

## OT-OV

### Lesson 115

1. Last week I continued our overview of the book of Jeremiah. We need to do a little review and then I want pick up with new material on page three as we look at the reign of Gedaliah.
2. Jeremiah was written from either Judah or Egypt in about 580 by the prophet himself. The prophet rebukes Judah urging their return to the Lord, he also urges no reliance on the power of alliances; particularly he predicts a Babylonian victory over Egypt. He also prophesied of Judah's exile to Babylonia and their return after 70 years. He is active during the reigns of the last four Kings of Judah.
3. Jeremiah prophesied of the coming destruction of Jerusalem at the hands of Nebuchadnezzar. We were reviewing his messages to the last four "kings" of Judah when time expired last week.

### JEHOIAKIM (c. 608-597)

1. King of Judah, son of Josiah by his wife Zebudah. He was first called Eliakim, but after deposing Jehoahaz, Pharaoh-Necho set him on the throne of Judah and changed his name to Jehoiakim, in the latter half of 609. 2Ki 23:34-37
2. He was subject to Egypt for four years and required to exact heavy tribute from his people. The battle of Carchemish in 605 ended the rule of Egypt.
3. Nebuchadnezzar entered Jerusalem and received the submission of Jehoiakim and took some 60 captives including Daniel and his three friends and the golden vessels from the temple to Babylon. 2Ki 24
4. Nebuchadnezzar took Jehoiakim in chains to Babylon, but evidently released him after receiving assurance that he would be a loyal vassal. 2Ch 36:6
5. Judah began a period of moral and religious decay. Baal and Ashtoreth were worshiped in the gates of the temple and sacrifices may have been resumed in the valley of Hinnom.
6. Cruelty, corruption and oppression were commonplace in the city. Jeremiah wrote on a scroll in protest. The king, after reading a few leaves, took his knife and cut them in strips and then burned them. Jer 36:1-26
7. After three years Jehoiakim rashly rebelled against Babylonia and in c. 597 the city was again attacked and the king killed.

8. The people did not mourn and he was evidently given a shameful burial as Jeremiah had prophesied. Jer 22:18-19

9. His young son Jehoiachin inherited his throne and all the unsolved problems.

#### JEHOIACHIN (c. 597)

1. He is also called Jeconiah and Coniah in several places in the Old Testament Scripture and in the New Testament he is called Jechonias. 1Ch 3:17; Est 2:5-6

1.1 In Jer 22:24-30 there is a remarkable and special prophecy for this wicked King Coniah where the great prophet pronounces a curse on him. Jeremiah predicted that none of his seed would be in the line of Christ.

1.1.1 Though Joseph the stepfather of Jesus did come from the line of Jeconiah or Coniah, as he is also called, the fact of the virgin conception rules out his participation.

1.1.2 Recall Mary came by way of Nathan and not Solomon; her genealogy can be found in Luke 3:23-38. There is the mention of Coniah as Jechonias in the line of Joseph to Christ in the Book of Matthew 1:11-12

2. Jehoiachin's reign lasted three months and ten days. He came on the throne when Judah was suffering from raids by neighboring people. (2Ki 24:1-8)

3. Jehoiachin's short rule gave little chance to tell what sort of king he would have made, but he is charged with doing evil as his father had done. When Nebucadnezzar finished his war with Egypt, he mobilized his army to invade Judah, and Jehoiachin was forced to capitulate. 2Ki 24:9

4. There was only a poor and feeble remnant left behind, with no leadership or protection. Jehoiachin was held captive for most of the rest of his life. 2Ki 24:10-17

#### ZEDEKIAH (c. 597-586)

1. Zedekiah was the last king of Judah. The account of his 11 year reign is found in 2Ki 24; 2Ch 36; Jer 39 and 52.

1.1 Zedekiah was made king over the remnant left behind in 597, and his previous name, Mattaniah, was changed to Zedekiah (2Ki 24:17).

2. The situation he inherited was a tenuous one and in fact too difficult for Zedekiah to control. At the outset of his reign Zedekiah gave some signs of intention to obey the Mosaic law and to heed the advice of Jeremiah with respect to foreign policies.

3. He urged those who held slaves to set them free (Jer 34:8-17), and sent an embassy to Babylon to advise the Jews there to settle down to normal living and seek the peace of the city and to pray for it (Jer 29:1-7).

4. It soon became apparent, however, that the court of Zedekiah was a center of intrigue and plotting against Babylon.

5. In the fourth year of Zedekiah, ambassadors gathered at Jerusalem from the surrounding nations of Edom, Moab, Ammon, Tyre, and Sidon urging the king of Judah to join them in a conspiracy against Babylon.

