

PROPHETS AND KINGS (IV)

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Jeremiah 24
 Tuesday: Jeremiah 28
 Wednesday: Jeremiah 21
 Thursday: Jeremiah 34
 Friday: Jeremiah 37
 Saturday: Jeremiah 38
 Sunday: Jeremiah 39:1-10

James 5:10

*Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord,
 for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.*

弟兄們，你們要把那先前奉主名說話的眾先知當作能受苦能忍耐的榜樣。

INTRODUCTION:

Judah The Southern Kingdom		Israel The Northern Kingdom	
Kings	Prophets	Kings	Prophets
King Ahaz 亞哈斯	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaiah 以賽亞 • Micah 彌迦 	King Pekah 比加	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosea 何西阿 • Oded 俄德
King Hezekiah 希西家	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaiah 以賽亞 • Micah 彌迦 	King Hoshea 何細亞	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosea 何西阿
King Manasseh 瑪拿西	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nahum • Unnamed Prophets 		
Amon 亞們			
Josiah 約西亞	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremiah • Zephaniah • Huldah the Prophetess 		
Jehoahaz 約哈斯 / 沙龍	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremiah 		
Jehoiakim 約雅敬 / 以利雅敬	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremiah • Habakkuk • Daniel • Urijah son of Shemaiah 		
Jehoiachin 約雅斤 / 耶哥尼雅 / 哥尼雅	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremiah • Daniel 		
Zedekiah 西底家 / 瑪探雅	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremiah • Daniel • Ezekiel 		

約西亞王 King Josiah

	Zebudah 西布大 (mother) the daughter of Pedaiah 毗大雅 of Rumah 魯瑪	Hamutal 哈慕他 (mother) the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah 立拿
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(長子) 約哈難 Johanah	(次子) 以利雅敬 約雅敬 Eliakim Jehoiakim	(三子) 瑪探雅 西底家 Mattaniah Zedekiah	(四子) 沙龍 約哈斯 Shallum Jehoahaz
	約雅斤 Jehoiachin 耶哥尼雅 Jeconiah 哥尼雅 Coniah	西底家 Zedekiah	

The treaty which Ahaz 亞哈斯 had made with Tiglathpileser 提革拉毗列色 began the forfeiture of Judah's freedom. Only through treaties, resistance, and the intervention of the Lord did Judah remain self-governing. Both wicked and righteous kings reigned in the ensuing (*subsequent*) period, the most wicked being Manasseh 瑪拿西. During the reign of his son Josiah 約西亞, Judah experienced renewed hope. Assyrian power was fading. Josiah instituted religious reform and nationalistic hopes rose. After thirty-one years Josiah's reign ended abruptly. Within twenty-five years, Judah was to succumb (*surrender*) to the rising power of the Babylonian Empire.

LESSON NOTES:

Beginning of the End: Josiah's foolish attempt to intervene against Egypt when Pharaoh-Necho was marching through Palestine, in an effort to assist the Assyrian army who was engaged in another war resulted in his death and the eventual subjugation of Judah to the Egyptians. Jehoahaz 約哈斯, Josiah's son, reigned but three months after which he was deposed by the king of Egypt, taken to Egypt, and then killed (see [2 Chron. 36:1-3](#) and [Jer. 22:11,12](#)). His brother, Eliakim 以利雅敬, was made king by Pharaoh who also changed his name to Jehoiakim 約雅敬. A puppet of Necho, Pharaoh of Egypt, Jehoiakim opposed the ministry of Jeremiah.

2 Chronicles 36:1-3	Jeremiah 22:11-12
<p>¹Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and made him king in his father's stead in Jerusalem. 國民立約西亞的兒子約哈斯在耶路撒冷接續他父作王。</p> <p>²Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. 約哈斯登基的時候年二十三歲，在耶路撒冷作王三個月。</p> <p>³And the king of Egypt put him down at Jerusalem, and condemned the land in an hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold. 埃及王在耶路撒冷廢了他，又罰猶大國銀子一百他連得，金子一他連得。</p>	<p>¹¹For thus saith the LORD touching Shallum the son of Josiah king of Judah, which reigned instead of Josiah his father, which went forth out of this place; He shall not return thither any more: 因為耶和華論到從這地方出去的猶大王約西亞的兒子沙龍（在王下23：30名約哈斯），就是接續他父親約西亞作王的，這樣說：他必不得再回到這裡來，</p> <p>¹²But he shall die in the place whither they have led him captive, and shall see this land no more. 卻要死在被擄去的地方，必不得再見這地。</p>

Beginning his ministry about the thirteenth year of Josiah's reign, Jeremiah had long been warning Judah of her unfaithfulness. He promised that the fate which came to Samaria a century before would come to Judah unless they turned to the Lord ([Jer. 2-4](#)). Ignoring and discrediting Jeremiah, Jehoiakim followed his own will.

