

Jeremiah 51 - The Utter Destruction of Babylon

VI. Prophecies concerning the Gentile nations (Jer 46:1—51:64)

(9) Babylon (Jer 50:1—51:64)

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1 This is what the LORD says: "Behold, I am going to stir up The spirit of a destroyer against Babylon And against the inhabitants of Leb-kamai.

1 Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I am going to arouse against Babylon And against the inhabitants of Leb-kamai The spirit of a destroyer.

1 This is what the LORD says: "Look, I'm going to stir up a destroying wind against Babylon and the inhabitants of Leb-kamai.

1 Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, and against them that dwell in the midst of them that rise up against me, a destroying wind;

2 "I will send foreigners to Babylon so that they may winnow her And devastate her land; For they will be opposed to her on every side On the day of *her* disaster.

2 "I will dispatch foreigners to Babylon that they may winnow her And may devastate her land; For on every side they will be opposed to her In the day of *her* calamity.

2 I'll send foreigners to Babylon, and they'll winnow her, and devastate her land. They'll come against her from every side on the day of her disaster.

2 And will send unto Babylon fanners, that shall fan her, and shall empty her land: for in the day of trouble they shall be against her round about.

3 "Let not him who bends his bow bend *it*, Nor let him rise up in his coat of armor. Do not spare her young men; Devote all her army to destruction.

3 "Let not him who bends his bow bend *it*, Nor let him rise up in his scale-armor; So do not spare her young men; Devote all her army to destruction.

3 Don't let the archer bend the bow; don't let him rise up in his armor. Don't spare her young men. Completely destroy her entire army.

3 Against *him* that bendeth let the archer bend his bow, and against *him* that lifteth himself up in his brigandine: and spare ye not her young men; destroy ye utterly all her host.

4 "They will fall down dead in the land of the Chaldeans, And pierced through in their streets."

4 "They will fall down slain in the land of the Chaldeans, And pierced through in their streets."

4 The slain will fall in the land of Chaldea, pierced through in her streets.

4 Thus the slain shall fall in the land of the Chaldeans, and *they that are* thrust through in her streets.

5 For neither Israel nor Judah has been forsaken By his God, the LORD of armies, Although their land is full of guilt Before the Holy One of Israel.

5 For neither Israel nor Judah has been forsaken By his God, the LORD of hosts, Although their land is full of guilt Before the Holy One of Israel.

5 Indeed, Israel and Judah haven't been abandoned by their God, by the LORD of the Heavenly Armies, although their land is full of guilt against the Holy One of Israel."

5 For Israel *hath not been* forsaken, nor Judah of his God, of the LORD of hosts; though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel.

6 Flee from the midst of Babylon, And each of you save his life! Do not perish in her punishment, For this is the LORD'S time of vengeance; He is going to repay to her what she deserves.

6 Flee from the midst of Babylon, And each of you save his life! Do not be destroyed in her punishment, For this is the LORD's time of vengeance; He is going to render recompense to her.

6 Flee from Babylon, and each of you, escape with your life! Don't be destroyed because of her guilt, for it's time for the LORD's vengeance. He is paying back what is due to her.

6 Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this *is* the time of the LORD'S vengeance; he will render unto her a recompence.

- Seven times in the Bible there is the command to come out of Babylon and the context is always to come out of Babylon and go to Jerusalem. Here in a very literal sense, and in the New Testament you have it in a broader sense.

7 Babylon has been a golden cup in the hand of the LORD, Intoxicating all the earth. The nations have drunk of her wine; Therefore the nations are going insane.

7 Babylon has been a golden cup in the hand of the LORD, Intoxicating all the earth. The nations have drunk of her wine; Therefore the nations are going mad.

7 Babylon was a golden cup in the LORD's hand, making the whole earth drunk. The nations drank her wine, therefore the nations have gone mad.

7 Babylon *hath been* a golden cup in the LORD'S hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad.

8 Suddenly Babylon has fallen and been broken; Wail over her! Bring balm for her pain; Perhaps she may be healed.

8 Suddenly Babylon has fallen and been broken; Wail over her! Bring balm for her pain; Perhaps she may be healed.

8 Suddenly, Babylon fell down and was shattered. Wail for her! Bring balm for her wound, perhaps she will be healed.

8 Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed: howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed.

