Lesson 8: pp. 30—31

Jerusalem in Ruins

Objectives

Students will be able to

- 1. Describe the fall of Jerusalem and Judah to the Babylonians
- 2. Describe Zedekiah's capture
- 3. Tell what happened to Jeremiah when Judean captives were taken to Babylon
- 4. State that Judah's continued sinfulness caused its destruction

New Words

Ahikam (ə hī' kəm)

Ebed-melech (ē' bid mē' lik)

Gedaliah (ged' ə lī' ə)

Hamath (hā' math)

Nebuchadrezzar (neb' ə kə drez' ər)

Nebushasban (neb' ə shas' ban)

Nebuzaradan (neb' ə zə rā' dən)

Nergal-sharezer (nər' gal shə rē' zər)

Rab-saris (rab' sə ris)

Riblah (rib' lə)

Sarsechim (sär' sə kim)

Samgar-nebo (sam' gär nē' bō)

Seraiah (si rā' yə)

Shaphan (shā' fən)

(These names are in the Bible passages the student is to read for the lesson.)



The Babylonians, who were also called Chaldeans, camped around Jerusalem's walls for many months. The tunnel Hezekiah had built when Assyria besieged Jerusalem now provided water for the people of Jerusalem; but food supplies ran low, and the people were threatened with starvation. Zedekiah realized that Jeremiah's prophecies had come to pass. Jerusalem and all Judah would fall to Babylon.

After the Chaldeans' siege, the beautiful city of Jerusalem lay in ruins. The temple that Solomon had built four hundred years earlier was now a heap of ashes and blackened stones. By 586 B.C. Judah's people were in exile in Babylon. Their kingdom had come to an end—all because God's people failed to obey Him.

KNOW YOUR BIBLE

- Read 2 Kings 25:1-21 and use it to answer the questions.
 - 1. What did King Zedekiah and the men of war do when the siege of Jerusalem resulted in famine in the city?

They fled from the city.

- 2. What did the Chaldeans do to Zedekiah?
 - a. They <u>killed or slew</u> his sons before his eyes.
 - b. They <u>put out</u> his eyes.
 - c. They <u>bound</u> him with brass chains.
 - d. They <u>carried or took</u> him to Babylon.
- 3. What did King Nebuchadnezzar do to the temple of the LORD? burned it
- 4. What happened to the vessels and furnishing of the temple?

The Chaldeans broke them up and took them to Babylon.

30

Review Questions

1. What troubles did Zedekiah face as Judah's king?

These ideas: The people of Judah never fully accepted Zedekiah as king. Nebuchadnezzar forced Zedekiah to pledge his loyalty to Babylon. Zedekiah's advisors pressured him to rebel against Babylon and to ask Egypt for help. Edom, Moah, Ammon and Phoenicia wanted Zedekiah to join their alliance. Jeremiah warned of God's coming judgment, but Zedekiah's false prophets declared that

Lesson 8 What happened to Jeremiah? Read Jeremiah 39:9-14; 40:1-6 and answer the questions. 5. Who commanded the Babylonian captain not to harm Jeremiah? Nebuchadnezzar or Nebuchadrezzar 6. Nebuchadnezzar's captain offered to take Jeremiah to Babylon. Among whom did Jeremiah choose to live? (Jeremiah 40:5-6) the people that were left in the land LOOKING BACK Complete the sentences. 7. Jeremiah ministered during the reigns of Judah's _ 8. Jeremiah was chosen to be God's prophet before <u>he was born</u> 9. Jeremiah was accused of being a _ false __ prophet and a _ traitor to Judah. Answer the questions. 10. How did Jeremiah respond to the sins of people? He went on loving the people, but he grieved for them. 11. How did Jeremiah respond to the things he suffered? He continued to serve God Circle the word that correctly completes the sentence. 12. King **Zedekiah**, **Jehoiakim** treated Jeremiah poorly and threatened to kill him. 13. King(Zedekiah) Jehoiakim was less hostile toward Jeremiah but allowed him to be thrown into a cistern, prison where he was left to die. 14. **Zedekiah, Jehoiakim** burned a scroll containing God's words. 31

Teacher Notes

Jeremiah's warnings were not true.