During Jehoiakim's reign the Babylonian army crushed Egypt. In the process Judah was made subservient (*submissive*) to the Babylonian ruler. After three years of paying tribute, Jehoiakim rebelled and was invaded by Nebuchadnezzar. Captives were taken to Babylon among whom were Daniel and his three friends. Jehoiachin 約雅斤 (also known as Coniah 哥尼雅 or Jeconiah 耶哥尼雅), the son of Jehoiakim, was made ruler,

upon his father's death. Within three months Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem again and took him and his wife prisoners. Ezekiel was also among those taken at this time.

The End: It was following this captivity that Jeremiah had the vision of the good and bad figs (Jer. 24). Those taken into exile were the "good figs" in that it was from these that God was going to raise a remnant who would heed Him and serve Him (v.6). Those left behind were the "bad figs," not worthy of salvage.

Jeremiah 24:6	For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land: and I will build them, and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up. 我要眷顧他們，使他們得好處，領他們歸回這地。我也要建立他們，必不拆毀；栽植他們，並不拔出。
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Zedekiah西底家 was the king who followed Jeconiah's brief three-month reign. Despite the subjugation to Babylon and the prophecies of Jeremiah, Zedekiah chose to listen to the words of Hananiah who prophesied the return of the exiles within two years. Dramatically breaking a wooden yoke to illustrate how Judah would break the yoke of Babylon, Hananiah's "word of the Lord" challenged Jeremiah's. Jeremiah acted out his response from the Lord using an iron yoke to illustrate the folly of Hananiah's prophecy. To demonstrate the authenticity behind his words, he further declared that Hananiah would die that year. Within sixty days he was dead (Jer.28:15 - 17).

Jeremiah 28:15-17	¹⁵ Then said the prophet Jeremiah unto Hananiah the prophet, "Hear now, Hananiah; The LORD hath not sent thee; but thou makest this people to trust in a lie. 於是先知耶利米對先知哈拿尼雅說：哈拿尼雅啊，你應當聽！耶和華並沒有差遣你，你竟使這百姓倚靠謊言。 ¹⁶ Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will cast thee from off the face of the earth: this year thou shalt die, because thou hast taught rebellion against the LORD." 所以耶和華如此說：看哪，我要叫你去世，你今年必死，因為你向耶和華說了叛逆的話。 ¹⁷ So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month. 這樣，先知哈拿尼雅當年七月間就死了。
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Continuing to urge the people not to resist, but to surrender to the upcoming invasion, Jeremiah met great resistance (Jer. 26). While Jerusalem was under attack Jeremiah prophesied that Zedekiah's life would be spared (34:4).

Jeremiah 34:4	Yet hear the word of the LORD, O Zedekiah king of Judah; Thus saith the LORD of thee, Thou shalt not die by the sword: 猶大王西底家啊，你還要聽耶和華的話。耶和華論到你如此說：你必不被刀劍殺死，
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Surprisingly, the Egyptians came to life and came to the aid of Judah. When the Babylonian army withdrew, false hope arose in Judah. Jeremiah insisted that the Chaldeans would return but was not heeded. While leaving the city on an errand Jeremiah was falsely accused of deserting to the enemy and imprisoned. Because he urged surrender, Jeremiah was further accused of seeking the people's harm (38:4). For this "treason" he was cast into a cistern. Delivered from this, Jeremiah again faithfully warned the weak-willed Zedekiah. Within days the Chaldeans entered the city. Zedekiah attempted to escape and was captured. His sons were slain before his eyes and he was blinded (39:7). Thus did the kingdom come to an end.

Jeremiah 38:4	Therefore the princes 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 welfare of this people, but the hurt."
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	於是首領對王說：求你將這人治死；因他向城裡剩下的兵丁和眾民說這樣的話，使他們的手發軟。這人不是求這百姓得平安，乃是叫他們受災禍。
Jeremiah 39:7	Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him with chains, to carry him to Babylon. 並且剜西底家的眼睛，用銅鍊鎖著他，要帶到巴比倫去。

THE LESSONS:

Jeremiah's job was far from easy. Anyone who faithfully proclaims God's Word to these in rebellion against Him will find little support and much opposition. Though his words were confirmed as being from the Lord by their fulfillment (see [Jer. 28:9](#)), he was still not regarded. People will always tend to believe that which they want to believe rather than the truth which seems unpleasant. Many times **Jeremiah had to fight alone** against others who also claimed to have the word of the Lord. If Jeremiah's own faith wavered in the face of this opposition, it was never evident. It is not uncommon for the Word of God, whether in the Bible or given by one of His servants, to be challenged and discredited. The man of faith will not be swayed by such opposition.