6. Jeremiah opposed this foolish scheme, and appeared before the envoys bearing upon his shoulders a yoke of wood to dramatize his declaration that God had given the nations into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar. Those who submitted would be allowed to live, but those who rebelled and refused submission to the yoke would perish (Jer 27:1-8).

7. The next step toward overt rebellion was taken when Zedekiah leagued with Egypt--a treacherous and defiant move in the eyes of Nebuchadnezzar, the result of which was an invasion of Palestine which reduced all Judea. The final siege of Jerusalem began in the ninth year of Zedekiah's reign on the tenth day of the tenth month.

8. A breach was finally made in the walls, and Zedekiah, seeing that all was lost, attempted to escape to the Jordan Valley. Pursued and captured by the Chaldeans, he was brought before Nebuchadnezzar at Riblah, and there sentence was passed upon him. The sons of Zedekiah were slain before him, after which his eyes were put out and he himself was taken in chains to Babylon, where he later died. Thus were fulfilled the prophecies of Jeremiah chapter 34 and Ezekiel chapter 12.

#### GEDALIAH (c. 586- 581)

1. Gedaliah was appointed governor of Judah by Nebuchadnezzar after the destruction of Jerusalem in c. 586 (2Ki 25:22-26).

2Ki 25:22 Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon appointed Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, to be over the people he had left behind in Judah.

2Ki 25:23 When all the army officers and their men heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah as governor, they came to Gedaliah at Mizpah--Ishmael son of Nethaniah, Johanan son of Kareah, Seraiah son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, Jaazaniah the son of the Maacathite, and their men.

2Ki 25:24 Gedaliah took an oath to reassure them and their men. "Do not be afraid of the Babylonian officials," he said. "Settle down in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will go well with you."

2. Gedaliah was a member of a prominent and powerful family.

2.1 His grandfather was Shaphan, probably the one who served as state secretary under King Josiah and reported the discovery of the book of the law to the king (2Ki 22:10).

2Ki 22:10 Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, "Hilkiah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

2.2 Shaphan's son, Gedaliah's father, Ahikam, became Jeremiah's protector after the famous temple sermon (Jer 26:24).

Jer 26:20 (Now Uriah son of Shemaiah from Kiriath Jearim was another man who prophesied in the name of the LORD; he prophesied the same things against this city and this land as Jeremiah did.

Jer 26:21 When King Jehoiakim and all his officers and officials heard his words, the king sought to put him to death. But Uriah heard of it and fled in fear to Egypt.

Jer 26:22 King Jehoiakim, however, sent Elnathan son of Acbor to Egypt, along with some other men.

Jer 26:23 They brought Uriah out of Egypt and took him to King Jehoiakim, who had him struck down with a sword and his body thrown into the burial place of the common people.)

Jer 26:24 Furthermore, Ahikam son of Shaphan supported Jeremiah, and so he was not handed over to the people to be put to death.

3. Gedaliah set up his government at Mizpah, which was five or six miles north of Jerusalem.

4. The length of Gedaliah's governorship is not known. Suggestions have ranged from two months to five years. Ishmael, a leader of a fanatic nationalist band and a member of the exiled royal family, murdered Gedaliah while he was a guest in the official residence in Mizpah.

Jer 41:1 In the seventh month Ishmael son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, who was of royal blood and had been one of the king's officers, came with ten men to Gedaliah son of Ahikam at Mizpah. While they were eating together there.

Jer 41:2 Ishmael son of Nethaniah and the ten men who were with him got up and struck down Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, with the sword, killing the one whom the king of Babylon had appointed as governor over the land.

5. Now let's return to the ministry of Jeremiah.

### The Ministry of Jeremiah

1. The famous temple sermon of Jeremiah was preached during the early part of Jehoiakim's reign. As a result, Jeremiah was banned from the temple and nearly lost his life. Jer 7:1-8:3

Jer 7:3 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Reform your ways and your actions, and I will let you live in this place.

Jer 7:4 Do not trust in deceptive words and say, "This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD!"

Jer 7:5 If you really change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly ...

Jer 7:7 then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your forefathers for ever and ever.

Jer 7:8 But look, you are trusting in deceptive words that are worthless.

Jer 7:9 "Will you steal and murder, commit adultery and perjury, burn incense to Baal and follow other gods you have not known,

Jer 7:10 and then come and stand before me in this house, which bears my Name, and say, "We are safe"--safe to do all these detestable things?

Jer 7:11 Has this house, which bears my Name, become a den of robbers to you? But I have been watching! declares the LORD ...