2. What advice and warning did Jeremiah give Zedekiah?

These ideas: Zedekiah would be taken captive to Babylon, but he would die in peace rather than being killed. The only way for Zedekiah to spare his life and the city was to surrender to the king of Babylon.

3. Did Zedekiah heed Jeremiah's words? Explain.

No, he rebelled against Babylon.

4. What happened when Zedekiah rebelled? The Babylonians soon besieged Jerusalem and attacked other Judean cities.

Class Starter

 And the Lord God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused

- his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his people, till there was no remedy. 2 Chronicles 36:15, 16
- The people's mistreatment of God's messengers brought wrath upon them without remedy, because they were sinning against the remedy. Nothing displeases God more than mistreatment given to His ministers; what is done against them He takes as done against Himself.
- Discuss the importance of respecting the leaders of the church, of accepting their teaching, and encouraging them in their work.

Discussion Questions

- 1. How were the people of Jerusalem able to get water during the siege?

 through the tunnel King Hezekiah had made
- 2. Though the people had sufficient water, why did they not have enough food?

 These ideas: Fields were outside the city walls, and the Chaldeans were camped around the city. No one could bring in supplies or go out for them.
- 3. What did Zedekiah realize?

 that Jeremiah's prophecies were now coming to pass
- 4. How long had the temple stood before it was destroyed by the Babylonians? *four hundred years*
- 5. Where did the Chaldeans capture King Zedekiah (2 Kings 25:5)? in the plains of Jericho
- 6. What, besides the temple, did the Babylonians burn or destroy (2 Kings 25:9, 10)? the king's palace and all houses in Jerusalem, and the walls around Jerusalem

- 7. Whom did the Babylonians allow to stay in the land, and why (2 Kings 25:12)? the poor people; to take care of vineyards and fields and crops
- 8. What did the captain of the guard tell Jeremiah was the reason for Judah's fall to the Babylonians (Jeremiah 40:2-3)?

 God had pronounced evil upon Jerusalem and Judah because the people had sinned against the LORD and had not obeyed His voice.
- 9. What choice did the Babylonians give Jeremiah (Jeremiah 40:4)?

 to go along to Babylon or to stay in his homeland
- 10. Jeremiah chose to stay in Judah. What did the captain of the guard give him before letting Jeremiah go (Jeremiah 40:5)? food and a gift or victuals and a reward

Answers

Ex#	W	here Found
Know	Your	BIBLE
1		2 Kings 25:4
2		2 Kings 25:7
3		2 Kings 25:9
4		2 Kings 25:13
5		Jeremiah 39:11, 12
6		given
Lookii	ng Bac	CK
7,8	p 25,	para 1
9	p 25,	col 2, para 4
	p 26,	para 4
10, 11	p 25,	para 3
12	p 25,	para 4
13	p 26,	last para
14	p 25,	para 4



Vocabulary Word



brick kiln: (brik' kiln') furnace used to heat and harden bricks

The Babylonians took steps to make sure
that Judah would never again rise to power.
Cities across Judah were reduced to ruins.
The nation's wealth was carried away to
Babylon. Wealthy, educated, or highly-skilled
Judeans were also taken to Babylon. Only the
poor remained in the land.

Unlike the Assyrians, the Baby-

Jeremiah, who had been persecuted by his own people, received Nebuchadnezzar's respect. Nebuchadnezzar knew Jeremiah had advised Zedekiah

to surrender to Babylon. The Chaldean captain who released him from prison acknowledged that God had caused Judah to fall because of its sin. Nebuchadnezzar offered Jeremiah the choice of going along to Babylon or staying in Judah. Jeremiah chose to remain in his homeland. There he continued to serve God and declare His word. God had honored His promise to protect the prophet.

The king of Babylon appointed a governor to rule over the new Babylonian province of Judah. The damage in Jerusalem was so bad that no one could live there, so the governor set up his capital in Mizpah, about 7 miles

(11 km) northwest of Jerusalem. He wished to restore the spoiled land. He instructed the people to care for the vineyards and fields throughout the land.

However, there were some who did not like the new governor. A group of these rebels

> schemed to kill the governor. As they waited for an opportunity to assassinate the ruler, they pretended to support him.