9 We applied healing to Babylon, but she was not healed; Abandon her and let's each go to his own country, For her judgment has reached to heaven And it rises to the clouds.

9 We applied healing to Babylon, but she was not healed; Forsake her and let us each go to his own country, For her judgment has reached to heaven And towers up to the very skies.

9 We tried to heal Babylon, but she wouldn't be healed. Leave her, and let each of us go to his own country. For her judgment has reached to the heavens, and is lifted up to the sky.

9 We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed: forsake her, and let us go every one into his own country: for her judgment reacheth unto heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies.

10 The LORD has brought about our vindication; Come and let's recount in Zion The work of the LORD our God!

10 The LORD has brought about our vindication; Come and let us recount in Zion The work of the LORD our God!

10 The LORD will vindicate us. Come! Let us declare the work of the LORD our God in Zion.

10 The LORD hath brought forth our righteousness: come, and let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God.

11 Sharpen the arrows, fill the quivers! The LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes, Because His plan is against Babylon to destroy it; For it is the vengeance of the LORD, vengeance for His temple.

11 Sharpen the arrows, fill the quivers! The LORD has aroused the spirit of the kings of the Medes, Because His purpose is against Babylon to destroy it; For it is the vengeance of the LORD, vengeance for His temple.

11 Sharpen the arrows, fill the quivers! The LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes— he has decided to destroy Babylon. Indeed, it's the LORD's vengeance, vengeance for his Temple.

11 Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: the LORD hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes: for his device *is* against Babylon, to destroy it; because it *is* the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance of his temple.

- There is specifically the alliance—the Medes and the Persians—who are both mentioned here and are the ones who in fact do rise up against Babylon.

12 Lift up a signal flag against the walls of Babylon; Post a strong guard, Station sentries, Set up an ambush! For the LORD has both planned and performed What He spoke concerning the inhabitants of Babylon.

12 Lift up a signal against the walls of Babylon; Post a strong guard, Station sentries, Place men in ambush! For the LORD has both purposed and performed What He spoke concerning the inhabitants of Babylon.

12 Lift up the battle standard against Babylon's walls. Strengthen the guard; post watchmen. Set men in position for an ambush. For the LORD will both plan and carry out what he has declared against the inhabitants of Babylon.

12 Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the LORD hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon.

13 You who live by many waters, Abundant in treasures, Your end has come, The measure of your end.

13 O you who dwell by many waters, Abundant in treasures, Your end has come, The measure of your end.

13 You who live beside many waters, rich in treasures, your end has come, your life thread is cut.

13 O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, *and* the measure of thy covetousness.

14 The LORD of armies has sworn by Himself: "I will certainly fill you with a population like locusts, And they will cry out with shouts of victory over you."

14 The LORD of hosts has sworn by Himself: "Surely I will fill you with a population like locusts, And they will cry out with shouts of victory over you."

14 The LORD of the Heavenly Armies has sworn by himself: "I'll surely fill you with soldiers like a swarm of locusts, and they'll sing songs of victory over you."

14 The LORD of hosts hath sworn by himself, *saying*, Surely I will fill thee with men, as with caterpillers; and they shall lift up a shout against thee.

- Indicative of a plague or like locusts or a pestilence going through and eating everything in sight, stripping the land.

Praise to the God of Jacob

15 *It is* He who made the earth by His power, Who established the world by His wisdom, And by His understanding He stretched out the heavens.

15 *It is* He who made the earth by His power, Who established the world by His wisdom, And by His understanding He stretched out the heavens.

15 He made the earth by his power. He established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding he spread out the heavens.

15 He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding.

16 When He utters His voice, *there is* a roar of waters in the heavens, And He makes the clouds ascend from the end of the earth. He makes lightning for the rain And brings out wind from His storehouses.

16 When He utters His voice, *there is* a tumult of waters in the heavens, And He causes the clouds to ascend from the end of the earth; He makes lightning for the rain And brings forth the wind from His storehouses.