Jer 7:15 I will thrust you from my presence, just as I did all your brothers, the people of Ephraim.'

Jer 7:16 "So do not pray for this people nor offer any plea or petition for them; do not plead with me, for I will not listen to you.

Jer 7:17 Do you not see what they are doing in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

Jer 7:18 The children gather wood, the fathers light the fire, and the women knead the dough and make cakes of bread for the Queen of Heaven. They pour out drink offerings to other gods to provoke me to anger.

Jer 7:19 But am I the one they are provoking? declares the LORD. Are they not rather harming themselves, to their own shame?

Jer 7:20 "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: My anger and my wrath will be poured out on this place, on man and beast, on the trees of the field and on the fruit of the ground, and it will burn and not be quenched ...

Jer 7:27 "When you tell them all this, they will not listen to you; when you call to them, they will not answer.

Jer 7:28 Therefore say to them, 'This is the nation that has not obeyed the LORD its God or responded to correction. Truth has perished; it has vanished from their lips.

Jer 7:29 Cut off your hair and throw it away; take up a lament on the barren heights, for the LORD has rejected and abandoned this generation that is under his wrath.

Jer 7:30 "The people of Judah have done evil in my eyes, declares the LORD. They have set up their detestable idols in the house that bears my Name and have defiled it.

Jer 7:31 They have built the high places of Topheth in the Valley of Ben Hinnom to burn their sons and daughters in the fire--something I did not command, nor did it enter my mind.

Jer 7:32 So beware, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when people will no longer call it Topheth or the Valley of Ben Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter, for they will bury the dead in Topheth until there is no more room.

Jer 7:33 Then the carcasses of this people will become food for the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and there will be no one to frighten them away ...

Jer 8:1 "At that time, declares the LORD, the bones of the kings and officials of Judah, the bones of the priests and prophets, and the bones of the people of Jerusalem will be removed from their graves.

Jer 8:2 They will be exposed to the sun and the moon and all the stars of the heavens, which they have loved and served and which they have followed and consulted and worshiped. They will not be gathered up or buried, but will be like refuse lying on the ground.

Jer 8:3 Wherever I banish them, all the survivors of this evil nation will prefer death to life, declares the LORD Almighty.'

2. In Jeremiah's eyes, the Lord had ordered Babylon to invade Judah; so in the teeth of the king, priests, prophets, and people he opposed any alliance with Egypt and freely predicted the supremacy of Babylon and the destruction of the Jewish state.

2.1 In Jer 25:6-12 the wrath of God is foretold upon Judah. The agent is said to be Babylon and Jeremiah predicts a seventy year captivity which was fulfilled from 606 to 536 Jeremiah also predicted the fall of Babylon.

Jer 25:6 Do not follow other gods to serve and worship them; do not provoke me to anger with what your hands have made. Then I will not harm you."

Jer 25:7 "But you did not listen to me," declares the LORD, "and you have provoked me with what your hands have made, and you have brought harm to yourselves."

Jer 25:8 Therefore the LORD Almighty says this: "Because you have not listened to my words,

Jer 25:9 I will summon all the peoples of the north and my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon," declares the LORD, "and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin.

Jer 25:10 I will banish from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp.

Jer 25:11 This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Jer 25:12 "But when the seventy years are fulfilled, I will punish the king of Babylon and his nation, the land of the Babylonians, for their guilt," declares the LORD, "and will make it desolate forever.

3. Also Jeremiah perceived that the hope of future Israel was wrapped up solely in the band of the Jewish captives in Babylon, not in Jerusalem. The leftovers in the capital city were not the true remnant.

Jer 31:4 I will build you up again and you will be rebuilt, O Virgin Israel. Again you will take up your tambourines and go out to dance with the joyful.

Jer 31:5 Again you will plant vineyards on the hills of Samaria; the farmers will plant them and enjoy their fruit.

Jer 31:6 There will be a day when watchmen cry out on the hills of Ephraim, 'Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God.'"

Jer 31:7 This is what the LORD says: "Sing with joy for Jacob; shout for the foremost of the nations. Make your praises heard, and say, 'O LORD, save your people, the remnant of Israel.'

Jer 31:8 See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth. Among them will be the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labor; a great throng will return.

Jer 31:9 They will come with weeping; they will pray as I bring them back. I will lead them beside streams of water on a level path where they will not stumble, because I am Israel's father, and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

Jer 31:10 "Hear the word of the LORD, O nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: 'He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.'

Jer 31:11 For the LORD will ransom Jacob and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they.

Jer 31:12 They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD-- the grain, the new wine and the oil, the young of the flocks and herds. They will be like a well-watered garden, and they will sorrow no more.

