

LESSON 41
“I Have Made Thee This Day...an Iron Pillar
Jeremiah 1-2, 15, 20, 26, 36-38

OVERVIEW:

Jeremiah received his call in 627 BC and ministered from 626 to 586 BC. He prophesied against the wickedness of Judah and was imprisoned and beaten. He was a Levite. Some of Jeremiah's prophecies were on the brass plates: 1 Nephi 5:12-13 And also a^a record of the Jews from the beginning, even down to the commencement of the reign of Zedekiah, king of Judah; 13 And also the prophecies of the holy prophets, from the beginning, even down to the commencement of the reign of ^aZedekiah; and also many prophecies which have been spoken by the mouth of ^bJeremiah. These two basic themes form the essence of the message of Jeremiah: strength to carry out one's mission despite adversity, and the blessings and power of the word of God in our lives. In Hebrew, the book of Jeremiah has almost 22,000 words and is the longest book of the Prophets. 17,000 in Isaiah, 19,000 in Ezekiel, 20,500 in Genesis. The book is not arranged chronologically.

Chapters 1-25 – Prophecies of judgment against Judah and Jerusalem.

Chapters 26-35 – Restoration of Israel and Judah.

Chapters 36-45 – Biography of Jeremiah.

Chapters 46-51 – Oracles against foreign nations.

Chapter 52 – Historical appendix: The fall of Jerusalem, exile and aftermath.

SCRIPTURES:

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET JEREMIAH
CHAPTER 1

Jeremiah foreordained to be a prophet unto the nations—He is called, as a mortal, to declare the word of the Lord.

1 THE words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiyah, of the priests that were in ^aAnathoth 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 ^ayear of his reign.

3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the ^acarrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

4 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

5 Before I ^aformed thee in the belly I ^bknew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I ^csanctified thee, and I ^dordained thee a prophet unto the ^enations. (The principle of foreordination.)

6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot ^aspeak: for I am a ^bchild. (Heb youth)

7 ¶ But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall ^asend thee, and whatsoever I ^bcommand thee thou shalt ^cspeak.

8 Be not ^aafraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

9 Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my ^amouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my ^bwords in thy ^cmouth. (Prophets don't say what they want to say, but what the Lord wants them to say. This is the same for any Church leader. Bishops don't say what the people want to hear, but what the Lord's wants said.)

10 See, I have this day ^aset thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to ^bpull down, and to destroy, and to ^cthrow down, to ^dbuild, and to plant.

11 ¶ Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what ^aseest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. (The almond tree is the first tree to bud in the spring. As the almond hastens to come into blossom, so would the word of the Lord through Jeremiah hasten to fulfillment.)

12 Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.

13 And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, What seest thou? And I said, I see a ^aseething (or boiling) ^bpot; and the face thereof is toward the north.

14 Then the LORD said unto me, Out of the ^anorth an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land. (Babylonians)

15 For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entering of the ^agates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.

16 And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have ^aforsaken me, and have burned incense unto other ^bgods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.

17 ¶ Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them.

18 For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brasen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the ^aprinces (or rulers, or officers) thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land.

19 And they shall ^afight against thee; but they shall not ^bprevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee. (The Lord will help us as we fulfill our callings.)

CHAPTER 2

The Jews forsook the Lord, the fountain of living waters—They changed their gods, worshipped idols, and rejected the prophets.

1 MOREOVER the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, ^awhen thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

3 Israel was ^aholiness unto the LORD, and the firstfruits of his increase: all that devour him shall offend; evil shall come upon them, saith the LORD.

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

5 ¶ Thus saith the LORD, What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me, and have walked after vanity, and are become vain? (The Lord is telling of the many ways He cared for his bride, Israel.)

6 Neither said they, Where is the LORD that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, that ^aled us 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 the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye ^adefiled my ^bland, and made mine heritage an abomination. (Israel is charged with infidelity.)

8 The priests said not, Where is the LORD? and they that handle the law knew me not: the ^apastors also

transgressed against me, and the ^bprophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit.

9 ¶ Wherefore I will yet plead with you, saith the LORD, and with your children's children will I plead.

10 For pass ^aover (or over to) the isles of Chittim, and see; and send unto Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if there be such a thing.

11 Hath a nation changed their ^agods, which are yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit.

12 Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD.

