

EXILIC & POST-EXILIC PROPHETS OF THE BIBLE

Senior Adults & Friends Bible Study — Summit View Church of Christ
Summer 2022

PART FOUR, SECTION 2

The Exile of 586 BC

JEREMIAH 31:31-37 — A Word of Hope for Israel and Judah

Date: probably in the period 597-587 BC (between the dates mentioned in 29:2 and 32:1)

31:31 — What kind of covenant will God make with Israel and Judah?

31:32 — What was wrong with the previous covenant (established at Mount Sinai in the time of Moses)?

- *Christians sometimes get the impression that God's covenant enacted at Mount Sinai and expressed in the Law of Moses was somehow bad, flawed. But it was not, for it was a covenant straight from God himself! What actually went wrong with the first covenant? Compare Jeremiah 31:31-32 and Hebrews 8:7-13. With what/whom did God find fault, so that a new covenant was needed—our covenant with God through Christ?*

31:33-34 — The nature of this new covenant: God will put his law in their _____ and write it on their _____. He will be their _____, and they will be his _____. They won't need to teach each other about him, because they will all _____ him, from the least of them to the greatest. For God will _____ their wickedness and remember their _____ no more.

31:36-37 — Only if God's decrees that guide the functions of the _____, the moon and _____, and the _____ vanish will Israel ever cease to be a _____ before God. And only if the _____ can be measured and the foundations of the _____ searched out will God reject all the descendants of _____ because of all they have done.

- From God's description of this new covenant, what seems to be God's focus here? What in this new agreement with Israel will be most important to him?

2 KINGS 25:2-22 — Jerusalem Is Destroyed

Date: July-August 586 BC

25:3 — What was the situation of the people in Jerusalem when the Babylonians finally broke through the city's defensive wall?

25:4-7 — What did the king and the army in Jerusalem do when the Babylonians broke through the city's wall?

- What happened to King Zedekiah?

25:8-10 — List the structures that Nebuzaradan the Babylonian commander burned and destroyed in Jerusalem:

25:11-12 — Which three groups of Jews did Nebuzaradan take into exile?

- the people who remained in the _____
- the rest of the populace (apparently meaning the Jews living outside Jerusalem)
- those who had _____ to the king of Babylon
- *Whom did the commander leave behind to work the vineyards and the fields?*

25:13-17 — What did the Babylonians do with the various items formerly used in the temple service, and with the bronze pillars of the temple?

25:18-21 — What did King Nebuchadnezzar do with Seraiah the chief (high) priest and other priestly, royal, and military officials who were brought to him?

25:21 — So Judah went into _____, away from her _____.

25:22 — Whom did Nebuchadnezzar appoint to govern the land of Judah?

2 CHRONICLES 36:15-21 — Jerusalem Is Destroyed

Date: July-August 586 BC

36:15 — What had God done because he had pity on his people and on his dwelling place (the temple)?

36:16 — But the people mocked God's _____, despised his _____, and scoffed at his _____ until the _____ of the Lord was aroused against his people and there was no _____.

36:17-20 — What did Nebuchadnezzar do with...

...the people in Jerusalem: young, elderly, or infirm?

...the articles from the temple of God and all the treasures of the king and his officials?

...God's temple?

...the wall of Jerusalem?

...all the palaces?

...the remnant of Jews who escaped from the sword?

36:21 — How long did the land rest, in fulfillment of the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah?

(Recall Jeremiah 25:11-12, 29:10.) _____

LAMENTATIONS 5 — Will God Ever Forgive?

Date: sometime after July-August 586 BC

5:1 — Why do you think the writer wants God to remember the horrors that fell on Jerusalem during the time of its destruction, and all the accompanying disgrace of the Jews?

5:2-14 — What had happened to...

...the possessions of the people in Jerusalem?

...their women?

...their rulers and elders?

...their young men and boys?

...their freedom?

...their music?

• What do they have to do to get bread and water?

• 5:7 — Our ancestors sinned and are no more, and we bear their _____.

5:15-17 — Joy is gone, mourning has come, the people's hearts are faint, and Mount Zion (Jerusalem) lies desolate. Why has all this happened (verse 16)?

5:19 — What does the writer say about the Lord here?

5:20 — If the writer asked you, how would you answer the two questions in this verse?

5:21-22 — What does the writer ask God for?

• Could it be that God has utterly rejected his people, that he really is angry with them beyond measure? Even after this calamity, what hope might the people of Israel have that God may yet have mercy on them?