18. (K) You daughter who inhabits Dibon, come down from your glory, and sit in thirst; for the destroyer of Moab shall come upon you, and he shall destroy your fortresses.

19. O inhabitant of Aroer, stand by the way, and watch; ask him who flees, and her who escapes, and

Jeremiah

say, What has happened?

20. (K) Moab is confounded; for it is broken down; howl and cry; tell it in Arnon, that Moab is ruined,

21. And judgment has come upon the plain country; upon Holon, and upon Jahazah, and upon Mephaath,

22. And upon Dibon, and upon Nebo, and upon Beth-Diblatayim,

23. And upon Kiriathayim, and upon Beth-Gamul, and upon Beth-Meon,

24. And upon Kerioth, and upon Bozrah, and upon all the cities of the land of Moab, far or near.

25. The horn of Moab is cut off, and his arm is broken, says the Lord.

26. Make him drunk; for he magnified himself against the Lord; Moab also shall roll in his vomit, and he also shall be in derision.

27. (K) For was not Israel a derision to you? Was he found among thieves? for since you spoke of him, you wagged your head.

Jeremiah

28. O you who dwell in Moab, leave the cities, and dwell in the rock, and be like the dove that makes her nest in the sides of the hole's mouth.

29. We have heard the pride of Moab, he is very proud, his loftiness, and his arrogance, and his pride, and the haughtiness of his heart.

30. I know his insolence, says the Lord; his boasts are false, his deeds are false.

31. Therefore will I howl for Moab, and I will cry out for all Moab; my heart shall mourn for the men of Kirheres.

32. O vine of Sibmah, I will weep for you with the weeping of Jazer; your plants are gone over the sea, they reach to the sea of Jazer; the destroyer has fallen upon your summer fruits and upon your vintage.

33. And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab; and I have caused wine to fail from the wine presses; none shall tread with shouting; their shouting shall be no shouting.

34. From the cry of Heshbon to Elealeh, and to Jahaz,

Jeremiah

have they uttered their voice, from Zoar to Horonaim, like a three year old heifer; for the waters also of Nimrim shall be desolate.

35. Moreover I will cause to cease in Moab, says the Lord, he who offers in the high places, and he who burns incense to his gods.

36. Therefore my heart shall sound for Moab like flutes, and my heart shall sound like pipes for the men of Kirheres; because the riches that he has gained are perished.

37. For every head shall be bald, and every beard clipped; upon all the hands shall be gashes, and upon the loins sackcloth.

38. There shall be nothing but lamentation upon all the housetops of Moab, and in its streets; for I have broken Moab like an unwanted vessel, says the Lord.

39. They shall howl, saying, How is it broken down! How has Moab turned her back with shame! So shall Moab be a derision and a cause of despair to all those around him.

Jeremiah

40. For thus says the Lord; Behold, he shall fly like an eagle, and shall spread his wings over Moab.

41. Kerioth is taken, and the fortresses are surprised, and the mighty men's hearts in Moab at that day shall be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

42. And Moab shall be destroyed from being a people, because he has magnified himself against the Lord.

43. Terror, and the pit, and the snare, shall be upon you, O inhabitant of Moab, says the Lord.

44. (K) He who flees from the terror shall fall to the pit; and he who gets out of the pit shall be caught in the snare; for I will bring upon it, upon Moab, the year of their punishment, says the Lord.

45. Under the shadow of Heshbon those who fled stood without strength; for a fire has come out of Heshbon, and a flame from the midst of Sihon, and has devoured the corner of Moab, and the crown of the head of the roaring people.

46. Woe to you, O Moab! the people of Kemosh perishes; for your sons are taken captives, and your daughters captives.

Jeremiah

47. Yet I will bring back the captivity of Moab in the latter days, said the Lord. Thus for the judgment of Moab.

Chapter 49

1. Concerning the Ammonites, thus says the Lord; Has Israel no sons? Has he no heir? Why then does their king inherit Gad, and his people dwell in his cities?

2. Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, that I will cause an alarm of war to be heard in Rabbah of the Ammonites; and it shall be a desolate heap, and her daughters shall be burned with fire; then shall Israel dispossess those who dispossessed her, says the Lord.

3. Howl, O Heshbon, for Ai is ruined; cry, you daughters of Rabbah, gird you with sackcloth; lament, and run to and fro by the hedges; for their king shall go to exile, and his priests and his princes together.