13 For my people have committed two ^aevils; they have forsaken me the fountain of ^bliving waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. (they practiced idolatry) Elder Marion D. Hanks said: "Material objectives consume too much of our attention. The struggle for what we need or for more than we need exhausts our time and energy. We pursue pleasure or entertainment, or become over involved in associations or civic matters. Of course, people need recreation, need to be achieving, need to contribute, but if these come at the cost of friendship with Christ, the price is much too high. The substitutions we fashion to take the place of God in our lives truly hold no water. To the measure we thus refuse the 'living water' we miss the joy we could have. CR, Apr 1972, 127)

14 ¶ Is Israel a ^aservant? is he a homeborn slave? why is he spoiled?

15 The young lions roared upon him, and yelled, and they made his land waste: his cities are burned without inhabitant.

16 Also the children of Noph and ^aTahapanes (ie Tahapanhes, in Egypt, in the land of Goshen) have broken the crown of thy head.

17 Hast thou not procured this unto thyself, in that thou hast ^aforsaken the LORD thy God, when he led thee by the way?

18 And now what hast thou to do in the way of ^aEgypt, to drink the waters of Sihor? or what hast thou to do in the way of Assyria, to drink the waters of ^bthe river? (the Euphrates)

19 Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall ^areprove thee: (If we would just do the right things, we would not have to learn obedience through suffering.) know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord GOD of hosts.

20 ¶ For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the ^aharlot.

21 Yet I had planted thee a noble ^avine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?

22 For though thou ^awash thee with ^bnitre, (alkali, carbonate of soda) and take thee much soap, (the most powerful cleansing agents could not clean them from sin.) yet thine iniquity is marked before me, saith the Lord GOD.

23 How canst thou say, I am not polluted, I have not gone after Baalim? see thy way in the valley, know what thou hast done: thou art a swift dromedary traversing her ways; (a camel in heat)

24 A wild ass used to the wilderness, that snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure; in her occasion who can turn her away? all they that seek her will ~~not~~ weary themselves; in her month they shall find her. (an ass in heat)

25 Withhold thy foot from being unshod, and thy throat from thirst: but thou saidst, There is no ^ahope: no; for I have loved strangers, and after them will I go.

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

27 Saying to ^aa stock, (or wood; ie an idol) Thou art my father; and to a stone, Thou hast brought me forth: for they have turned their ^bback unto me, and not their face: but in the ^ctime of their trouble they will say, Arise, and save us.

28 But where are thy ^agods that thou hast made thee? let them arise, if they can save thee in the time of

thy trouble: for according to the number of thy cities are thy gods, O Judah.

29 Wherefore will ye ^aplead (Heb quarrel, contend) with me? ye all have transgressed against me, saith the LORD.

30 In vain have I smitten your children; (the northern kingdom taken captive) they received no ^acorrection: your own sword hath devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion.

31 ¶ O generation, see ye the word of the LORD. Have I been a wilderness unto Israel? a land of darkness? wherefore say my people, We are lords; we will come no more unto thee?

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

33 Why trimmest thou thy way to seek love? therefore hast thou also taught the wicked ^aones (Heb women) thy ways.

34 Also in thy skirts is found the ^ablood of the souls of the poor innocents: I have not found it by secret search, but upon all ^bthese. (their clothing)

35 Yet thou sayest, Because I am ^ainnocent, surely his anger shall turn from me. Behold, I will plead with thee, because thou sayest, I have not sinned.

36 Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way? thou also shalt be ^aashamed of Egypt, as thou wast ashamed of Assyria.

37 Yea, thou shalt go forth from him, and thine hands upon thine head: for the LORD hath rejected thy confidences, and thou shalt not prosper in them.

CHAPTER 15

The Jews shall suffer death and the sword and famine and captivity—They shall be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth—Jerusalem shall be destroyed.

1 THEN said the LORD unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth. (Judah had gone too far and the Lord could not forgive them.)

2 And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the LORD; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity.

3 And I will appoint over them four ^akinds, (Heb destroyers) saith the LORD: the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to ^bdevour and destroy.

4 And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of ^aManasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem. (2 Kings 21:11,16: 11 Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, which were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols: 16 Moreover Manasseh shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the Lord.)