Jer 31:13 Then maidens will dance and be glad, young men and old as well. I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow.

4. In 588 Zedekiah, who had long been plotting against Babylon, openly revolted against his Babylonian master. Babylonian vengeance was swift and final.

4.1 They marched through Judah and Jerusalem in 588. In July of 586, after a long and terrible siege of about 18 months, the city was captured. Nebuchadnezzar's patience was exhausted, so he ordered a systematic destruction of the city.

5. The temple was pillaged and demolished. The king was carried to Riblah in chains, his sons and cabinet were slain, his eyes put-out, and many Jews taken into captivity-only the poorest people were left behind to be vine dressers and husbandmen.

6. Jeremiah was released from the prison in Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar to stay with the people of the land (Jer 39:11-14). His friend Gedaliah was appointed governor of the Judean province. Jeremiah threw his influence behind the governor as he attempted "to rebuild" and "replant" the nation.

Jer 39:11 Now Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had given these orders about Jeremiah through Nebuzaradan commander of the imperial guard:

Jer 39:12 "Take him and look after him; don't harm him but do for him whatever he asks."

Jer 39:13 So Nebuzaradan the commander of the guard, Nebushazban a chief officer, Nergal-Sharezer a high official and all the other officers of the king of Babylon

Jer 39:14 sent and had Jeremiah taken out of the courtyard of the guard. They turned him over to Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, to take him back to his home.

6.1 So he remained among his own people.

7. In 581, Gedaliah was murdered by a Jewish fanatic, Ishmael, who massacred all of Gedaliah's adherents. This brought the Babylonian army back to Palestine. In the wake of this return the people, panic-stricken over fear of Babylonian reprisal, fled to Egypt.

8. They kidnapped Jeremiah and carried him with them (Jer 43:1-7).

Jer 43:1 When Jeremiah finished telling the people all the words of the LORD their God--everything the LORD had sent him to tell them--

Jer 43:2 Azariah son of Hoshaiah and Johanan son of Kareah and all the arrogant men said to Jeremiah, "You are lying! The LORD our God has not sent you to say, 'You must not go to Egypt to settle there.'

Jer 43:3 But Baruch son of Neriah is inciting you against us to hand us over to the Babylonians, so they may kill us or carry us into exile to Babylon."

Jer 43:4 So Johanan son of Kareah and all the army officers and all the people disobeyed the LORD'S command to stay in the land of Judah.

Jer 43:5 Instead, Johanan son of Kareah and all the army officers led away all the remnant of Judah who had come back to live in the land of Judah from all the nations where they had been scattered.

Jer 43:6 They also led away all the men, women and children and the king's daughters whom Nebuzaradan commander of the imperial guard had left with Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch son of Neriah.

Jer 43:7 So they entered Egypt in disobedience to the LORD and went as far as Tahpanhes.

8.1 There on the banks of the Nile he preached against the fanatic worship practiced by the Jewish women to the Queen of Heaven (Jer 44:15-30).

Jer 44:15 Then all the men who knew that their wives were burning incense to other gods, along with all the women who were present--a large assembly--and all the people living in Lower and Upper Egypt, said to Jeremiah,

Jer 44:16 "We will not listen to the message you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD!

Jer 44:17 We will certainly do everything we said we would: We will burn incense to the Queen of Heaven and will pour out drink offerings to her just as we and our fathers, our kings and our officials did in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. At that time we had plenty of food and were well off and suffered no harm.

Jer 44:18 But ever since we stopped burning incense to the Queen of Heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have had nothing and have been perishing by sword and famine."

Jer 44:19 The women added, "When we burned incense to the Queen of Heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did not our husbands know that we were making cakes like her image and pouring out drink offerings to her?"



Jer 44:20 Then Jeremiah said to all the people, both men and women, who were answering him,

Jer 44:21 "Did not the LORD remember and think about the incense burned in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem by you and your fathers, your kings and your officials and the people of the land?"

Jer 44:22 When the LORD could no longer endure your wicked actions and the detestable things you did, your land became an object of cursing and a desolate waste without inhabitants, as it is today.

Jer 44:23 Because you have burned incense and have sinned against the LORD and have not obeyed him or followed his law or his decrees or his stipulations, this disaster has come upon you, as you now see."

Jer 44:24 Then Jeremiah said to all the people, including the women, "Hear the word of the LORD, all you people of Judah in Egypt.

Jer 44:25 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: You and your wives have shown by your actions what you promised when you said, 'We will certainly carry out the vows we made to burn incense and pour out drink offerings to the Queen of Heaven.' "Go ahead then, do what you promised! Keep your vows!