Jeremiah

4. Why do you glory in the valleys? Your valley flows with blood, O faithless daughter? who trusted in her treasures, saying, Who shall come against me?
5. Behold, I will bring a fear upon you, says the Lord God of hosts, from all those who are around you; and you shall be driven out every man straight before him; and none shall take in the wanderer.
6. And afterwards I will bring back the exile of the Ammonites, says the Lord.
7. Concerning Edom, thus says the Lord of hosts; Is wisdom no more in Teman? Has counsel perished from the prudent? Has their wisdom vanished?
8. Flee, turn back, dwell in the deeps, O inhabitants of Dedan; for I will bring the calamity of Esau upon him, the time when I punish him.
9. If grape gatherers come to you, would they not leave some gleaning grapes? If thieves by night, they will destroy only till they have enough.
10. But I have stripped Esau bare, I have uncovered his secret places, and he shall not be able to hide himself; his seed is ruined, and his brothers, and his

Jeremiah

neighbors, and he himself is no more.

11. Leave your orphaned children, I will preserve them alive; and let your widows trust in me.

12. For thus says the Lord; Behold, If those who should not have drunk of the cup shall surely drink, will you go unpunished? You shall not go unpunished, but you shall surely drink of it.

13. For I have sworn by myself, says the Lord, that Bozrah shall become a desolation, a reproach, a waste, and a curse; and all its cities shall be everlasting ruins.

14. I have heard a rumor from the Lord, and an ambassador is sent to the nations, saying, Gather together, and come against her, and rise up to the battle.

15. For, behold, I will make you small among the nations, and despised among men.

16. Your terribleness has deceived you, and the pride of your heart, O you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, who hold the height of the hill; though you should make your nest as high as the eagle, I will

Jeremiah

bring you down from there, says the Lord.

17. Also Edom shall be a desolation; every one who goes by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss at all its disasters.

18. As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring cities, says the Lord, no man shall remain there, nor shall a son of man dwell in it.

19. Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the wilderness by the Jordan against a strong sheepfold; but I will suddenly make him run away from her; and I will appoint over her whoever I choose. For who is like me? And who will set me a time? And who is that shepherd who will stand before me?

20. Therefore hear the counsel of the Lord, that he has taken against Edom; and his intentions, that he intends against the inhabitants of Teman; Surely the least of the flock shall drag them away; surely their fold shall be appalled at them.

21. The earth is moved at the noise of their fall; the sound of her cry is heard in the Red Sea.

22. Behold, he shall come up and fly as the eagle, and

Jeremiah

spread his wings over Bozrah; and at that day shall the heart of the mighty men of Edom be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

23. Concerning Damascus. Hamath is confounded, and Arpad; for they have heard evil news; they are fainthearted; there is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet.

24. Damascus is grown feeble, and turns herself to flee, and fear has seized her; anguish and sorrows have taken her, like a woman in labor.

25. (K) How is the city of praise left without succor, the city of my joy!

26. Therefore her young men shall fall in her streets, and all the men of war shall be cut off in that day, says the Lord of hosts.

27. And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus, and it shall consume the palaces of Ben-Hadad.

28. (K) Concerning Kedar, and concerning the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon shall strike, thus says the Lord; Arise, go up to Kedar, and destroy the men of the east.

Jeremiah

29. Their tents and their flocks shall they take away; they shall take to themselves their curtains, and all their utensils, and their camels; and they shall cry to them, Fear is on every side.

30. (K) Flee, go far away, dwell in the deeps, O you inhabitants of Hazor, said the Lord; for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon has taken counsel against you, and has conceived an intention against you.

31. Arise, advance against a nation at ease, that dwells securely, says says the Lord, that does not have gates nor bars, that dwell alone.

32. And their camels shall be a booty, and the multitude of their cattle a spoil; and I will scatter to every wind tho cut the corners of their hair; and I will bring their calamity from every sides, said the Lord.

33. And Hazor shall be a dwelling for jackals, and a desolation for ever; there shall no man remain there, nor any son of man dwell in it.

34. The word of the Lord that came to Jeremiah the prophet against Elam in the beginning of the reign of

Jeremiah

Zedekiah king of Judah, saying,

35. Thus says the Lord of hosts; Behold, I will break the bow of Elam, the chief of their might.

36. (K) And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation to which the outcasts of Elam shall not come.