5 For who shall have pity upon thee, O Jerusalem? or who shall bemoan thee? or who shall go aside to ask how thou doest?

6 Thou hast forsaken me, saith the LORD, thou art gone backward: therefore will I stretch out my hand against thee, and destroy thee; I am weary with repenting.

7 And I will ^afan (scatter them) them with a fan in the gates of the land; I will ^bbereave them of children, I will destroy my people, since they return not from their ways.

8 Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas: I have brought upon them against the mother of the young men a spoiler at noonday: I have caused him to fall upon it suddenly, and terrors upon the city.

9 She that hath borne seven languisheth: she hath given up the ghost; her sun is gone down while it was

yet day: she hath been ashamed and confounded: and the residue of them will I deliver to the sword before their enemies, saith the LORD.

10 ¶ ^aWoe is me, my mother, that thou hast borne me a man of ^bstrife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent on usury, nor men have lent to me on ^cusury; yet every one of them doth curse me.

11 The LORD said, Verily it shall be well with thy remnant; verily I will cause the enemy to entreat thee well in the time of evil and in the time of affliction.

12 Shall iron break the northern iron and the steel?

13 Thy substance and thy treasures will I give to the spoil without price, and that for all thy sins, even in all thy borders.

14 And I will make thee to pass with thine enemies into a ^aland which thou knowest not: for a fire is kindled in mine anger, which shall burn upon you.

15 ¶ O LORD, thou knowest: remember me, and ^avisit me (or be mindful of me), and revenge me of my persecutors; take me not away in thy longsuffering: know that for thy sake I have ^bsuffered ^crebuke.

(Heb taunts)

16 Thy words were found, and I did ^aeat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy ^bname, O LORD God of hosts.

17 I sat not in the assembly of the ^amockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation.

18 Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, and as waters that fail?

19 ¶ Therefore thus saith the LORD, If thou ^areturn, (or repent) then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them. (The Lord is reminding him of his calling and the promise of protection given him before.)

20 And I will make thee unto this people a ^afenced (Heb fortified wall of brass) brasen wall: and they shall fight against thee, but they shall not prevail against thee: for I am with thee to ^bsave thee and to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

21 And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible. (Jeremiah was not taken into Babylon but went into Egypt and may have died there a few years later.)

CHAPTER 20

Jeremiah is smitten and put in the stocks—He prophesies that all Judah shall be taken captive by Babylon. (This chapter shows the persecution Jeremiah endured to deliver the word of the Lord.)

1 NOW ^aPashur the son of ^bImmer the priest, who was also ^cchief governor (or senior officer) in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things.

2 Then Pashur ^asmote Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD.

3 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Pashur brought forth Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then said Jeremiah unto him, The LORD hath not called thy name Pashur, but ^aMagor-missabib. (Terror all around)

4 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will make thee a terror to thyself, and to all thy friends: and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and thine eyes shall behold it: and I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them ^acaptive into Babylon, and shall slay them with the sword.

5 Moreover I will deliver all the ^astrength (Heb provisions, or goods) of this city, and all the labours

thereof, and all the ^bprecious things thereof, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah will I give into the hand of their enemies, which shall spoil them, and take them, and carry them to ^cBabylon.

6 And thou, Pashur, and all that dwell in thine house shall go into captivity: and thou shalt come to Babylon, and there thou shalt die, and shalt be buried there, thou, and all thy friends, to whom thou hast prophesied ^alies.

7 ¶ O LORD, thou hast ^adeceived (Heb persuaded) me, and I was deceived: thou art stronger than I, and hast prevailed: I am in ^bderision daily, every one mocketh me. (Jeremiah is admitting he didn't want to deliver the word the Lord had given him, but he would do it anyway.)

8 For since I spake, I cried out, I cried ^aviolence and spoil; because the word of the LORD was made a reproach unto me, and a derision, daily.

9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a ^aburning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not ^bstay.

10 ¶ For I heard the ^adefaming of many, fear on every side. Report, say they, and we will report it. All my ^bfamiliars (or familiar friends) watched for my halting, saying, Peradventure he will be enticed, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him.

11 But the LORD is with me as a mighty terrible one: therefore my persecutors shall stumble, and they shall not ^aprevail: they shall be greatly ashamed; for they shall not prosper: their everlasting ^bconfusion (or disgrace) shall never be forgotten.

12 But, O LORD of hosts, that ^atriest the righteous, and seest the ^breins (Heb inward parts) and the heart, let me see thy vengeance on them: for unto thee have I opened my cause.

