

Jeremiah Lesson #10 The Destruction of Jerusalem

Memory Verse - Hand out Scriptures to read

Jeremiah 29:7 (NKJV) *And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace. Joseph, Little Maid.*

Ezekiel 8, Romans 1:22-25, Jer. 37:1-10, Jer. 38:1-6, Jer. 29:1-14, Dan. 9:2.

Weeping for Tammuz

Jeremiah 1:16 (NKJV) *I will utter My judgments Against them concerning all their wickedness, Because they have forsaken Me, Burned incense to other gods, And worshiped the works of their own hands.*

Ezekiel 8:8–16 (NKJV) *Then He said to me, “Son of man, dig into the wall”; and when I dug into the wall, there was a door.⁹ And He said to me, “Go in, and see the wicked abominations which they are doing there.”¹⁰ So I went in and saw, and there—every sort of creeping thing, abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed all around on the walls.¹¹ And there stood before them **seventy men** of the elders of the house of Israel, and in their midst stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan. Each man had a censer in his hand, and a thick cloud of incense went up.¹² Then He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the room of his idols? For they say, ‘The Lord does not see us, the Lord has forsaken the land.’”¹³ And He said to me, “Turn again, and you will see greater abominations that they are doing.”¹⁴ So He brought me to the door of the north gate of **the Lord’s house**; and to my dismay, women were sitting there **weeping for Tammuz**.¹⁵ Then He said to me, “Have you seen this, O son of man? Turn again, you will see greater abominations than these.”¹⁶ So He brought me into the inner court of **the Lord’s house**; and there, at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about **twenty-five men** with their backs toward the temple of the Lord and their faces toward the east, and they were **worshiping the sun** toward the east.*

Tammuz. Chief Sumerian fertility deity similar to the Gr. god Adonis whose name derived from the Sumerian dumuzi. was a pre-deluvian Sumerian shepherd and ruler who married the goddess *Ishtar. When he died she followed him into the underworld to try for his release and all fertility ceased on the earth. Tammuz represented the annual vegetation cycle of death during the heat of summer and the rebirth of life with the coming of the fall and spring rains.

2 Chronicles 33:7 (NKJV) ⁷ *He even set a carved image, the idol which he had made, in the house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon his son, “In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever;*

***2 Chronicles 36:14 (NKJV)** *Moreover all the leaders of the priests and the people transgressed more and more, according to all the abominations of the nations, and defiled the house of the Lord which He had consecrated in Jerusalem.*

Romans 1:22–24 (NKJV) *Professing to be wise, they became fools,²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,*

The Unhappy Reign of King Zedekiah

Ezekiel 17:15-18 had made an oath to Nebuchadnezzar.

***Jeremiah 37:5 (NKJV)** *Then Pharaoh’s army came up from Egypt; and when the Chaldeans who were besieging Jerusalem heard news of them, they departed from Jerusalem.*

Jeremiah 37:6–9 (NKJV) *Then the word of the Lord came to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, ⁷ “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Thus you shall say to the king of Judah, who sent you to Me to inquire of Me: “Behold, Pharaoh’s army which has come up to help you will return to Egypt, to their own land.⁸ And the Chaldeans shall come back and fight against this city, and take it and burn it with fire.”’⁹ Thus says the Lord: ‘Do not deceive yourselves, saying, “The Chaldeans will surely depart from us,” for they will not depart.*

In the time of Hezekiah Jerusalem was besieged and the Assyrians had to leave saving them. They hoped it might happen again.

2 Kings 19:20; 32–34 (NKJV) *Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard.’ ... “Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: ‘He shall not come into this city, Nor shoot an arrow there, Nor come before it with shield, Nor build a siege mound against it.³³ By the way that he came, By the same shall he return; And he shall not come into this city,’ Says the Lord.³⁴ ‘For I will defend this city, to save it For My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.’ ”*

The Fall Of Jerusalem

The siege of Jerusalem began January, 588 b.c., and lasted until the late summer of 586 b.c.

Starved into Surrender

Jeremiah 38:2 *“Thus says the Lord: ‘He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; but he who goes over to the Chaldeans shall live; his life shall be as a prize to him, and he shall live.’*

***Jeremiah 38:9** (NKJV) *“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 dungeon, and he is likely to die from hunger in the place where he is. For there is **no more bread in the city.**”*

2 Kings 6:24–25 (NKJV) *And it happened after this that Ben-Hadad king of Syria gathered all his army, and went up and besieged Samaria. ²⁵ And there was a great famine in Samaria; and indeed they besieged it until a donkey’s head was sold for eighty shekels of silver, and one-fourth of a kab of dove droppings for five shekels of silver.*

Deuteronomy 28:52–53 (NKJV) *“They shall besiege you at all your gates until your high and fortified walls, in which you trust, come down throughout all your land; and they shall besiege you at all your gates throughout all your land which the Lord your God has given you. ⁵³ You shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters whom the Lord your God has given you, in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you.*

Jeremiah 39:1–2 (NKJV) *In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem, and besieged it. ² In the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, the city was penetrated.*

Jeremiah 39:11-12 *Now Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon gave charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying, Take him, and look well to him, and do him no harm; but do unto him even as he shall say unto thee.*

Jeremiah 40:2-4 *And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah, and said unto him, The Lord thy God hath pronounced this evil upon this place. Now the Lord hath brought it, and done according as he hath said: because ye have sinned against the Lord, and have not obeyed his voice, therefore this thing is come upon you. And now, behold, I loose thee this day from the chains which were upon thine hand. If it seem good unto thee to come with me into Babylon, come; and I will look well unto thee: but if it seem ill unto thee to come with me into Babylon, forbear: behold, all the land is before thee: whither it seemeth good and convenient for thee to go, thither go.*

All Thy Heart

***Jeremiah 29:13** *And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.*

1 Chron 28:9 *And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off forever.*

Deut 4:27-29 *And the Lord will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the Lord will drive you. ²⁸ And there you will serve gods, the work of men’s hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell. ²⁹ But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.*

Deut 30:1-4 *“Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the Lord your God drives you, and you return to the Lord your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, that the Lord your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the Lord your God has scattered you. If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the Lord your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you.*

The Seventy Years

Psalms 90:10 (NKJV) *The days of our lives are **seventy years**; ...*

Isaiah 23:15 (NKJV) *Now it shall come to pass in that day that Tyre will be forgotten **seventy years**, according to the days of one king.*

Jeremiah 25:11–12 (NKJV) *And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon **seventy years**. ¹² ‘Then it will come to pass, when **seventy years** are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,’ says the Lord; ‘and I will make it a perpetual desolation.*

Jeremiah 29:10, 11 *For thus says the Lord: After **seventy years** are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.*