37. For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies, and before those who seek their life; and I will bring evil upon them, my fierce anger, says the Lord; and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them;

38. And I will set my throne in Elam, and will destroy from there the king and the princes, says the Lord.

39. (K) But it shall come to pass in the latter days, that I will bring again the captivity of Elam, says the Lord.

Chapter 50

1. The word that the Lord spoke against Babylon and

Jeremiah

against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.

2. Declare among the nations, and proclaim, and set up a banner; proclaim, and do not conceal; say, Babylon is taken, Bel is confounded, Merodach is broken in pieces; her idols are put to shame, her images are broken in pieces.

3. For from the north comes a nation against her, which shall make her land desolate, and none shall dwell in there; they shall remove, they shall depart, both man and beast.

4. In those days, and in that time, says the Lord, the people of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping; they shall go, and seek the Lord their God.

5. They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces towards it, saying, Come, and let us join ourselves to the Lord in an everlasting covenant that shall not be forgotten.

6. (K) My people has been lost sheep; their shepherds have caused them to go stray, they have

Jeremiah

turned them away on the mountains; they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their resting place.

7. All who found them have devoured them; and their adversaries said, We are not guilty, because they have sinned against the Lord, the habitation of justice, against the Lord, the hope of their fathers.

8. (K) Flee from Babylon, and depart from the land of the Chaldeans, and be as the male goats before the flocks.

9. For, behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country; and they shall set themselves in array against her; from there she shall be taken; their arrows shall be like those of an skilled warrior; none shall return in vain.

10. And Chaldea shall be a booty; all who plunder her shall be satisfied, says the Lord.

11. (K) Because you were glad, because you rejoiced, O you robbers of my heritage, because you have grown fat like the heifer in the grass, and you neigh

Jeremiah

like stallions;

12. Your mother shall be greatly ashamed; she who bore you shall be disgraced; behold, she shall be the last of the nations, a wilderness, a dry land, and a desert.

13. Because of the anger of the Lord it shall not be inhabited, but it shall be wholly desolate; every one who goes by Babylon shall be astonished, and hiss at all her disasters.

14. Set yourselves in array against Babylon around her; all you that bend the bow, shoot at her, spare no arrows; for she has sinned against the Lord.

15. (K) Shout against her around; she has surrendered; her bulwarks have fallen, her walls are thrown down; for it is the vengeance of the Lord; take vengeance upon her; as she has done, do to her.

16. Cut off the sower from Babylon, and he who handles the sickle in the time of harvest; for fear of the oppressing sword they shall turn every one to his people, and they shall flee every one to his own

Jeremiah

land.

17. Israel is a scattered sheep; the lions have driven him away; first the king of Assyria has devoured him; and last this Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon has broken his bones.

18. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have punished the king of Assyria.

19. And I will bring Israel again to his habitation, and he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan, and his soul shall be satisfied upon Mount Ephraim and Gilead.

20. In those days, and in that time, says the Lord, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found; for I will pardon those whom I leave as a remnant.

21. Go up against the land of Merathaim, and against the inhabitants of Pekod; lay waste and utterly destroy after them, says the Lord, and do according to all that I have commanded you.

22. A sound of battle is in the land, and of great

Jeremiah

destruction.

23. How is the hammer of the whole earth cut asunder and broken! How is Babylon become a desolation among the nations!

24. I have laid a snare for you, and you were taken, O Babylon, and you were not aware; you were found, and also caught, because you strove against the Lord.

25. The Lord has opened his armory, and has brought forth the weapons of his indignation; for this is the work of the Lord God of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans.

26. Come against her from the furthest border, open her storehouses; cast her up as heaps of grain, and destroy her utterly; let nothing of her be left.

27. Slay all her bulls; let them go down to the slaughter; woe unto them! for their day has come, the time of their punishment.

28. The voice of those who flee and escape out of the land of Babylon, to declare in Zion the vengeance of the Lord our God, the vengeance for his temple.

Jeremiah

29. (K) Call together the archers against Babylon; all you who bend the bow, camp against it surrounding it; let none escape from it; reward her according to her work; according to all that she has done, do to her; for she has been proud against the Lord, against the Holy One of Israel.