One of the governor's captains discovered the plot and

warned the governor, who refused to believe his captain. Two months later, the rebels came to Mizpah. The governor invited them to eat with him and his officials. After they had dined, the rebels rose up and killed the governor and all the Jews and Babylonians who were with him.

When news of the murders spread, the people of Judah grew fearful of what Neb-uchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, would do. They were certain he would come and kill them all or take them away to Babylon. They thought their only hope was to escape to Egypt. So they sought advice from Jeremiah.

Lesson 9: pp. 32—34

After Jerusalem's Fall

Objectives

Students will be able to

- 1. Describe life in the Babylonian province of Judah
- 2. Tell of the assassination of the Babylonian governor of Judah
- 3. State that the people asked Jeremiah's advice, but disobeyed it
- 4. Tell of Jeremiah's warning and its fulfillment

New Words

Azariah (az' ə rī' ə)
Baruch (ber' ək)
Hoshaiah (hō shā' yə)
Jezaniah (jez' ə nī' ə)
Johanan (jō hā' nən)
Kareah (kə rē' ə)
Neriah (ni rī' ə)
Tahpanhes
(tä' pən hēz)

(These names are in

the Bible passages the student is to read for the lesson.)

- 4. Which people of Judah were not taken captive to Babylon? *the poor people*
- 5. What did the Babylonians do that showed Nebuchadnezzar's respect for Jeremiah? gave Jeremiah the choice of going along to Babylon or staying in Judah
- 6. What did Jeremiah choose to do? *stay in Judah*

lonians did not replace captives with foreigners. This was good for those left in the land as they were not as likely to marry people who worshiped false gods.

32

Review Questions

- 1. What prophesies did Zedekiah realize were coming to pass?
 - that Jerusalem and Judah would fall to Babylon
- 2. How was the temple destroyed? *Nebuchadnezzar burned it.*
- 3. Who told Jeremiah that God had declared evil upon Jerusalem because the people of Judah had sinned against the LORD? one of Nebuchadnezzar's men

Class Starter

- Have you ever asked someone for advice and then did not like what your advisor told you? What did you do then? As you discuss these questions, make sure the students understand the difference between advice that really matters and "advice" about insignificant things.
- What did Rehoboam do when the wise old men gave him advice about ruling his kingdom? (He disregarded it and followed the advice of his friends.)
 What causes people to go against good advice? (pride)
- In today's lesson, some men specifically asked Jeremiah to tell them what the LORD had to say about a plan of theirs. Jeremiah 43:2 says they were proud men. As you study the lesson

you will see what the men did when they didn't like Jeremiah's response.

Discussion Questions

1. What did the Babylonians do to make sure Judah would not rise to power again?

These ideas: reduced Judah's cities to ruins; carried Judah's wealth to Babylon; took the wealthy, educated, or highly-skilled as captives to Babylon; left only the poor in the land

Lesson 9

Read Jeremiah 42:1-17 and 43:1-13 Jeremiah's words did come to pass. Some years later, Nebuchadnezzar returned to the region. He laid siege to Tyre for thirteen years. He took more captives from Judah and conquered Syria, Moab, and Ammon. In 568 B.C., he invaded and subdued Egypt.

KNOW YOUR BIBLE

Complete the exercises.

- 1. Circle the letter of the reason Nebuchadnezzar respected the prophet Jeremiah.
 - a. Nebuchadnezzar loved God and His prophets.
 - b. Jeremiah praised Nebuchadnezzar for being a great warrior.
 - (c.) Jeremiah had advised King Zedekiah of Judah to surrender to Babylon.
 - d. Nebuchadnezzar did not know that Jeremiah was a Judean prophet.