Jeremiah 28:9	The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him." 先知預言的平安，到話語成就的時候，人便知道他真是耶和華所差來的。
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Judah's history proves that what a man sows he also reaps. While many of her kings wanted to serve the Lord and many made a start, of most it is said "he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord but not with a perfect heart." Many were the warnings that God gave his people. No man backslides without repeated warning. God speaks in a voice that cannot be mistaken. The danger comes from doing like Zedekiah who "humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet, speaking from the mouth of the Lord." ([2 Chronicles 36:12](#)) **Every slight, inward check from the Holy Ghost is given in love. Each rebuke from above is a call in compassion to return to Him with a perfect heart.** Persistent ignoring of the "still small voice" dooms the soul to destruction.

2 Chronicles 36:11-13	<p>¹¹Zedekiah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. 西底家登基的時候年二十一歲，在耶路撒冷作王十一年，</p> <p>¹²And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and <i>humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the mouth of the LORD.</i> 行耶和華——他神眼中看為惡的事。先知耶利米以耶和華的話勸他，他仍不在耶利米面前自卑。</p> <p>¹³And he also rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God: but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel. 尼布甲尼撒曾使他指著神起誓，他卻背叛，強項硬心，不歸服耶和華——以色列的神。</p>
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Monday: Jeremiah 24

¹The LORD shewed me, and, behold, two baskets of figs were set before the temple of the LORD, after that Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon had carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, and the princes of Judah, with the carpenters and smiths, from Jerusalem, and had brought them to Babylon.
巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒將猶大王約雅敬的兒子耶哥尼雅和猶大的首領，並工匠、鐵匠從耶路撒冷擄去，帶到巴比倫。這事以後，耶和華指給我看，有兩筐無花果放在耶和華的殿前。

²One basket had very good figs, even like the figs that are first ripe: and the other basket had very naughty figs, which could not be eaten, they were so bad.
一筐是極好的無花果，好像是初熟的；一筐是極壞的無花果，壞得不可吃。

³Then said **the LORD** unto me, "What seest thou, Jeremiah?" And I (**Jeremiah**) said, "Figs; the good figs, very good; and the evil, very evil, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil."
於是耶和華問我說：耶利米你看見甚麼？我說：我看見無花果，好的極好，壞的極壞，壞得不可吃。

⁴Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
耶和華的話臨到我說：

⁵Thus saith **the LORD**, the God of Israel; "Like these good figs, so will I **acknowledge** them that are carried away captive of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans **for their good**.
耶和華—以色列的神如此說：被擄去的猶大人，就是我打發離開這地到迦勒底人之地去的，我必看顧他們如這好無花果，使他們得好處。

⁶For I will **set mine eyes upon them for good**, and I will **bring them again** to this land: and I will **build** them, and not pull them down; and I will **plant** them, and not pluck them up.
我要眷顧他們，使他們得好處，領他們歸回這地。我也要建立他們，必不拆毀；栽植他們，並不拔出。

⁷And I will **give them an 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 unto me with their whole heart**.
我要賜他們認識我的心，知道我是耶和華。他們要作我的子民，我要作他們的神，因為他們要一心歸向我。

⁸And as the evil figs, which cannot be eaten, they are so evil; surely thus saith the LORD, So will I give Zedekiah the king of Judah, and his princes, and the residue of Jerusalem, that remain in this land, and them that dwell in the land of Egypt:
耶和華如此說：我必將猶大王西底家和他的首領，以及剩在這地耶路撒冷的餘民，並住在埃及地的猶大人都交出來，好像那極壞、壞得不可吃的無花果。

⁹And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places whither I shall drive them.
我必使他們交出來，在天下萬國中拋來拋去，遭遇災禍；在我趕逐他們到的各處成為凌辱、笑談、譏刺、咒詛。

¹⁰And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they be consumed from off the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers.
我必使刀劍、饑荒、瘟疫臨到他們，直到他們從我所賜給他們和他們列祖之地滅絕。

Tuesday: Jeremiah 28

¹And 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** 哈拿尼雅 the son of Azur 押朔 the prophet, which was of Gibeon, spake unto me in the house of the LORD, in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying,
當年，就是猶大王西底家登基第四年五月，基遍人押朔的兒子，先知哈拿尼雅，在耶和華的殿中當著祭司和眾民對我說：

²“Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.
萬軍之耶和華-以色列的神如此說：我已經折斷巴比倫王的軛。

³Within two full years will I bring again into this place all the vessels of the LORD's house, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place, and carried them to Babylon:
二年之內，我要將巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒從這地掠到巴比倫的器皿，就是耶和華殿中的一切器皿都帶回此地。

⁴And I will bring again to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, with all the captives of Judah, that went into Babylon, saith the LORD: for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.”
我又要將猶大王約雅敬的兒子耶哥尼雅和被擄到巴比倫去的一切猶大人帶回此地，因為我要折斷巴比倫王的軛。這是耶和華說的。