30. Therefore shall her young men fall in the streets, and all her men of war shall be cut off in that day, says the Lord.

31. Behold, I am against you, O you arrogant one, says the Lord God of hosts; for your day has come, the time that I will punish you.

32. And the arrogant one shall stumble and fall, and none shall raise him up; and I will kindle a fire in his cities, and it shall devour all around him.

33. Thus says the Lord of hosts; The people of Israel and the children of Judah were oppressed together; and all who took them captives held them fast; they refused to let them go.

34. Their redeemer is strong; the Lord of hosts is his name; he shall surely plead their cause, that he may

Jeremiah

give rest to the land, and unrest to the inhabitants of Babylon.

35. A sword is upon the Chaldeans, says the Lord, and upon the inhabitants of Babylon, and upon her princes, and upon her wise men.

36. A sword is upon the liars; and they shall become fools; a sword is upon her mighty men; and they shall be dismayed.

37. A sword is upon their horses, and upon their chariots, and upon all the mixed tribes that are in the midst of her; and they shall become as women; a sword is upon her treasures; and they shall be robbed.

38. A drought is upon her waters; and they shall be dried up; for it is a land of carved idols, and they are mad over their idols.

39. Therefore the wild beasts of the desert shall dwell there, with jackals and desert owls, and it shall be no more inhabited for ever; nor shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

40. As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and their

Jeremiah

neighboring cities, says the Lord; so shall no man remain there, nor shall any son of man dwell in there.

41. Behold, a people shall come from the north, and a great nation, and many kings shall be raised up from the farthest parts of the earth.

42. They shall hold the bow and the javelin; they are cruel, and will not show mercy; their voice shall roar like the sea, and they shall ride upon horses, every one lined up, like a man to the battle, against you, O daughter of Babylon.

43. The king of Babylon heard the report of them, and his hands grew feeble; anguish took hold of him, and pangs as of a woman in labor.

44. (K) Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the wilderness by the Jordan against a strong sheepfold; but I will make them suddenly run over her; and whoever is chosen, I will appoint him over her, for who is like me? and who will set me a time? and who is that shepherd who will stand before me?

45. Therefore hear the counsel of the Lord, that he

Jeremiah

has taken against Babylon; and his intentions, that he intends against the land of the Chaldeans; Surely the least of the flock shall drag them away; surely the fold shall be appalled at them!

46. At the noise of the taking of Babylon the earth trembles, and the cry is heard among the nations.

Chapter 51

1. Thus says the Lord; Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, and against those who dwell in Lev-Kamay, a destroying wind;

2. And will send to Babylon winnowers, who shall winnow her, and shall empty her land; for in the day of trouble they shall be against her.

3. Against him who bends let the archer bend his bow, and against him who lifts himself up in his coat of mail; and do not spare her young men; destroy utterly all her army.

4. Thus the slain shall fall in the land of the Chaldeans, and those who are thrust through in her

Jeremiah

streets.

5. For Israel has not been widowed, nor Judah of his God, of the Lord of hosts; though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel.

6. Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and let every man save his soul; be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is the time of the vengeance of the Lord; he will render to her a recompense.

7. Babylon has been a golden cup in the Lord's hand, that made all the earth drunk; the nations have drunk of her wine; therefore the nations are mad.

8. Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed; howl for her; take balm for her pain, perhaps she may be healed.

9. We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed; forsake her, and let us go every one to his own country; for her judgment reaches to heaven, and is lifted up to the skies.

10. The Lord has brought forth our vindication; come, and let us declare in Zion the work of the Lord our God.

Jeremiah

11. Sharpen the arrows; gather the shields; the Lord has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes; for his plan is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the Lord, the vengeance of his temple.

12. Set up a banner upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes; for the Lord has both devised and done that which he spoke against the inhabitants of Babylon.

13. (K) O you who dwell upon many waters, abundant in treasures, your end has come, and the measure of your greed.

14. The Lord of hosts has sworn by himself, saying, Surely I will fill you with men, as with locusts; and they shall raise a shout against you.

15. He has made the earth by his power, he has established the world by his wisdom, and has stretched out the heaven by his understanding.

16. When he utters his voice, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens; and he raises vapors from

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the ends of the earth; he makes lightnings with rain, and brings forth the wind out of his storehouses.

