

# Jeremiah 25

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## Seventy Years of Captivity

<sup>1</sup>The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; <sup>2</sup>which Jeremiah the prophet spoke unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying: <sup>3</sup>From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, even unto this day, these three and twenty years, the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, speaking betimes and often; but ye have not hearkened. <sup>4</sup>And the LORD hath sent unto you all His servants the prophets, sending them betimes and often—but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your

ear to hear— <sup>5</sup>saying: 'Return ye now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD hath given unto you and to your fathers, for ever and ever; <sup>6</sup>and go not after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and provoke Me not with the work of your hands, and I will do you no hurt.' <sup>7</sup>Yet ye have not hearkened unto Me, saith the LORD; that ye might provoke Me with the work of your hands to your own hurt.

<sup>8</sup>Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts: Because ye have not heard My words, <sup>9</sup>behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and I will send unto Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about; and I will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and a hissing, and perpetual desolations. <sup>10</sup>Moreover I will cause to cease from among them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the lamp. <sup>11</sup>And this whole land shall be a desolation, and a waste; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

<sup>12</sup>And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans; and I will make it perpetual desolations. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring upon that land all My words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations. <sup>14</sup>For many nations and great kings shall make bondmen of them also; and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the work of their own hands.

## **The Cup of God's Wrath**

<sup>15</sup>For thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, unto me: Take this cup of the wine of fury at My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it. <sup>16</sup>And they shall drink, and reel to and fro, and be like madmen, because of the sword that I will send among them.—

<sup>17</sup>Then took I the cup of the LORD'S hand, and made all the nations to drink, unto whom the LORD had sent me: <sup>18</sup>Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof, and the princes thereof, to make them an appalment, an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse; as it is this day; <sup>19</sup>Pharaoh king of Egypt, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people; <sup>20</sup>and all the mingled people; and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Gaza, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod; <sup>21</sup>Edom, and Moab, and the children of Ammon; <sup>22</sup>and all the kings of Tyre, and all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the isle which is beyond the sea; <sup>23</sup>Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that have the corners of their hair polled; <sup>24</sup>and all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mingled people that dwell in the wilderness; <sup>25</sup>and all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes; <sup>26</sup>and all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another; and all the kingdoms of the world, which are upon the face of the earth.—And the king of Sheshach shall drink after them.

<sup>27</sup>And thou shalt say unto them: Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Drink ye, and be drunken, and spew, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.

<sup>28</sup>And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at thy hand to drink, then shalt thou say unto them: Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Ye shall surely drink. <sup>29</sup>For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city whereupon My name is called, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished; for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts.

**30**Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them: The LORD doth roar from on high, And utter His voice from His holy habitation; He doth mightily roar because of His fold; He giveth a shout, as they that tread the grapes, Against all the inhabitants of the earth.

**31**A noise is come even to the end of the earth; For the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, He doth plead with all flesh; As for the wicked, He hath given them to the sword, Saith the LORD.

**32**Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Behold, evil shall go forth From nation to nation, And a great storm shall be raised up From the uttermost parts of the earth.

**33**And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth; they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the face of the ground.

### **The Cry of the Shepherds**

**34**Wail, ye shepherds, and cry; And wallow yourselves in the dust, ye leaders of the flock; For the days of your slaughter are fully come, And I will break you in pieces, And ye shall fall like a precious vessel.

**35**And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, Nor the leaders of the flock to escape.

**36**Hark! the cry of the shepherds, And the wailing of the leaders of the flock! For the LORD despoileth their pasture.

**37**And the peaceable folds are brought to silence Because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

**38**He hath forsaken His covert, as the lion; For their land is become a waste Because of the fierceness of the oppressing sword, And because of His fierce anger.