⁵Then the prophet Jeremiah said unto the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests, and in the presence of all the people that stood in the house of the LORD,
先知耶利米當著祭司和站在耶和華殿裡的眾民對先知哈拿尼雅說：

⁶Even the prophet **Jeremiah** said, “Amen: the LORD do so: the LORD perform thy words which thou hast prophesied, to bring again the vessels of the LORD's house, and all that is carried away captive, from Babylon into this place.
阿們！願耶和華如此行，願耶和華成就你所預言的話，將耶和華殿中的器皿和一切被擄去的人從巴比倫帶回此地。

⁷Nevertheless hear thou now this word that I speak in thine ears, and in the ears of all the people;
然而我向你和眾民耳中所要說的話，你應當聽。

⁸The prophets that have been before me and before thee of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of war, and of evil, and of pestilence.
從古以來，在你我以前的先知，向多國和大邦說預言，論到爭戰、災禍、瘟疫的事。

⁹The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him.”
先知預言的平安，到話語成就的時候，人便知道他真是耶和華所差來的。

¹⁰Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and brake it.
於是，先知哈拿尼雅將先知耶利米頸項上的軛取下來，折斷了。

¹¹And **Hananiah** spake in the presence of all the people, saying, “Thus saith the LORD; Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years.” And the prophet Jeremiah went his way.
哈拿尼雅又當著眾民說：耶和華如此說：二年之內我必照樣從列國人的頸項上折斷巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒的軛。於是先知耶利米就走了。

¹²Then the word of **the LORD** came unto Jeremiah the prophet, after that Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying,
先知哈拿尼雅把先知耶利米頸項上的軛折斷以後，耶和華的話臨到耶利米說：

¹³“Go and tell Hananiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Thou hast broken the yokes of wood; but thou shalt make for them yokes of iron.

你去告訴哈拿尼雅說，耶和華如此說：你折斷木軛，卻換了鐵軛！

¹⁴For thus saith 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.”

因為萬軍之耶和華-以色列的神如此說：我已將鐵軛加在這些國的頸項上，使他們服事巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒，他們總要服事他；我也把田野的走獸給了他。

¹⁵Then said the prophet **Jeremiah** unto Hananiah the prophet, “Hear now, Hananiah; The LORD hath not sent thee; but thou makest this people to trust in a lie.

於是先知耶利米對先知哈拿尼雅說：哈拿尼雅啊，你應當聽！耶和華並沒有差遣你，你竟使這百姓倚靠謊言。

¹⁶Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will cast thee from off the face of the earth: this year thou shalt die, because thou hast taught rebellion against the LORD.”

所以耶和華如此說：看哪，我要叫你去世，你今年必死，因為你向耶和華說了叛逆的話。

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

這樣，先知哈拿尼雅當年七月間就死了。

Wednesday: Jeremiah 21

¹The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, when king Zedekiah 西底家 sent unto him **Pashur** 巴施戶珥 the son of Melchiah 瑪基雅, and **Zephaniah** 西番雅 the son of Maaseiah 瑪西雅 the priest, saying, 耶和華的話臨到耶利米。那時，西底家王打發瑪基雅的儿子巴施戶珥和瑪西雅的儿子祭司西番雅去見耶利米，說：

²“Enquire, I pray thee, of the LORD for us; for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon maketh war against us; if so be that the LORD will deal with us according to all his wondrous works, that he may go up from us.” 請你為我們求問耶和華；因為巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒來攻擊我們，或者耶和華照他一切奇妙的作為待我們，使巴比倫王離開我們上去。

³Then said **Jeremiah** unto them, Thus shall ye say to Zedekiah: 耶利米對他們說：你們當對西底家這樣說：

⁴“Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, wherewith ye fight against the king of Babylon, and against the Chaldeans, which besiege you without the walls, and I will assemble them into the midst of this city. 耶和華-以色列的神如此說：我要使你們手中的兵器，就是你們在城外與巴比倫王和圍困你們的迦勒底人打仗的兵器翻轉過來，又要使這些都聚集在這城中。

⁵And I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath. 並且我要在怒氣、忿怒，和大惱恨中，用伸出來的手，並大能的膀臂，親自攻擊你們；

⁶And I will smite the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast: they shall die of a great pestilence. 又要擊打這城的居民，連人帶牲畜都必遭遇大瘟疫死亡。

⁷And afterward, saith the LORD, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life: and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, neither have pity, nor have mercy.