17. Every man becomes stupid without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by the carved idol; for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

18. They are vanity, the work of delusion; in the time of their punishment they shall perish.

19. The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of his inheritance; the Lord of hosts is his name.

20. You are hammer ax and weapons of war; for with you I will break in pieces the nations, and with you I will destroy kingdoms;

21. And with you I will break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with you I will break in pieces the chariot and his rider;

22. With you also I will break in pieces man and woman; and with you I will break in pieces old and young; and with you I will break in pieces the young man and the maid;

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23. I will also break in pieces with you the shepherd and his flock; and with you I will break in pieces the farmer and his yoke of oxen; and with you I will break in pieces governors and commanders.

24. And I will pay back to Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, says the Lord.

25. Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain, says the Lord, which destroys all the earth; and I will stretch out my hand upon you, and roll you down from the rocks, and will make you a burnt mountain.

26. And they shall not take of you a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but you shall be desolate for ever, says the Lord.

27. Set up a banner in the land, blow the shofar among the nations, prepare the nations against her, call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz; appoint a captain against her; cause the horses to come up like bristling locusts.

28. Prepare nations for war against her, the kings of the Medes, its governors and deputies, and every

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land under their dominion.

29. And the land shall tremble and writhe in pain; for every purpose of the Lord shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without an inhabitant.

30. The mighty men of Babylon have ceased to fight, they have remained in their fortresses; their might has failed; they became as women; they have burned her dwelling places; her bars are broken.

31. One runner shall run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to show the king of Babylon that his city is taken on every side.

32. And that the fords are seized, and the bulwarks are burned with fire, and the men of war are in panic.

33. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor, it is time to thresh her; yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come.

34. (K) Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon has devoured me, he has crushed me, he has made me an empty vessel, he has swallowed me up like a

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crocodile, he has filled his belly with my delicacies, he has scoured me clean.

35. The violence done to me and to my flesh shall be upon Babylon, the inhabitant of Zion shall say; and my blood upon the inhabitants of Chaldea, Jerusalem shall say.

36. Therefore thus says the Lord; Behold, I will plead your cause, and take vengeance for you; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry.

37. And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwelling place for jackals, an astonishment, and a hissing, without an inhabitant.

38. They shall roar together like lions; they shall growl as lions' cubs.

39. When they are heated I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunk, that they may rejoice, and sleep an everlasting sleep, and not awake, said the Lord.

40. I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with male goats.

41. How is Sheshach taken! And how is the praise of

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the whole earth surprised! How is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations!

42. The sea has come up upon Babylon; she is covered with the multitude of its waves.

43. Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land where no man dwells, nor does any son of man pass by.

44. And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and I will bring out of his mouth that which he has swallowed up; and the nations shall not flow together any more to him; the very wall of Babylon shall fall.

45. My people, go out of the midst of her, and save every man his soul from the fierce anger of the Lord.

46. And lest your heart faint, and you fear for the rumor that shall be heard in the land; a rumor shall both come one year, and after that in another year shall come a rumor, and there will be violence in the land, ruler against ruler.

47. Therefore, behold, the days come, that I will do judgment upon the carved idols of Babylon; and her whole land shall be put to shame, and all her slain

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shall fall in the midst of her.

48. Then the heaven and the earth, and all that is in there, shall sing for Babylon; for the destroyers shall come to her from the north, said the Lord.

49. As Babylon has caused the slain of Israel to fall, so at Babylon shall fall the slain of all the earth.

50. You who have escaped the sword, go away, do not stand still; remember the Lord from far away, and let Jerusalem come to your mind.

51. We are ashamed, because we have heard reproach; shame has covered our faces; for strangers have come into the sanctuaries of the Lord's house.

52. Therefore, behold, the days come, says the Lord, when I will do judgment upon her carved idols; and through all her land the wounded shall groan.

53. Though Babylon should mount up to heaven, and though she should fortify the height of her strength, yet from me shall destroyers come to her, says the Lord.

54. A sound of a cry comes from Babylon, and great

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destruction from the land of the Chaldeans;

55. Because the Lord has ruined Babylon, and stilled her mighty voice; their waves roar like great waters, the noise of their voice is raised.

56. Because the destroyer has come upon her, upon Babylon, and her mighty men are taken, every one of their bows is broken; for the Lord God of recompenses shall surely pay back.

