

Day 216 – 2 Kings 22:1-23:28; 2 Chronicles 34:8-35:19 • Josiah, son of Amon, becomes king when he was eight years old. Josiah did right in the sight of the LORD, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem.

Hilkiah the high priest found the book of the law in the house of the LORD.

The book of the law discovered was possibly the entire Pentateuch, perhaps the book of Deuteronomy, or portions thereof which speak of judgment.

Manasseh had doubtless destroyed all the copies (of the law) that had not been hidden. ¹

Notably, Josiah reformed the nation of Judah after discovery of the law.

Josiah removed all the abominations from all the lands belonging to the sons of Israel, and made all who were present in Israel to serve the LORD their God. Throughout his lifetime they did not turn from following the LORD God of their fathers.

In the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign, the Passover was observed to the LORD in Jerusalem.

Fill in the Blanks. (1 Chronicles 34)

Josiah gathered all the _____ of Judah and Jerusalem. (v. 29)

He read in their hearing _____

_____ (v. 30)

Josiah made a covenant before the LORD to walk after the LORD, and to keep His _____ and His _____ and His _____ with all his _____ and with all his _____. (v. 31)

Day 217 – Nahum; 2 Kings 23:29-37; 2 Chronicles 35:20-36:5; Jeremiah 22:10-17 •

Nothing is known about Nahum except that he came from Elkosh, which is possibly Capernaum.

His message against Ninevah was given to Judah, since the Northern Kingdom, Israel, had already been taken captive.

The Ninevites (Assyrians) converted through the preaching of Jonah (more than one hundred years earlier) had not transmitted their knowledge of the true God to their children, so the people reverted to their cruel and heathen practices.

Ninevah was known for its many cruel atrocities committed on those she conquered - amputating parts of bodies, impaling, beheading, burning, and piling up corpses. (Nahum 3:1)

In 612 B.C., Ninevah was destroyed. So complete would be God's judgment of Ninevah that He would not need to do it twice. (Nahum 1:9) ¹

2 Kings 23:29-30 and 2 Chronicles 35:20-27 record the death of good King Josiah.

Neco only wished to move his army through Palestine without engaging in battle; however, Josiah refused to believe this even though the message was from the mouth of God (2 Chron. 35:21-22). ¹

List the two kings of Judah whose reign immediately followed the death of Josiah.

_____ - three months

_____ - 11 years

Day 218 – Jeremiah 26; Habakkuk •

Judah's reaction to Jeremiah's ministry is recorded in chapter 26. The priests and the prophets demanded a death sentence for Jeremiah (v. 10), but the officials and the people said that there would be no death sentence for Jeremiah (vs. 16) because he had spoken to them in the name of the LORD.

Habakkuk prophesied just before Nebuchadnezzar first invaded Judah in 605 B.C., during Jehoiakim's reign.

Habakkuk's questions were two: (1) Why did God permit the increasing evil in Judah to go unpunished? ; (2) How could a holy God justify using the Babylonians, a people more wicked than the Jews, to punish the Jews?

The answer to the first question is recorded in 1:5-11 and to the second in 2:2-20. Thus the book is a theodicy, a defense of God's goodness and power in view of the existence of evil. ¹

Verse 2:14 contains a prophecy that will be fulfilled in the millennial kingdom. Write the verse here.

Day 219 – Jeremiah 46-47; 2 Kings 24:1-4, 7; 2 Chronicles 36:6-7; Jeremiah 25; 35 •

The battle at Carchemish in 605 B.C., in which Egypt was defeated, tipped the balance of power in favor of Babylon. (Jer. 46:2) ¹

Jeremiah 46-47 contains prophecies against Egypt and the Philistines.

After the battle of Carchemish, Nebuchadnezzar entered Jerusalem, made Jehoiakim a vassal, and took Daniel and others to Babylon.

Look up the words "vassal" and "fealty" in a dictionary and write down the definition.

vassal – _____

fealty – _____

Day 220 – Jeremiah 36; 45; 48 •

Jeremiah 36 records the incident when King Jehoiakim burns Jeremiah's scroll. In response, the LORD told Jeremiah to take another scroll and write all the former words that were on the first scroll, plus an additional prophecy (vv. 29-31).

What additional prophecy did the rewritten scroll contain?

Jeremiah ministers to Baruch in chapter 45.

Jeremiah chapters 46-51 contain an assortment of prophecies against various nations. Jeremiah 48 is specific to Moab. In 602 B.C., the Moabites attacked Judah under Babylonian orders (2 Kings 24:2).

You should be able to locate Moab on a map that dates back to the time of the divided kingdom. Moab is located across the Dead Sea from Judah.

Jeremiah 48:42 states that Moab would be destroyed from being a people. The land of Moab was inhabited by the Nabataeans in the first century B.C. and later by the Arabs. ¹

Name _____

Day 221 – Jeremiah 49:1-33; Daniel 1-2 •

Jeremiah 49:1-33 contains prophecies against the nations of Ammon and Edom and the city of Damascus.

The border of Ammon was located about 30 miles East of the city of Jericho.

The Edomites were descendants of Esau, Jacob's twin, who settled in Mount Seir, a mountaneous region South of the Dead Sea. Damascus was the capital of Aram, which was the nation that bordered Israel on the Northeast side.