以後我要將猶大王西底家和他的臣僕百姓，就是在城內，從瘟疫、刀劍、饑荒中剩下的人，都交在巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒的手中和他們仇敵，並尋索其命的人手中。巴比倫王必用刀擊殺他們，不顧惜，不可憐，不憐憫。這是耶和華說的。

⁸And unto this people thou shalt say, **Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death.**

你要對這百姓說：耶和華如此說：看哪，我將生命的路和死亡的路擺在你們面前。

⁹He that abideth in this city shall die by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence: but he that goeth out, and falleth to the Chaldeans that besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be unto him for a prey. 住在這城著的必遭刀劍、饑荒、瘟疫而死；但出去歸降圍困你們迦勒底人的必得存活，要以自己的命為掠物。

¹⁰For I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, saith the LORD: it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

耶和華說：我向這城變臉，降禍不降福；這城必交在巴比倫王的手中，他必用火焚燒。

¹¹And touching the house of the king of Judah, say, Hear ye the word of the LORD; 至於猶大王的家，你們當聽耶和華的話。

¹²O house of David, thus saith the LORD; ***Execute judgment in the morning***, and deliver him that is spoiled out of 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.

大衛家啊，耶和華如此說：你們每早晨要施行公平，拯救被搶奪的脫離欺壓人的手，恐怕我的忿怒因你們的惡行發作，如火著起，甚至無人能以熄滅。

¹³Behold, I am against thee, O inhabitant of the valley, and rock of the plain, saith the LORD; which say, Who shall come down against us? or who shall enter into our habitations?

耶和華說：住山谷和平原磐石上的居民，你們說：誰能下來攻擊我們？誰能進入我們的住處呢？看哪，我與你們為敵。

¹⁴But I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, saith the LORD: and I will kindle a fire in the forest thereof, and it shall devour all things round about it."

耶和華又說：我必按你們做事的結果刑罰你們；我也必使火在耶路撒冷的林中著起，將他四圍所有的盡行燒滅。

Thursday: Jeremiah 34

¹The word which came unto **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 the cities thereof, saying,

巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒率領他的全軍和地上屬他的各國各邦，攻打耶路撒冷和屬耶路撒冷所有的城邑。那時，耶和華的話臨到耶利米說：

²“Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah, and tell him, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire:

耶和華-以色列的神說，你去告訴猶大王西底家，耶和華如此說：我要將這城交付巴比倫王的手，他必用火焚燒。

³And thou shalt not escape out of his hand, but shalt surely be taken, and delivered into his hand; and thine eyes shall behold the eyes of the king of Babylon, and he shall speak with thee mouth to mouth, and thou shalt go to Babylon.

你必不能逃脫他的手，定被拿住，交在他的手中。你的眼要見巴比倫王的眼，他要口對口和你說話，你也必到巴比倫去。

⁴Yet hear the word of the LORD, O Zedekiah king of Judah; Thus saith the LORD of thee, Thou shalt not die by the sword:

猶大王西底家啊，你還要聽耶和華的話。耶和華論到你如此說：你必不被刀劍殺死，

⁵But thou shalt die in peace: and with the burnings of thy fathers, the former kings which were before thee, so shall they burn odours for thee; and they will lament thee, saying, Ah lord! for I have pronounced the word, saith the LORD.”

你必平安而死，人必為你焚燒物件，好像為你列祖，就是在你以前的先王焚燒一般。人必為你舉哀說：哀哉！我主啊。耶和華說：這話是我說的。

⁶Then Jeremiah the prophet spake all these words unto Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem,

於是，先知耶利米在耶路撒冷將這一切話告訴猶大王西底家。

⁷When 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 these defenced cities remained of the cities of Judah.

那時，巴比倫王的軍隊正攻打耶路撒冷，又攻打猶大所剩下的城邑，就是拉吉和亞西加。原來猶大的堅固城只剩下這兩座。

⁸This is the word that came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, after that the king Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people which were at Jerusalem, to proclaim liberty unto them;

西底家王與耶路撒冷的眾民立約，要向他們宣告自由，叫各人任他希伯來的僕人和婢女自由出去，誰也不可使他的一個猶大弟兄作奴僕。（此後，有耶和華的話臨到耶利米。）

⁹That every man should let his manservant, and every man his maidservant, being an Hebrew or an Hebrewess, go free; that none should serve himself of them, to wit, of a Jew his brother.

¹⁰Now when all the princes, and all the people, which had entered into the covenant, heard that every one should let his manservant, and every one his maidservant, go free, that none should serve themselves of them any more, then they obeyed, and let them go.

所有立約的首領和眾民就任他的僕人婢女自由出去，誰也不再叫他們作奴僕。大家都順從，將他們釋放了；

¹¹But afterward they turned, and caused the servants and the handmaids, whom they had let go free, to return, and brought them into subjection for servants and for handmaids.

後來卻又反悔，叫所任去自由的僕人婢女回來，勉強他們仍為僕婢。

12Therefore the word of the LORD came to **Jeremiah** from the LORD, saying, 因此耶和華的話臨到耶利米說：

13“Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; I made a covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondmen, saying, 耶和華-以色列的神如此說：我將你們的列祖從埃及地為奴之家領出來的時候，與他們立約說：

14At the end of seven years let ye go every man his brother an Hebrew, which hath been sold unto thee; and when he hath served thee six years, thou shalt let him go free from thee: but your fathers hearkened not unto me, neither inclined their ear.