16 When his voice sounds, there is thunder from the waters of heaven, and he makes clouds rise up from the ends of the earth. He makes lightning for the rain and brings wind out of his storehouses.

16 When he uttereth *his* voice, *there is* a multitude of waters in the heavens; and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth: he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

17 Every person is stupid, devoid of knowledge; Every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, For his cast metal images are deceitful, And there is no breath in them.

17 All mankind is stupid, devoid of knowledge; Every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, For his molten images are deceitful, And there is no breath in them.

17 Everyone is stupid and without knowledge. Every goldsmith is put to shame by his own idols, for his images are false, and there is no life in them.

17 Every man is brutish by *his* knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image *is* falsehood, and *there is* no breath in them.

18 They are worthless, a work of mockery; At the time of their punishment they will perish.

18 They are worthless, a work of mockery; In the time of their punishment they will perish.

18 They're worthless, a work of mockery, and when the time of punishment comes, they'll perish.

18 They *are* vanity, the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

19 The portion of Jacob is not like these; For He is the Maker of everything, And of the tribe of His inheritance; The LORD of armies is His name.

19 The portion of Jacob is not like these; For the Maker of all is He, And of the tribe of His inheritance; The LORD of hosts is His name.

19 The Portion of Jacob is not like these. He made everything, including the tribe of his inheritance. The LORD of the Heavenly Armies is his name.

19 The portion of Jacob *is* not like them; for he *is* the former of all things: and *Israel* *is* the rod of his inheritance: the LORD of hosts *is* his name.

- There is a special relationship between Jacob and Israel and the God who created the universe. The link between the creator of the universe and His proprietary interests in Judah.

The LORD's Instrument of Judgment

20 *He says*, "You are My war-club, My weapon of war; And with you I shatter nations, And with you I destroy kingdoms.

20 *He says*, "You are My war-club, My weapon of war; And with you I shatter nations, And with you I destroy kingdoms.

20 "You are my war-club and weapons of war. I'll smash nations with you and destroy kingdoms with you.

20 *Thou art* my battle axe *and* weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms;

21 "With you I shatter the horse and his rider, And with you I shatter the chariot and its rider,

21 "With you I shatter the horse and his rider, And with you I shatter the chariot and its rider,

21 I'll smash the horse and its rider with you. I'll smash the chariot and its rider with you.

21 And with thee will I break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with thee will I break in pieces the chariot and his rider;

22 And with you I shatter man and woman, And with you I shatter the old man and youth, And with you I shatter the young man and virgin,

22 And with you I shatter man and woman, And with you I shatter old man and youth, And with you I shatter young man and virgin,

22 I'll smash man and woman with you. I'll smash old man and young boy with you. I'll smash young man and young woman with you.

22 With thee also will I break in pieces man and woman; and with thee will I break in pieces old and young; and with thee will I break in pieces the young man and the maid;

23 And with you I shatter the shepherd and his flock, And with you I shatter the farmer and his team, And with you I shatter governors and officials.

23 And with you I shatter the shepherd and his flock, And with you I shatter the farmer and his team, And with you I shatter governors and prefects.

23 I'll smash the shepherd and his flock with you. I'll smash the farmer and his team of oxen with you. I'll smash governors and officials with you.

23 I will also break in pieces with thee the shepherd and his flock; and with thee will I break in pieces the husbandman and his yoke of oxen; and with thee will I break in pieces captains and rulers.

24 "But I will repay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea for all their evil that they have done in Zion before your eyes," declares the LORD.

24 "But I will repay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea for all their evil that they have done in Zion before your eyes," declares the LORD.

24 "Before your eyes I'll repay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea for all the evil that they did in Zion," declares the LORD.

24 And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD.

25 "Behold, I am against you, mountain of destruction That destroys the whole earth," declares the LORD, "And I will stretch out My hand against you, And roll you down from the rocky cliffs, And I will make you a burnt out mountain.

25 "Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain, Who destroys the whole earth," declares the LORD, "And I will stretch out My hand against you, And roll you down from the crags, And I will make you a burnt out mountain.