	2.	Why did the governor set up his capital in Mizpah rather than Jerusalem? Jerusalem was so badly damaged in the war that no one
		could live there.
	3.	The people of Judah wanted to escape to from King hebuchadnezzar because they thought he would kill them for killing or murdering the governor of Judah.
Ш	Us	se Jeremiah 42 and 43 to answer the questions.
	4.	When the captains and the people came to ask Jeremiah for advice, what did they promise Jeremiah they would do? (Jeremiah 42:5 and 6)
		2. They would ODAY God's voice whether His words pronounced

- a. They would _____ODEY ____God's voice, whether His words pronounced _____good ____or ___EVİl _____toward them.
- b. Did they keep their word? Yes (No)
- 5. What did Jeremiah say would happen to the people if they fled to Egypt? (42:16)
 - a. The <u>SWOrd</u> would overtake them.
 - b. The <u>famine</u> would follow them.
 - c. They would _____ in Egypt.
- 6. How did the captains, Azariah and Johanan, answer Jeremiah? (43:2)

"Thou	speakest	falsely	:The LORD our God hath
	not	sent	thee to say, Go not into Egypt."

33

2. Was Jeremiah's ministry finished after Zedekiah and other captives were taken to Babylon? Explain.

No, Jeremiah continued to serve God and declare God's word.

3. What kind of government did Judah have after becoming a province of the Babylonian Empire?

Nebuchadnezzar appointed a governor to rule over Judah.

① Jeremiah was taken against his will to Egypt (Jeremiah 43:5, 6). While there, he
received another message from God.
☐ Use Jeremiah 43:9-10 to complete the sentence.
7. God told Jeremiah to hide great stones in a <u>brickkiln</u> in front of <u>Pharaoh's</u> <u>house</u> . This symbolized that the king of <u>Babylon</u> would invade Egypt and spread his <u>pavilion</u> there.
Looking Back
Answer the questions.
 Who tried to flee from Jerusalem when Nebuchadnezzar's siege resulted in a famin King Zedekiah
ьthe king's soldiers
9. Who destroyed Solomon's temple? <u>Nebuchadnezzar</u>
10. What did the Babylonians take back to Babylon from the temple?its_vessels_and_furnishings
 11. What did the Babylonians do to Zedekiah? a. They killed his SONS as he was forced to watch. b. They gouged out his EYES c. They bound him with Chains d. They took him away to Babylon
Circle T if the statement is true and F if it is false.
12. T (F) Nebuchadnezzar treated Jeremiah cruelly.
13. T (F) After the Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem, Jeremiah wanted to live in Babylon.
4

Teacher Notes

- 4. Where was the governor's capital? in Mizpah, northwest of Jerusalem
- 5. What did the governor want to do to the ruined land of Judah? *restore it*
- 6. Who learned of the plot to assassinate the governor and warned him? one of the governor's captains
- 7. What was the governor's response to his captain's warning?

He didn't believe it; even invited the rebels to dine with him.

- 8. Describe how Jeremiah's warning against fleeing to Egypt come to pass.

 This idea: Nebuchadnezzar returned to the region; laid siege to Tyre; took more captives from Judah; conquered Syria, Moab, and Ammon; and invaded and subdued Egypt.
- 9. How was it good for Judah that the Babylonians did not relocate foreigners into conquered lands?

The people left in Judah were not as likely to marry people who worshiped false gods.

10. What is a brick kiln?

a furnace used to heat and harden bricks

Answers

Ex# Where Found

KNOW YOUR BIBLE p 32, para 2 2 p 32, para 3 3 p 32, col 2, para 1-3 4-7 given LOOKING BACK p 30, #1 9 p 30, 10 p 30, #4 11 p 30, #2 12 p 31, #5 13 p 31, #6

History, Culture, Geography, and Archaeology

- With this lesson comes the fulfillment of prophecy given in Bible 608, Lesson 14. The prophet Isaiah prophesied that the Babylonians would one day return to Jerusalem and carry off all that was in the king's palace and take Judean captives to Babylon (Isaiah 39:6). This prophecy came because King Hezekiah, after his miraculous healing, had welcomed the Babylonian princes into his palace and shown them all he had. Now Isaiah's words were coming to pass one hundred years later.
- The governor Gedaliah, of the Babylonian province of Judah, had other connections in Judah's history. He was the son of Ahikam, the man who protected the prophet Jeremiah during Jehoiakim's reign (Jeremiah 26:24). Gedaliah's grandfather, the scribe Shaphan, was the one who took the scroll containing the Law of Moses to Josiah and read it to the king, then sought for the "word of the LORD" from a prophetess (2 Kings 22:8-14).