你的一個希伯來弟兄若賣給你，服事你六年，到第七年你們各人就要任他自由出去。只是你們列祖不聽從我，也不側耳而聽。

15And ye were now turned, and had done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbour; and ye had made a covenant before me in the house which is called by my name: 如今你們回轉，行我眼中看為正的事，各人向鄰舍宣告自由，並且在稱為我名下的殿中、在我面前立約。

16But ye turned and polluted my name, and caused every man his servant, and every man his handmaid, whom he had set at liberty at their pleasure, to return, and brought them into subjection, to be unto you for servants and for handmaids.

你們卻又反悔，褻瀆我的名，各人叫所任去隨意自由的僕人婢女回來，勉強他們仍為僕婢。

17Therefore thus saith the LORD; Ye have not hearkened unto me, in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother, and every man to his neighbour: behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, saith the LORD, to the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine; and I will make you to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

所以耶和華如此說：你們沒有聽從我，各人向弟兄鄰舍宣告自由。看哪！我向你們宣告一樣自由，就是使你們自由於刀劍、饑荒、瘟疫之下，並且使你們在天下萬國中拋來拋去。這是耶和華說的。

18And I will give the men that have transgressed my covenant, which have not performed the words of the covenant which they had made before me, when they cut the calf in twain, and passed between the parts thereof,

猶大的首領、耶路撒冷的首領、太監、祭司，和國中的眾民曾將牛犢劈開，分成兩半，從其中經過，在我面前立約。後來又違背我的約，不遵行這約上的話。

19The princes of Judah, and the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, and the priests, and all the people of the land, which passed between the parts of the calf;

20I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life: and their dead bodies shall be for meat unto the fowls of the heaven, and to the beasts of the earth.

我必將他們交在仇敵和尋索其命的人手中；他們的屍首必給空中的飛鳥和地上的野獸作食物。

21And Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes will I give into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life, and into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which are gone up from you.

並且我必將猶大王西底家和他的首領交在他們仇敵和尋索其命的人，與那暫離你們而去巴比倫王軍隊的手中。

22Behold, I will command, saith the LORD, and cause 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 an inhabitant.”

耶和華說：我必吩咐他們回到這城，攻打這城，將城攻取，用火焚燒。我也要使猶大的城邑變為荒場，無人居住。

Friday: Jeremiah 37

¹And 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.

約西亞的兒子西底家代替約雅敬的兒子哥尼雅為王，是巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒立在猶大地作王的。

²But 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.

但西底家和他的臣僕，並國中的百姓，都不聽從耶和華藉先知耶利米所說的話。

³And Zedekiah the king sent

• Jehucal 猶甲 the son of Shelemiah 示利米雅 and

• Zephaniah 西番雅 the son of Maaseiah 瑪西雅 the priest

to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "Pray now unto the LORD our God for us."

西底家王打發示利米雅的兒子猶甲和祭司瑪西雅的兒子西番雅去見先知耶利米，說：求你為我們禱告耶和華—我們的神。

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

那時耶利米在民中出入，因為他們還沒有把他囚在監裡。

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

法老的軍隊已經從埃及出來，那圍困耶路撒冷的迦勒底人聽見他們的風聲，就拔營離開耶路撒冷去了。

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

耶和華的話臨到先知耶利米說：

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

耶和華—以色列的神如此說：猶大王打發你們來求問我，你們要如此對他說：那出來幫助你們法老的軍隊必回埃及本國去。

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

迦勒底人必再來攻打這城，並要攻取，用火焚燒。

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

耶和華如此說：你們不要自欺說迦勒底人必定離開我們，因為他們必不離開。

¹⁰For 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."

你們即便殺敗了與你們爭戰的迦勒底全軍，但剩下受傷的人也必各人從帳棚裡起來，用火焚燒這城。

¹¹And it came to pass, that when the army of the Chaldeans was broken up from Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's army,

迦勒底的軍隊因怕法老的軍隊，拔營離開耶路撒冷的時候，

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

耶利米就雜在民中出離耶路撒冷，要往便雅憫地去，在那裡得自己的地業。

13 And when he was in the gate of Benjamin, a captain of the ward 守門官 was there, whose name was **Irijah** 伊利雅, the son of Shelemiah 示利米雅, the son of Hananiah 哈拿尼亞; and he took Jeremiah the prophet, saying, “Thou fallest away to the Chaldeans.”

他到了便雅憫門那裡，有守門官名叫伊利雅，是哈拿尼亞的孫子、示利米雅的兒子，他就拿住先知耶利米，說：你是投降迦勒底人哪！

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.