25 "Look, I'm against you, destroying mountain, who destroys the whole earth," declares the LORD. "I'll stretch out my hand against you and roll you down from the crags. And I'll make you a burned-out mountain.

25 Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain.

26 "They will not take from you even a stone for a corner Nor a stone for foundations, But you will be desolate forever," declares the LORD.

26 "They will not take from you even a stone for a corner Nor a stone for foundations, But you will be desolate forever," declares the LORD.

26 They won't get a cornerstone or a foundation stone from you, because you will be a wasteland forever," declares the LORD.

26 And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but thou shalt be desolate for ever, saith the LORD.

- Interesting phrase that was picked up later by Paul

27 Lift up a signal flag in the land, Blow a trumpet among the nations! Consecrate the nations against her, Summon against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz; Appoint an officer against her, Bring up the horses like bristly locusts.

27 Lift up a signal in the land, Blow a trumpet among the nations! Consecrate the nations against her, Summon against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni and Ashkenaz; Appoint a marshal against her, Bring up the horses like bristly locusts.

27 Lift up a battle standard in the land. Blow a trumpet among the nations. Consecrate the nations against her. Summon the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz against her. Appoint a commander against her, bring up horses like bristling locusts.

27 Set ye up a standard in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations, prepare the nations against her, call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashchenaz; appoint a captain against her; cause the horses to come up as the rough caterpillars.

- Ararat mentioned in Gen 8:4. Minni is the Minnians, south of Lake Ermia, this is west Iran.

Ashchenaz is identified with the Scythians, nomads east of Lake Ermia (Gen 10:3). The word Scythian becomes synonymous with barbarian. Herodius points out that the Scythians conquered the Samarians. They in turn conquer Gomer and Gomer is Germany; today "Ashchenazi" in Hebrew implies a German background, not necessarily Armenian and Scythian but the word originally comes from that root.

28 Consecrate the nations against her, The kings of the Medes, Their governors and all their officials, And every land under their control.

28 Consecrate the nations against her, The kings of the Medes, Their governors and all their prefects, And every land of their dominion.

28 Consecrate the nations against her, the kings of the Medes, their governors, their prefects, and every land under their domination.

28 Prepare against her the nations with the kings of the Medes, the captains thereof, and all the rulers thereof, and all the land of his dominion.

29 So the land quakes and writhes, For the plans of the LORD against Babylon stand, To make the land of Babylon A desolation without inhabitants.

29 So the land quakes and writhes, For the purposes of the LORD against Babylon stand, To make the land of Babylon A desolation without inhabitants.

29 The land quakes and writhes because the LORD's purposes against Babylon stand firm, to make the land of Babylon a waste without inhabitants.

29 And the land shall tremble and sorrow: for every purpose of the LORD shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without an inhabitant.

30 The warriors of Babylon have ceased fighting, They stay in the strongholds; Their strength is exhausted, They are becoming *like* women; Their homes are set on fire, The bars of her *gates* are broken.

30 The mighty men of Babylon have ceased fighting, They stay in the strongholds; Their strength is exhausted, They are becoming *like* women; Their dwelling places are set on fire, The bars of her *gates* are broken.

30 The warriors of Babylon have stopped fighting. They stay in their strongholds; their strength is dried up; they have become like women. Her buildings are set on fire; the bars of her *gates* are broken.

30 The mighty men of Babylon have forborne to fight, they have remained in *their* holds: their might hath failed; they became as women: they have burned her dwellingplaces; her bars are broken.

31 One courier runs to meet another, And one messenger to meet another, To tell the king of Babylon That his city has been captured from end *to end*;

31 One courier runs to meet another, And one messenger to meet another, To tell the king of Babylon That his city has been captured from end *to end*;

31 One runner runs to meet another runner, and one messenger to meet another messenger, to tell the king of Babylon that his city has been seized from one end to the other.

31 One post shall run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to shew the king of Babylon that his city is taken at *one* end,

32 The river crossing places have been seized, And they have burned the marshes with fire, And the men of war are terrified.