13 Sing unto the LORD, praise ye the LORD: for he hath delivered the soul of the poor from the hand of evildoers. (Jeremiah admits his own weakness and then reaffirms his faith in the Lord.)

14 ¶ ^aCursed be the day wherein I was born: let not the day wherein my mother bare me be blessed.

15 Cursed be the man who brought tidings to my father, saying, A man child is born unto thee; making him very glad.

16 And let that man be as the cities which the LORD ^aoverthrew, and repented not: and let him hear the cry in the morning, and the shouting at noontide;

17 Because he slew me not from the womb; or that my mother might have been my grave, and her womb to be always great with me.

18 Wherefore came I forth out of the womb to see labour and ^asorrow, that my days should be consumed with shame? (The lament of Jeremiah. Like the Prophet Joseph Smith – D&C 122:5-9 -5 If thou art called to pass through ^atribulation; if thou art in perils among false brethren; if thou art in ^bperils among robbers; if thou art in perils by land or by sea; 6 If thou art ^aaccused with all manner of false accusations; if thine enemies fall upon thee; if they tear thee from the society of thy father and mother and brethren and sisters; and if with a drawn sword thine enemies tear thee from the bosom of thy wife, and of thine offspring, and thine elder son, although but six years of age, shall cling to thy garments, and shall say, My father, my father, why can't you stay with us? O, my father, what are the men going to do with you? and if then he shall be thrust from thee by the sword, and thou be dragged to ^bprison, and thine enemies prowl around thee like ^cwolves for the blood of the lamb; 7 And if thou shouldst be cast into the ^apit, or into the hands of murderers, and the sentence of death passed upon thee; if thou be cast into the ^bdeep; if the billowing surge conspire against thee; if fierce winds become thine enemy; if the heavens gather blackness, and all the elements combine to ^chedge up the way; and above all, if the very jaws of ^dhell shall gape open the mouth wide after thee, know thou, my son, that all these things shall give thee ^eexperience, and shall be for thy good. 8 The ^aSon of Man hath ^bdescended below them all. Art thou greater than he? 9 Therefore, ^ahold on thy way, and the priesthood shall ^bremain with thee; for their ^cbounds are set, they cannot pass. Thy ^ddays are known, and thy years shall not be numbered less; therefore, ^efear not what man can do, for God shall be with you forever and ever.)

CHAPTER 26

Jeremiah prophesies the destruction of the people—For this he is arraigned and tried and then acquitted.

1 IN the beginning of the reign of ^aJehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word from the LORD, saying,

2 Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD's house, (the temple sermon, also chapter 7) and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; ^adiminish not a word:

3 If so be they will hearken, and turn every man from his evil way (and repent, I will turn away), ~~that I may ^arepent me of~~ the evil; which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings.

4 And thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD; If ye will not ^ahearken to me, to ^bwalk in my ^claw, which I have set before you,

5 To hearken to the words of my servants(,) the ^aprophets, whom I sent unto you, (including Lehi) both rising (commanding them to rise) up early, and sending them, ~~but ye have not hearkened;~~

6 Then will I make this house like ^aShiloh, and will make this city a ^bcurse to all the nations of the ^cearth-; (for ye have not hearkened unto my servants the prophets.)

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 made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, Thou shalt surely ^adie.

9 Why hast thou prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be ^adesolate without an inhabitant? And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

10 ¶ When the ^aprinces (Heb officers or rulers) of Judah heard these things, then they came up from the king's house unto the house of the LORD, and sat down in the entry of the new gate of the LORD's house.

11 Then spake the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to all the people, saying, This man is worthy to die; for he hath ^aprophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears.

12 ¶ Then spake Jeremiah unto 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 ye have heard.

13 Therefore now(,) amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God; ^aand the LORD will (turn away) ~~repent him of~~ the evil that he hath pronounced against you.

14 As for me, behold, I am in your ^ahand: do with me as seemeth good and meet unto you.

15 But know ye for certain, that if ye put me to death, ye shall surely bring ^ainnocent blood upon yourselves, and upon this city, and upon the inhabitants thereof: for of a truth the LORD hath sent me unto you to speak all these words in your ears.

16 ¶ Then said the princes and all the people unto the priests and to the prophets; This man is not worthy to die: for he hath spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God.