耶利米說：你這是謊話，我並不是投降迦勒底人。伊利雅不聽他的話，就拿住他，解到首領那裡。

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

首領惱怒耶利米，就打了他，將他囚在文士約拿單的房屋中，因為他們以這房屋當作監牢。

16 When Jeremiah was entered into the dungeon, and into the cabins, and Jeremiah had remained there many days;

耶利米來到獄中，進入牢房，在那裡囚了多日。

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.”

西底家王打發人提出他來，在自己的宮內私下問他說：從耶和華有甚麼話臨到沒有？耶利米說：有！又說：你必交在巴比倫王手中。

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?”

耶利米又對西底家王說：我在甚麼事上得罪你，或你的臣僕，或這百姓，你竟將我囚在監裡呢？

19 Where are now your prophets which prophesied unto you, saying, The king of Babylon shall not come against you, nor against this land?

對你們預言巴比倫王必不來攻擊你們和這地的先知，現今在哪裡呢？

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.”

主—我的王啊，求你現在垂聽，准我在你面前的懇求：不要使我回到文士約拿單的房屋中，免得我死在那裡。

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 bread out of the bakers' street, until all the bread in the city were spent. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

於是，西底家王下令，他們就把耶利米交在護衛兵的院中，每天從餅舖街取一個餅給他，直到城中的餅用盡了。這樣，耶利米仍在護衛兵的院中。

Saturday: Jeremiah 38

¹Then

- Shephatiah 示法提雅 the son of Mattan 瑪坦, and
- Gedaliah 基大利 the son of Pashur 巴施戶珥, and
- Jucal 猶甲 the son of Shelemiah 示利米雅, and
- Pashur 巴示戶珥 the son of Malchiah 瑪基雅,

heard the words that **Jeremiah** had spoken unto all the people, saying,

瑪坦的兒子示法提雅、巴施戶珥的兒子基大利、示利米雅的兒子猶甲、瑪基雅的兒子巴示戶珥聽見耶利米對眾人所說的話，說：

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. 耶和華如此說：住在這城裡的必遭刀劍、饑荒、瘟疫而死；但出去歸降迦勒底人的必得存活，就是以自己命為掠物的，必得存活。

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

耶和華如此說：這城必要交在巴比倫王軍隊的手中，他必攻取這城。

⁴Therefore **the princes** 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 welfare of this people, but the hurt.”

於是首領對王說：求你將這人治死；因他向城裡剩下的兵丁和眾民說這樣的話，使他們的手發軟。這人不是求這百姓得平安，乃是叫他們受災禍。

⁵Then **Zedekiah** the king said, “Behold, he is in your hand: for the king is not he that can do any thing against you.”

西底家王說：他在你們手中，無論何事，王也不能與你們反對。

⁶Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon of Malchiah 瑪基雅 the son of Hammelech 哈米勒, 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.

他們就拿住耶利米，下在哈米勒的兒子（或譯：王的兒子）瑪基雅的牢獄裡；那牢獄在護衛兵的院中。他們用繩子將耶利米繫下去。牢獄裡沒有水，只有淤泥，耶利米就陷在淤泥中。

⁷Now when Ebedmelech 以伯•米勒 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;

在王宮的太監古實人以伯•米勒，聽見他們將耶利米下了牢獄（那時王坐在便雅憫門口），

⁸**Ebedmelech** went forth out of the king's house, and spake to the king saying,

以伯•米勒就從王宮裡出來，對王說：

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 bread in the city.”

主-我的王啊，這些人向先知耶利米一味地行惡，將他下在牢獄中；他在那裡必因飢餓而死，因為城中再沒有糧食。

¹⁰Then **the king** commanded Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, saying, “Take from hence thirty men with thee, and take up Jeremiah the prophet out of the dungeon, before he die.”

王就吩咐古實人以伯•米勒說：你從這裡帶領三十人，趁著先知耶利米未死以前，將他從牢獄中提上來。

¹¹So Ebedmelech took the men with him, and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took thence old cast clouts and old rotten rags, and let them down by cords into the dungeon to Jeremiah.

於是以伯•米勒帶領這些人同去，進入王宮，到庫房以下，從那裡取了些碎布和破爛的衣服，用繩子縋下牢獄去到耶利米那裡。

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

古實人以伯•米勒對耶利米說：你用這些碎布和破爛的衣服放在繩子上，墊你的胳肢窩。耶利米就照樣行了。

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

這樣，他們用繩子將耶利米從牢獄裡拉上來。耶利米仍在護衛兵的院中。

¹⁴Then 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."

西底家王打發人帶領先知耶利米，進耶和華殿中第三門裡見王。王就對耶利米說：我要問你一件事，你絲毫不可向我隱瞞。

¹⁵Then 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?"