32 The fords also have been seized, And they have burned the marshes with fire, And the men of war are terrified.

32 The fords have been captured, and the marshes burned with fire. The soldiers are terrified.

32 And that the passages are stopped, and the reeds they have burned with fire, and the men of war are affrighted.

33 For this is what the LORD of armies, the God of Israel says: "The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor At the time that it is tread down; In just a little while the time of harvest will come for her."

33 For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor At the time it is stamped firm; Yet in a little while the time of harvest will come for her."

33 For this is what the LORD of the Heavenly Armies, the God of Israel, says: "The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor at the time when it's pounded down. In just a little while, the time of her harvest will come."

33 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; The daughter of Babylon is like a threshingfloor, *it is* time to thresh her: yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come.

- Judgment as a threshing floor. In the book of Ruth, Boaz and the threshing floor scene, Ruth is at Boaz's feet. Strange idiom but if you press the type it is kind of interesting.

Judah's Complaint against Babylon

34 "Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon has devoured me, he has crushed me, He has set me down *like* an empty vessel; He has swallowed me like a monster, He has filled his stomach with my delicacies; He has washed me away.

34 "Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has devoured me *and* crushed me, He has set me down *like* an empty vessel; He has swallowed me like a monster, He has filled his stomach with my delicacies; He has washed me away.

34 "King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon has devoured me and crushed me. He set me down like an empty vessel. He swallowed me like a monster, and filled his belly with my delicacies. Then he washed me away.

34 Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon hath devoured me, he hath crushed me, he hath made me an empty vessel, he hath swallowed me up like a dragon, he hath filled his belly with my delicacies, he hath cast me out.

35 "May the violence *done* to me and to my flesh be upon Babylon," The inhabitant of Zion will say; And, "May my blood be upon the inhabitants of Chaldea," Jerusalem will say.

35 "May the violence *done* to me and to my flesh be upon Babylon," The inhabitant of Zion will say; And, "May my blood be upon the inhabitants of Chaldea," Jerusalem will say.

35 May the violence done to me and my flesh be on Babylon," says the inhabitant of Zion. May my blood be on the inhabitants of Chaldea," says Jerusalem.

35 The violence done to me and to my flesh *be* upon Babylon, shall the inhabitant of Zion say; and my blood upon the inhabitants of Chaldea, shall Jerusalem say.

36 Therefore this is what the LORD says: "Behold, I am going to plead your case And take vengeance for you; And I will dry up her sea And make her fountain dry.

36 Therefore thus says the LORD, "Behold, I am going to plead your case And exact full vengeance for you; And I will dry up her sea And make her fountain dry.

36 Therefore this is what the LORD says: "Look, I'm going to argue your case and take vengeance for you. I'll dry up her sea and make her fountain dry.

36 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry.

37 "Babylon will become a heap of *ruins*, a haunt of jackals, An object of horror and hissing, without inhabitants.

37 "Babylon will become a heap of *ruins*, a haunt of jackals, An object of horror and hissing, without inhabitants.

37 Babylon will become a heap of ruins, a refuge for jackals, a desolate place and an object of scorn.

37 And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwellingplace for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, without an inhabitant.

38 "They will roar together like young lions, They will growl like lions' cubs.

38 "They will roar together like young lions, They will growl like lions' cubs.

38 They'll roar together like young lions; they'll growl like lion cubs.

38 They shall roar together like lions: they shall yell as lions' whelps.

39 "When they become heated up, I will serve *them* their banquet And make them drunk, so that they may rejoice in triumph, And may sleep a perpetual sleep And not wake up," declares the LORD.

39 "When they become heated up, I will serve *them* their banquet And make them drunk, that they may become jubilant And may sleep a perpetual sleep And not wake up," declares the LORD.

39 When they're excited I'll serve them their banquet, and make them drunk until they're merry. They'll sleep forever and won't wake up," declares the LORD.

39 In their heat I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunken, that they may rejoice, and sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the LORD.

40 "I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, Like rams together with male goats.

40 "I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, Like rams together with male goats.

40 "I'll bring them down like lambs for the slaughter, like rams with male goats.

40 I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with he goats.

41 "How Sheshak has been captured, And the praise of the whole earth has been seized! How Babylon has become an object of horror among the nations!