57. And I will make drunk her princes, and her wise men, her governors, and her commanders, and her mighty men; and they shall sleep an everlasting sleep, and not wake, said the King, whose name is the Lord of hosts.

58. Thus says the Lord of hosts; The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, and her high gates shall be burned with fire; and the people shall labor in vain, and the nations for the fire, and they shall be weary.

59. The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah to

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Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. And this Seraiah was the quartermaster.

60. So Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that should come upon Babylon, all these words that are written against Babylon.

61. And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, When you come to Babylon, and shall see, and shall read all these words;

62. Then shall you say, O Lord, you have spoken against this place, to cut it off, that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but that it shall be desolate for ever.

63. And it shall be, when you have finished reading this book, that you shall bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates;

64. And you shall say, Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her; and they shall be weary. Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

Chapter 52

Jeremiah

1. (K) Zedekiah was twenty one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.
2. And he did that which was evil in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.
3. For through the anger of the Lord it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, till he had cast them out from his presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.
4. And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, and encamped against it, and built siege works around it, against it.
5. So the city was besieged till the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.
6. And in the fourth month, in the ninth day of the month, the famine was severe in the city, so that there was no bread for the people of the land.

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7. Then the city was breached, and all the men of war fled, and went out of the city by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, which was by the king's garden; now the Chaldeans were around the city; and they went by the way of the Arabah.

8. But the army of the Chaldeans pursued after the king, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho; and all his army was scattered from him.

9. Then they took the king, and carried him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath; where he gave judgment upon him.

10. And the king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes; he killed also all the princes of Judah in Riblah.

11. (K) Then he put out the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him in chains, and carried him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

12. Now in the fifth month, in the tenth day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, came

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Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, who served the king of Babylon, to Jerusalem,

13. And burned the house of the Lord, and the king's house; and all the houses of Jerusalem, and all the houses of the great men, burned he with fire;

14. And all the army of the Chaldeans, who were with the captain of the guard, broke down all the surrounding walls of Jerusalem.

15. Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive some of the poor of the people, and the remnant of the people who remained in the city, and the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the multitude.

16. But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left some of the poor of the land to be vine dressers and farmers.

17. Also the pillars of bronze that were in the house of the Lord, and the bases, and the bronze sea that was in the house of the Lord, the Chaldeans broke, and carried all the bronze of them to Babylon.

18. The pans also, and the shovels, and the snuffers,

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and the bowls, and the spoons, and all the utensils of bronze with which they ministered, they took away.

19. And the bowls, and the fire pans, and the basins, and the pans, and the lampstands, and the spoons, and the bowls; that which was of gold in gold, and that which was of silver in silver, took the captain of the guard away.

20. The two pillars, one sea, and twelve bronze bulls that were under the bases, which king Solomon had made in the house of the Lord; the bronze of all these vessels was beyond weight.

21. (K) And concerning the pillars, the height of one pillar was eighteen cubits; and a thread of twelve cubits encircled it; and its thickness was four fingers; it was hollow.

22. And a capital of bronze was upon it; and the height of one capital was five cubits, with network and pomegranates upon the capitals around them, all of bronze. The second pillar also and the pomegranates were like these.

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23. And there were ninety six pomegranates on a side; and all the pomegranates upon the network were a hundred around them.

24. And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three gatekeepers;

25. He took also out of the city an eunuch, who had the charge of the men of war; and seven men of those who were near the king's person, who were found in the city; and the principal scribe of the army, who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land, who were found in the midst of the city.

26. So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah.

27. And the king of Babylon struck them, and put them to death in Riblah in the land of Hamath. Thus Judah was carried away captive out of his own land.

28. This is the people whom Nebuchadrezzar carried away captive; in the seventh year three thousand

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and twenty three men of Judah;

29. In the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred and thirty two persons;

30. In the twenty third year of Nebuchadrezzar Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the men of Judah seven hundred and forty five persons; all the persons were four thousand and six hundred.

31. (K) And it came to pass in the thirty seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, in the twenty fifth day of the month, that Evil-Merodach king of Babylon in the first year of his reign lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah, and brought him out of prison,

32. (K) And spoke kindly to him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings who were with him in Babylon,

33. And changed his prison garments; and he did continually eat bread before him all the days of his life.

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34. And for his allowance, there was a continual allowance given him by the king of Babylon, every day a portion until the day of his death, all the days of his life.