Throughout his life, Daniel was uncompromising and faithful to God. Taken captive as a youth to Babylon by Nubuchadnezzar in 605 B.C., Daniel spent the rest of his long life there as a governmental official and as a prophet of the true God. ¹

Some of the sons of Israel, Babylonian captives, received a three year secular education in subjects such as agriculture, astrology, astronomy, mathematics, and the Akkadian language. Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

Fill in the Blanks (Daniel 1:6-7).

In order to make these young men from Judah more Babylonian, their names were changed.

Hebrew Name	Babylonian Name
Daniel	
Hananiah	
Mishael	
Azariah	

Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine. The issue was that the meat had not been slain in accordance to the Mosaic Law and that, along with the wine, had been offered to a pagan god.

<http://www.sae-al.com/bible>

As for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams.

Out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal service.

After God revealed the mystery to Daniel in a night vision, Daniel recited and interpreted the dream to Nebuchadnezzar, as recorded in Daniel 2.

Day 222 – Jeremiah 22:18-30; 2 Kings 24:5-20; 2 Chronicles 36:8-12; Jeremiah 37:1-2; 52:1-3; 24; 29 •

Jeremiah 22:24-30 describe the fate of Jehoiachin (Coniah), son of Jehoiakim. After a three-month reign, he was taken to Babylon, never to return, in spite of Hananiah's false prophecy to the contrary (Jer. 28:4, 15). ¹

Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he became king. He did evil in the sight of the LORD.

The king of Babylon took Jehoiachin captive, and made his uncle Mattaniah (Zedekiah) king in his place. None of Jehoiachin's sons reigned on Judah's throne, as Jeremiah predicted (22:30).

Fill in the Blanks (2 Kings 24:12-16).

This was the second invasion of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, in 597 B.C.

Quantity Led Away into Exile	Description
2,000	captains // calculate based on the total
	mighty men of valor
	craftsmen and smiths
	total

Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did evil in the sight of the LORD.

Those who remained in the land were actually worse off than those taken to Babylon.

Jeremiah 24 contains a vision (prophecy) Jeremiah received in regard to the Israelites taken into exile.

The good figs represented those who were deported and promised their return to Palestine. The bad figs depicted those who remained in the land of Palestine or who went to Egypt and were not promised restoration.

Excavations show the remarkable architectural accomplishments of Nebuchadnezzar, who used the skilled craftsmen and smiths taken captive.¹

Jeremiah 29 (a letter sent to the exiles who had been taken to Babylon) exhorts the Jews to live as normal a life as possible, to await God's deliverance after 70 years, and to disregard false prophets such as Ahab and Zedekiah.¹

Day 223 – Jeremiah 27-28; 23 •

In chapter 27, Jeremiah warned the people of Judah not to rebel against Nebuchadnezzar. It was the sovereign will of God for His people to be taken captive for a period of seventy years.

In Jeremiah 27:5-6, what does God say that He made, what did He give to who, and what did He call Nebuchadnezzar?

Jeremiah 28 records opposition that Jeremiah experienced from a false prophet, Hananiah. Hananiah prophesied that within two years the exiles and king of Judah would be returned to Jerusalem. Hananiah's prophecy did not come to pass, and instead he himself died that same year.

Jeremiah 23:5-6 predicts the Messiah. The remainder of the chapter discusses Judah's false prophets.

Day 224 – Jeremiah 50-51 •

Jeremiah prophesied for forty years. His principal prophecies include: 1) the fate of Jehoiakim and Zedekiah, kings of Judah; 2) the Babylonian captivity and its duration; 3) the return of the Jews to Palestine; 4) the downfall of Egypt, Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Edom, Syria, Kedar, Hazor, Elam, and Babylon; 5) the miraculous conception of Christ, the virtue of His atonement, His covenant, and His laws. ²

Jeremiah chapters 50 and 51 contain prophecies against Babylon. There are more references to Babylon (164) in Jeremiah than in the rest of the Bible together. ¹

In 539 B.C. Babylon fell. A year later, Cyrus of Persia decreed the return of the Jews.

List attributes of God found in the following verses.

- _____ (50:7)
- _____ (50:34)
- _____
- _____ (51:15)
- _____ (51:19)
- _____ (51:58)

Day 225 – Jeremiah 49:34-39; 34:1-22; Ezekiel 1-3 •

Elam is located East of Babylonia in present-day Iran.

The downfall of Jerusalem is prophesied in Jeremiah 34, while Zedekiah was king. Zedekiah would be taken captive to Babylon, where he would then die in peace.

Ezekiel ministered to the exiles in Babylon for 22 years. In 597 B.C., he had been taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar from Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 1-3 contains Ezekiel's call and commissioning.

In chapter 1, he saw cherubim – the order of angels concerned with guarding the holiness of God. He also saw a fiery brightness that had human shape, which he knew to be living. Ezekiel could not have seen God directly or he would have died. But he did see the glory of the Lord.

Describe the glory of the Lord, which Ezekiel saw in 1:26-28?

References

¹ *Ryrie Study Bible*, Moody Press, 1995.

² *Questions and Answers on the Sacred Scriptures*, Universal Book and Bible House © 1946, The John C. Winston Company.