Jer 44:26 But hear the word of the LORD, all Jews living in Egypt: 'I swear by my great name,' says the LORD, 'that no one from Judah living anywhere in Egypt will ever again invoke my name or swear, "As surely as the Sovereign LORD lives.'"

Jer 44:27 For I am watching over them for harm, not for good; the Jews in Egypt will perish by sword and famine until they are all destroyed.

Jer 44:28 Those who escape the sword and return to the land of Judah from Egypt will be very few. Then the whole remnant of Judah who came to live in Egypt will know whose word will stand--mine or theirs.

Jer 44:29 "'This will be the sign to you that I will punish you in this place,' declares the LORD, 'so that you will know that my threats of harm against you will surely stand.'

Jer 44:30 This is what the LORD says: 'I am going to hand Pharaoh Hophra king of Egypt over to his enemies who seek his life, just as I handed Zedekiah king of Judah over to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, the enemy who was seeking his life.'"

9. Even though Jeremiah was assured of Yehovah's strength for the prophetic ministry, when he encountered persecution and abuse he stormed back with all his soul.

9.1 He was a laughingstock all day long, an object of derision; his enemies cut him with their tongues; everyone cursed him.

9.2 He was lonely and rejected by his countrymen. Even his home townsmen plotted to assassinate him. His reaction was one of resentment and he rained down imprecations on his enemies.

10. The word of the Lord came to him, and he had to strike the fatal blow to temple superstition and empty formalism as substitutes for true religion.

11. Jeremiah is also famous for his prophecy of the New Covenant.

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

Jer 31:32 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; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

Jer 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jer 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Jer 31:35 Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name:

Jer 31:36 If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me forever.

Jer 31:37 Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

## 12. Jeremiah predicted certain judgment against the Kings of Judah.

Jer 22:1 This is what the LORD says: "Go down to the palace of the king of Judah and proclaim this message there ...

Jer 22:4 For if you are careful to carry out these commands, then kings who sit on David's throne will come through the gates of this palace, riding in chariots and on horses, accompanied by their officials and their people.

Jer 22:5 But if you do not obey these commands, declares the LORD, I swear by myself that this palace will become a ruin."

Jer 22:6 For this is what the LORD says about the palace of the king of Judah: "Though you are like Gilead to me, like the summit of Lebanon, I will surely make you like a desert, like towns not inhabited.

Jer 22:7 I will send destroyers against you, each man with his weapons, and they will cut up your fine cedar beams and throw them into the fire.

Jer 22:8 "People from many nations will pass by this city and will ask one another, 'Why has the LORD done such a thing to this great city?'

Jer 22:9 And the answer will be: 'Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD their God and have worshiped and served other gods.'

Jer 22:10 Do not weep for the dead king or mourn his loss; rather, weep bitterly for him who is exiled, because he will never return nor see his native land again.

Jer 22:11 For this is what the LORD says about Shallum (a son of Josiah, Shallum, better known as Jehoaahaz) son of Josiah, who succeeded his father as king of Judah but has gone from this place: "He will never return.

Jer 22:12 He will die in the place where they have led him captive; he will not see this land again."

Jer 22:13 "Woe to him who builds his palace by unrighteousness, his upper rooms by injustice, making his countrymen work for nothing, not paying them for their labor.

Jer 22:14 He says, 'I will build myself a great palace with spacious upper rooms.' So he makes large windows in it, panels it with cedar and decorates it in red.

Jer 22:15 "Does it make you a king to have more and more cedar? Did not your father have food and drink? He did what was right and just, so all went well with him.

Jer 22:16 He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the LORD.

Jer 22:17 "But your eyes and your heart are set only on dishonest gain, on shedding innocent blood and on oppression and extortion."

Jer 22:18 Therefore this is what the LORD says about Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah: "They will not mourn for him: 'Alas, my brother! Alas, my sister!' They will not mourn for him: 'Alas, my master! Alas, his splendor!'

Jer 22:19 He will have the burial of a donkey-- dragged away and thrown outside the gates of Jerusalem." ...

Jer 22:24 "As surely as I live," declares the LORD, "even if you, Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, were a signet ring on my right hand, I would still pull you off.

Jer 22:25 I will hand you over to those who seek your life, those you fear-- to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and to the Babylonians.

Jer 22:26 I will hurl you and the mother who gave you birth into another country, where neither of you was born, and there you both will die.

Jer 22:27 You will never come back to the land you long to return to."

13. There are many meaningful promises found in the book of Jeremiah; but none better than Jer 29:11.

**Je 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.**