41 "How Sheshak has been captured, And the praise of the whole earth been seized! How Babylon has become an object of horror among the nations!

41 "How Sheshak will be captured, and the prince of all the earth seized! How Babylon will become an object of horror among the nations!

41 How is Sheshach taken! and how is the praise of the whole earth surprised! how is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations!

- Sheshach in Jeremiah 25 an inscription of the word Babylon

42 "The sea has come up over Babylon; She has been engulfed by its roaring waves.

42 "The sea has come up over Babylon; She has been engulfed with its tumultuous waves.

42 The sea will come up against Babylon, and she will be covered by wave upon wave.

42 The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof.

43 "Her cities have become an object of horror, A dry land and a desert, A land in which no one lives And through which no one of mankind passes.

43 "Her cities have become an object of horror, A parched land and a desert, A land in which no man lives And through which no son of man passes.

43 Her cities will become an object of horror, a dry land and a desert, a land in which no one lives, and through which no human being passes.

43 Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby.

44 "I will punish Bel in Babylon, And I will make what he has swallowed come out of his mouth; And the nations will no longer stream toward him. Even the wall of Babylon has fallen down!

44 "I will punish Bel in Babylon, And I will make what he has swallowed come out of his mouth; And the nations will no longer stream to him. Even the wall of Babylon has fallen

down!

44 I'll punish Bel in Babylon, and I'll make what he has swallowed come out of his mouth. The nations will no longer stream to him. Even the wall of Babylon will fall.

44 And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and I will bring forth out of his mouth that which he hath swallowed up: and the nations shall not flow together any more unto him: yea, the wall of Babylon shall fall.

45 "Come out from her midst, My people, And each of you save yourselves From the fierce anger of the LORD.

45 "Come forth from her midst, My people, And each of you save yourselves From the fierce anger of the LORD.

45 "Come out of her, my people, flee for your lives from the LORD's anger!

45 My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the LORD.

46 "Now, so that your heart does not grow faint, And you are not afraid at the report that *will be* heard in the land— For the report *will* come in one year, And after that another report in another year, And violence *will be* in the land With ruler against ruler—

46 "Now so that your heart does not grow faint, And you are not afraid at the report that *will be* heard in the land— For the report *will* come one year, And after that another report in another year, And violence *will be* in the land With ruler against ruler—

46 Do this now, so your heart does not grow faint, and so you don't become frightened because of the rumors that are heard in the land— a rumor comes one year and then after it another rumor comes the next year about violence in the land and one ruler against another ruler.

46 And lest your heart faint, and ye fear for the rumour that shall be heard in the land; a rumour shall both come *one* year, and after that in *another* year *shall come* a rumour, and violence in the land, ruler against ruler.

47 Therefore behold, days are coming When I will punish the idols of Babylon; And her whole land will be put to shame. And all her slain will fall in her midst.

47 Therefore behold, days are coming When I will punish the idols of Babylon; And her whole land will be put to shame And all her slain will fall in her midst.

47 Therefore, look, days are coming when I'll punish the idols of Babylon. Her entire land will be put to shame, and all her slain will fall in her midst.

47 Therefore, behold, the days come, that I will do judgment upon the graven images of Babylon: and her whole land shall be confounded, and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her.

48 "Then heaven and earth and everything that is in them Will shout for joy over Babylon, Because the destroyers will come to her from the north," Declares the LORD.

48 "Then heaven and earth and all that is in them Will shout for joy over Babylon, For the destroyers will come to her from the north," Declares the LORD.

48 Then the heavens and the earth and all that are in them will shout for joy about Babylon because the destroyers will come out of the north against her," declares the LORD.

48 Then the heaven and the earth, and all that *is* therein, shall sing for Babylon: for the spoilers shall come unto her from the north, saith the LORD.

49 Indeed, Babylon is to fall *for* the slain of Israel, As the slain of all the earth have also fallen for Babylon.

49 Indeed Babylon is to fall *for* the slain of Israel, As also for Babylon the slain of all the earth have fallen.

49 "So Babylon will fall because of the slain of Israel, even as the slain of all the earth have fallen because of Babylon.