耶利米對西底家說：我若告訴你，你豈不定要殺我麼？我若勸戒你，你必不聽從我。

¹⁶So 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."

西底家王就私下向耶利米說：我指著那造我們生命之永生的耶和華起誓：我必不殺你，也不將你交在尋索你命的人手中。

¹⁷Then 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:

耶利米對西底家說：耶和華—萬軍之神、以色列的神如此說：你若出去歸降巴比倫王的首領，你的命就必存活，這城也不致被火焚燒，你和你的全家都必存活。

¹⁸But 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."

你若不出去歸降巴比倫王的首領，這城必交在迦勒底人手中。他們必用火焚燒，你也不得脫離他們的手。

¹⁹And Zedekiah the king said unto Jeremiah, "I am afraid of the Jews that are fallen to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand, and they mock me."

西底家王對耶利米說：我怕那些投降迦勒底人的猶大人，恐怕迦勒底人將我交在他們手中，他們戲弄我。

²⁰But 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.

耶利米說：迦勒底人必不將你交出。求你聽從我對你所說耶和華的話，這樣你必得好處，你的命也必存活。耶利米說：迦勒底人必不將你交出。求你聽從我對你所說耶和華的話，這樣你必得好處，你的命也必存活。

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

你若不肯出去，耶和華指示我的話乃是這樣：

22And, 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.

猶大王宮裡所剩的婦女必都帶到巴比倫王的首領那裡。這些婦女必說：你知己的朋友催逼你，勝過你；見你的腳陷入淤泥中，就轉身退後了。

23So they shall bring out all thy wives and thy children 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.”

人必將你的后妃和你的兒女帶到迦勒底人那裡；你也不得脫離他們的手，必被巴比倫王的手捉住；你也必使這城被火焚燒。

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

西底家對耶利米說：不要使人知道這些話，你就不至於死。

25But 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:

首領若聽見了我與你說話，就來見你，問你說：你對王說甚麼話不要向我們隱瞞，我們就不殺你。王向你說甚麼話也要告訴我們。

26Then 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.”

你就對他們說：我在王面前懇求不要叫我回到約拿單的房屋死在那裡。

27Then 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.

隨後眾首領來見耶利米，問他，他就照王所吩咐的一切話回答他們。他們不再與他說話，因為事情沒有洩漏。

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

於是耶利米仍在護衛兵的院中，直到耶路撒冷被攻取的日子。

Sunday: Jeremiah 39:1-10

¹In 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.

猶大王西底家第九年十月，巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒率領全軍來圍困耶路撒冷。

²And in the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, the ninth day of the month, the city was broken up.

西底家十一年四月初九日，城被攻破。

³And all the princes of the king of Babylon came in, and sat in the middle gate, even Nergalsharezer, Samgarnebo, Sarsechim, Rabsaris, Nergalsharezer, Rabmag, with all the residue of the princes of the king of Babylon.

耶路撒冷被攻取的時候，巴比倫王的首領尼甲•沙利薛、三甲•尼波、撒西金-拉撒力、尼甲•沙利薛-拉墨，並巴比倫王其餘的一切首領都來坐在中門。

⁴And it came to pass, that when Zedekiah the king of Judah saw them, and all the men of war, then they fled, and went forth out of the city by night, by the way of the king's garden, by the gate betwixt the two walls: and he went out the way of the plain.

猶大王西底家和一切兵丁看見他們，就在夜間從靠近王園兩城中間的門出城逃跑，往亞拉巴逃去。

⁵But the Chaldeans' army pursued after them, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho: and when they had taken him, they brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath, where he gave judgment upon him.

迦勒底的軍隊追趕他們，在耶利哥的平原追上西底家，將他拿住，帶到哈馬地的利比拉、巴比倫王尼布甲尼撒那裡；尼布甲尼撒就審判他。

⁶Then 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.

巴比倫王在利比拉、西底家眼前殺了他的眾子，又殺了猶大的一切貴胄，

⁷Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him with chains, to carry him to Babylon.

並且剜西底家的眼睛，用銅鍊鎖著他，要帶到巴比倫去。

⁸And the Chaldeans burned the king's house, and the houses of the people, with fire, and brake down the walls of Jerusalem.

迦勒底人用火焚燒王宮和百姓的房屋，又拆毀耶路撒冷的城牆。

⁹Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive into Babylon the remnant of the people that remained in the city, and those that fell away, that fell to him, with the rest of the people that remained.

那時，護衛長尼布撒拉旦將城裡所剩下的百姓和投降他的逃民，以及其餘的民都擄到巴比倫去了。

¹⁰But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left of the poor of the people, which had nothing, in the land of Judah, and gave them vineyards and fields at the same time.

護衛長尼布撒拉旦卻將民中毫無所有的窮人留在猶大地，當時給他們葡萄園和田地。