17 Then rose up certain of the elders of the land, and spake to all the assembly of the people, saying,

18 ^aMicah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spake to all the people of Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Zion shall be ~~blowed~~ (ploughed) like a field, and ^cJerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house (of the Lord) as the high places of a forest.

19 Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him at all to death? Did he not fear the LORD, ^aand besought (beseech) the LORD (and repent?), and the LORD (turned away) ~~repented him of~~ the evil which he had pronounced against them(.)? Thus (by putting Jeremiah to death we) might we procure great evil against our souls.

Was Lehi really in danger of losing his life for prophesying in Jerusalem?

20 And (But) there was also a man (among the priests, rose up and said, that,) ~~that prophesied in the name of the LORD,~~ Urijah the son of Shemaiah of Kirjath-jearim, (prophesied in the name of the Lord,) who (also) ^aprophesied against this city and against this land(,) according to all the words of Jeremiah:

21 And when ^aJehoiakim the king, with all his mighty men, and all the princes, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death: but when Urijah heard it, he was afraid, and fled, and went into Egypt;

22 And Jehoiakim the king sent men into Egypt, namely, ^aElnathan the son of Achbor, and certain men with him into Egypt.

23 And they fetched forth Urijah out of Egypt, and brought him unto Jehoiakim the king; who ^aslew him with the sword, and cast his dead body into the graves of the common people. (Urijah was a prophet that was killed. Had Lehi stayed he also would have been killed. It was important that no one know which way Lehi went, because they would have gone after him, like they did Urijah.)

24 Nevertheless the hand of ^aAhikam the son of ^bShaphan was with Jeremiah, that they should not give him into the hand of the people to put him to death.

CHAPTER 36

Baruch writes the prophecies of Jeremiah and reads them in the house of the Lord—Jehoiakim the king burns the book, and judgment comes upon him—Jeremiah dictates the prophecies again and adds many more.

1 AND it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Take thee a ^aroll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this ^bday.

3 It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto 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 ^aBaruch ^bwrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.

5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I am ^ashut up (Heb under arrest, or in confinement); I cannot go into the house of the LORD:

6 Therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD's house upon the ^afasting day: and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities.

7 It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will ^areturn every one from his evil way: for great is the anger and the fury that the LORD hath pronounced against this people.

8 And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the LORD in the LORD's house. (All of Jeremiah's words were written in a book.)

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 that came from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem.

10 Then read Baruch in the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of ^aShaphan the scribe, in the higher court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD's house, in the ears of all the people.

11 ¶ When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the words of the LORD,

12 Then he went down into the king's house, into the scribe's chamber: and, lo, all the ^aprinces (or

officers or officials) sat there, even Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and ^bElnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.

13 Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

14 Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, unto Baruch, saying, Take in thine hand the roll wherein thou hast read in the ears of the people, and come. So Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand, and came unto them.

15 And they said unto 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 words, they were ^aafraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.

17 And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, How didst thou write all these words at his mouth?

18 Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book.

19 Then said the princes unto Baruch, Go, hide thee, thou and Jeremiah; and let no man know where ye be.

20 ¶ And they went in to the king into the court, but they laid up the roll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the ears of the king.

21 So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll: 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 which stood beside the king.

22 Now the king sat in the ^awinterhouse in the ninth month: and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him.

23 And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth. (Jeremiah's book is burned by the king)

24 Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words.

25 Nevertheless Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made intercession to the king that he would not burn the roll: but he would not hear them.

26 But the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of ^aHammelech, (Heb the king) and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet: but the LORD ^bhid them.

27 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,

28 Take thee again another roll, and ^awrite in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned. (Jeremiah's book is re-written.)

29 And thou shalt say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, Thus saith the LORD; Thou hast burned this roll, saying, Why hast thou written therein, saying, The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from thence man and beast?

30 Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: and his dead body shall be cast 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 hearkened not.

32 ¶ Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the ^ascribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire: and there were ^badded besides unto them many like words.

Jeremiah prophesies that Egypt shall not save Judah from Babylon—He is cast into a dungeon—
Zedekiah transfers him to the court of the prison.

1 AND ^aking ^bZedekiah the son of Josiah reigned instead of ^cConiah the son of ^dJehoiakim, whom
Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah.