49 As Babylon *hath caused* the slain of Israel to fall, so at Babylon shall fall the slain of all the earth.

50 You who have escaped the sword, Go! Do not stay! Remember the LORD from far away, And let Jerusalem come to your mind.

50 You who have escaped the sword, Depart! Do not stay! Remember the LORD from afar, And let Jerusalem come to your mind.

50 Go, you who escaped the sword! Don't stand around! Remember the LORD from far away, and let Jerusalem come to your mind.

50 Ye that have escaped the sword, go away, stand not still: remember the LORD afar off, and let Jerusalem come into your mind.

51 We are ashamed because we have heard rebuke; Disgrace has covered our faces, Because strangers have entered The holy places of the LORD'S house.

51 We are ashamed because we have heard reproach; Disgrace has covered our faces, For aliens have entered The holy places of the LORD's house.

51 We have been put to shame because we have heard insults. Disgrace has covered our faces because foreigners have come into the Holy Places of the LORD's house.

51 We are confounded, because we have heard reproach: shame hath covered our faces: for strangers are come into the sanctuaries of the LORD'S house.

52 "Therefore behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "When I will punish her idols, And the mortally wounded will groan throughout her land.

52 "Therefore behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "When I will punish her idols, And the mortally wounded will groan throughout her land.

52 "Therefore, look, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I'll punish her idols, and throughout her land the wounded will groan.

52 Wherefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will do judgment upon her graven images: and through all her land the wounded shall groan.

53 "Though Babylon ascends to the heavens, And though she fortifies her lofty stronghold, Destroyers will come from Me to her," declares the LORD.

53 "Though Babylon should ascend to the heavens, And though she should fortify her lofty stronghold, From Me destroyers will come to her," declares the LORD.

53 Though Babylon should reach up to the heavens and fortify her high fortresses, from me destroyers will come to her," declares the LORD.

53 Though Babylon should mount up to heaven, and though she should fortify the height of her strength, yet from me shall spoilers come unto her, saith the LORD.

54 The sound of an outcry from Babylon, And of great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans!

54 The sound of an outcry from Babylon, And of great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans!

54 "The sound of a cry is coming from Babylon, great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans.

54 A sound of a cry *cometh* from Babylon, and great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans:

55 For the LORD is going to destroy Babylon, And He will make *her* loud noise vanish from her. And their waves will roar like many waters; The clamor of their voices sounds forth.

55 For the LORD is going to destroy Babylon, And He will make *her* loud noise vanish from her. And their waves will roar like many waters; The tumult of their voices sounds forth.

55 For the LORD is destroying Babylon, and he will make the loud sounds from her disappear. Their waves will roar like many waters, the noise of their voices will sound forth.

55 Because the LORD hath spoiled Babylon, and destroyed out of her the great voice; when her waves do roar like great waters, a noise of their voice is uttered:

56 For the destroyer is coming against her, against Babylon, And her warriors will be captured, Their bows shattered; For the LORD is a God of retribution, He will fully repay.

56 For the destroyer is coming against her, against Babylon, And her mighty men will be captured, Their bows are shattered; For the LORD is a God of recompense, He will fully repay.

56 Indeed, the destroyer is coming against her, against Babylon. Her warriors are captured, and her bows are broken. For the LORD is a God of recompense, and he will repay in full.

56 Because the spoiler is come upon her, even upon Babylon, and her mighty men are taken, every one of their bows is broken: for the LORD God of recompenses shall surely requite.

57 "I will make her leaders and her wise men drunk, Her governors, her officials, and her warriors, So that they will sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake up," Declares the King, whose name is the LORD of armies.

57 "I will make her princes and her wise men drunk, Her governors, her prefects and her mighty men, That they may sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake up," Declares the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

57 I'll make their leaders, their wise men, their governors, their deputies, and their warriors drunk so that they sleep forever and don't wake up," declares the King whose name is the LORD of the Heavenly Armies.

57 And I will make drunk her princes, and her wise *men*, her captains, and her rulers, and her mighty men: and they shall sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

58 This is what the LORD of armies says: "The broad wall of Babylon will be completely demolished, And her high gates will be set on fire; So the peoples will labor for nothing, And the nations become exhausted *only* for fire."

58 Thus says the LORD of hosts, "The broad wall of Babylon will be completely razed And her high gates will be set on fire; So the peoples will toil for nothing, And the nations become exhausted *only* for fire."

58 This is what the LORD of the Heavenly Armies says: "The broad wall of Babylon will be completely leveled, and its high gate set on fire. and so the nations toil for nothing, and the nations weary themselves only for fire."

58 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, and her high gates shall be burned with fire; and the people shall labour in vain, and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary.

Jeremiah's Symbolic Message against Babylon

59 The command that Jeremiah the prophet gave Seraiah the son of Neriah, the grandson of Mahseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah to Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. (And Seraiah was quartermaster.)

59 The message which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the grandson of Mahseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah to Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. (Now Seraiah was quartermaster.)

59 This is the message that Jeremiah the prophet delivered to Neriah's son Seraiah, the grandson of Mahseiah, when he went with King Zedekiah of Judah to Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. Seraiah was the quartermaster.

59 The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah into Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. And *this* Seraiah was a quiet prince.

- Seraiah was a messenger, attended the comfort of Zedekiah and went to Babylon

60 Jeremiah wrote on a single scroll all the disaster which would come against Babylon, *that is*, all these words which have been written concerning Babylon.

60 So Jeremiah wrote in a single scroll all the calamity which would come upon Babylon, *that is*, all these words which have been written concerning Babylon.

60 Jeremiah wrote on a single scroll all the disasters that would come on Babylon, all these things that were written about Babylon.

60 So Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that should come upon Babylon, even all these words that are written against Babylon.

61 Then Jeremiah said to Seraiah, "As soon as you come to Babylon, see that you read all these words aloud,

61 Then Jeremiah said to Seraiah, "As soon as you come to Babylon, then see that you read all these words aloud,

61 Jeremiah told Seraiah, "When you come to Babylon, see that you read all these words,

61 And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, When thou comest to Babylon, and shalt see, and shalt read all these words;

62 and say, 'You, LORD, have promised concerning this place to cut it off, so that there will be nothing living in it, whether man or animal; but it will be a permanent desolation.'

62 and say, 'You, O LORD, have promised concerning this place to cut it off, so that there will be nothing dwelling in it, whether man or beast, but it will be a perpetual desolation.'

62 and say, 'LORD, you have declared about this place that you would destroy it so that there wouldn't be an inhabitant in it, neither human nor animal, because it will be a wasteland forever.'

62 Then shalt thou say, O LORD, thou hast spoken against this place, to cut it off, that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but that it shall be desolate for ever.

63 And as soon as you finish reading this scroll, you shall tie a stone to it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates,

63 And as soon as you finish reading this scroll, you will tie a stone to it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates,

63 When you finish reading this scroll, tie a rock around it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates.

63 And it shall be, when thou hast made an end of reading this book, *that* thou shalt bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates:

64 and say, 'Just so shall Babylon sink down and not rise *again*, because of the disaster that I am going to bring upon her; and they will become exhausted.'" To this point are the words of Jeremiah.

64 and say, 'Just so shall Babylon sink down and not rise again because of the calamity that I am going to bring upon her; and they will become exhausted.'" Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

64 Then say, 'Babylon will sink like this and won't rise from the disaster that I'm bringing on her. Her people will be exhausted."

This concludes the writings of Jeremiah.

64 And thou shalt say, Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her: and they shall be weary. Thus far *are* the words of Jeremiah.

- This must have been a popular letter. He was to read it aloud when he gets to Babylon. Here is that phrase again, *It shall be desolate forever*.

When Cyrus the Persian took over Babylon, they didn't destroy it. They decimated it and killed off the rulers but they didn't destroy it; when Alexander took over it became a very important city. He maintained thoughts of making it a major headquarters. When Alexander dies his four generals fought over everything, and from that time on it decayed and was plundered and finally destroyed. So scholars feel the real ultimate destruction is yet future, that is the argument, that it will rise again and then be destroyed like all of this, that this is all yet future (Rev 17).