2 But neither he, nor his servants, nor the people of the land, did hearken unto the words of the LORD,
which he spake 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 unto the LORD our God for us.

4 Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the people (:) for they had not put him into prison.

5 Then Pharaoh's army was come forth out of Egypt: and when the Chaldeans that besieged Jerusalem
heard tidings of them, they departed from Jerusalem.

6 ¶ Then came the word of the LORD unto the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

7 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; Thus shall ye say to the king of Judah, that sent you unto me
to inquire of me; Behold, Pharaoh's ^aarmy, which is come forth to help you, shall return to ^bEgypt into
their own land.

8 And the Chaldeans shall come again, and fight against this city, and take it, and ^aburn it with fire.

9 Thus saith the LORD; Deceive not yourselves, saying, The Chaldeans shall surely depart from us: for
they shall not depart.

10 For though ye had smitten the whole army of the Chaldeans that fight against you, and there
remained but wounded men among them, yet should they 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 was broken up from Jerusalem for fear of
Pharaoh's army,

12 Then Jeremiah went forth out of Jerusalem to go into the land of Benjamin, to separate himself
thence in the midst of the people.

13 And when he was in the gate of Benjamin, a captain of the ward was there, whose name was Irijah,
the son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah; and he took Jeremiah the prophet, saying, Thou ^afallest (or
art deserting) away to the Chaldeans.

14 Then said Jeremiah, It is false; I fall not away to the Chaldeans. But he hearkened not to him: so
Irijah took Jeremiah, and brought him to the princes.

15 Wherefore the princes were wroth with ^aJeremiah, and smote him, and put him in prison in the house
of Jonathan the scribe: for they had made that the ^bprison.

16 ¶ When (And) Jeremiah was entered into the dungeon, and into the ^acabins, (or cells) and Jeremiah
had (he) remained there many days (.) ÷ 1 Nephi 7:14 For behold, the ^aSpirit of the Lord ^bceaseth soon to
strive with them; for behold, they have ^crejected the prophets, and ^dJeremiah have they cast into prison.
And they have sought to take away the ^elife of my father, insomuch that they have driven him out of the
land.

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, thou shalt be
delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon.

18 Moreover Jeremiah said unto king Zedekiah, What have I offended against thee, or against thy
servants, or against this people, that ye have put me in prison?

19 Where are now your prophets which prophesied unto you, saying, The king of Babylon shall not
come against you, nor against this land? (Jeremiah asks the king a very sarcastic question.)

20 Therefore hear now, I pray thee, O my lord the king: let my supplication, I pray thee, be accepted
before thee; that thou cause me not to 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 prison,
and that they should give him daily a piece of ^abread out of the bakers' street, until all the bread in the

city were spent. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison. Omni 1:15 Behold, it came to pass that Mosiah discovered that the people of ^aZarahemla came out from Jerusalem at the time that ^bZedekiah, king of Judah, was carried away captive into Babylon. Helaman 6: 10 Now the land south was called ^aLehi and the land north was called ^bMulek, which was after the ^cson of Zedekiah; for the Lord did bring Mulek into the land north, and Lehi into the land south. Helaman 8:21 And now will you dispute that ^aJerusalem was destroyed? Will ye say that the ^bsons of Zedekiah were not slain, all except it were ^cMulek? Yea, and do ye not behold that the seed of Zedekiah are with us, and they were driven out of the land of Jerusalem? But behold, this is not all—

CHAPTER 38

The princes cast Jeremiah into a miry dungeon—He is freed by Ebed-melech, an Ethiopian, and put in the court of the prison—He counsels Zedekiah concerning the war.

1 THEN Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah the son of ^aPashur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and ^bPashur the son of Malchiah, heard the words that Jeremiah had spoken unto all the people, saying,
2 Thus saith the LORD, He that remaineth in this city shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: but he that goeth forth to the Chaldeans shall live; for he shall have his life for a prey, and shall live.

3 Thus saith the LORD, This city shall surely be given into the hand of the king of ^aBabylon's army, which shall take it.

4 Therefore the ^aprinces (or officers, or rulers) said unto the king, We beseech thee, let this man be put to death: for thus he weakeneth the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words unto them: for this man seeketh not the ^bwelfare of this people, but the hurt.

5 Then Zedekiah the king said, Behold, he is in your hand: for the king ^ais not he that can do any thing against you. (or cannot prevail against you in any matter)

6 Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon of Malchiah the son of ^aHammelech, (Heb the king) that was in the court of the prison: and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the dungeon there was no water, but mire: so Jeremiah sunk in the mire.

7 ¶ Now when Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, one of the eunuchs which was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the dungeon; the king then sitting in the gate of Benjamin;

8 Ebed-melech went forth out of the king's house, and spake 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 dungeon; and he is like to die for hunger in the place where he is: for there is no more ^abread in the city.

10 Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, Take from hence thirty men with thee, and take up Jeremiah the prophet out of the dungeon, before he die.

11 So Ebed-melech took the men with him, and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took thence ^aold cast clouts (Heb worn-out clothes) and old rotten rags, and let them down by cords into the dungeon to Jeremiah.

12 And Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said unto Jeremiah, Put now these old cast clouts and rotten rags under thine armholes under the cords. And Jeremiah did so.

13 So they drew up Jeremiah with cords, and took him up out of the dungeon: and Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

14 ¶ Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took Jeremiah the prophet unto him into the third entry that is in the house of the LORD: and the king said unto Jeremiah, I will ask thee a thing; hide nothing from me.

15 Then Jeremiah said unto Zedekiah, If I declare it unto thee, wilt thou not surely put me to death? and if I give thee counsel, wilt thou not hearken unto me?

16 So Zedekiah the king sware secretly unto Jeremiah, saying, As the LORD liveth, that made us this soul, I will not put thee to death, neither will I give thee into the hand of these men that seek thy life.

17 Then said Jeremiah unto Zedekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel; If thou wilt assuredly go forth unto the king of Babylon's princes, then thy soul shall live, and this city shall not be burned with fire; and thou shalt live, and thine house:

18 But if thou wilt not go forth to the king of Babylon's princes, then shall this city be given into the hand of the Chaldeans, and they shall burn it with fire, and thou shalt not escape out of their hand.

19 And Zedekiah the king said unto Jeremiah, I am afraid of the Jews that ^aare fallen (Heb have deserted to) to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand, and they ^bmock me. (Heb maltreat)

20 But Jeremiah said, They shall not deliver thee. Obey, I beseech thee, the voice of the LORD, which I speak unto thee: so it shall be well unto thee, and thy soul shall live.

21 But if thou refuse to go forth, this is the word that the LORD hath shewed me:

22 And, behold, all the women that are left in the king of Judah's house shall be brought forth to the king of Babylon's princes, and those women shall say, Thy friends have set thee on, and have prevailed against thee: thy feet are sunk in the mire, and they are turned away back.

23 So they shall bring out all thy wives and thy ^achildren to the Chaldeans: and thou shalt not escape out of their hand, but shalt be taken by the hand of the king of Babylon: and thou shalt cause this city to be burned with fire.

24 ¶ Then said Zedekiah unto Jeremiah, Let no man know of these words, and thou shalt not die.

25 But if the princes hear that I have talked with thee, and they come unto thee, and say unto thee, Declare unto us now what thou hast said unto the king, hide it not from us, and we will not put thee to death; also what the king said unto thee:

26 Then thou shalt say unto them, I presented my supplication before the king, that he would not cause me to return to Jonathan's house, to die there.

27 Then came all the princes unto 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 matter was not perceived.

28 So Jeremiah abode in the court of the prison until the day that Jerusalem was taken: and he was there when Jerusalem was taken.

The Babylonians overtook Zedekiah and sent him to Nebuchadnezzar, who apparently had remained at headquarters in Riplah in Syria. There Zedekiah's sons were killed before his eyes – all but Mulek, who was taken by the hand of the Lord to America. Then Nebuchadnezzar had Zedekiah's eyes put out and sent him to Babylon where he died.

CHAPTER 18

Israel is as potter's clay in the hands of the Lord—If nations repent, the Lord withholds the evil decreed against them—The Jews shall be scattered.

1 THE word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Arise, and go down to the ^apotter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words.

3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels.

4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

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

6 O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this ^apotter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

7 At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to ^apull

down, and to destroy it;

8 If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, ^aturn from their evil, I will ~~repent~~ (withhold) (or relent regarding the punishment) of the evil that I thought to do unto them.

9 And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it;

10 If it do ^aevil in my sight, that it ^bobey not my voice, then I will ~~repent~~ (withhold) of the ^cgood, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

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