

SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review

Judah, From Isaiah to Exile

Jeremiah and the Promise of Renewal

- **10/5: Jeremiah 1:6-10; 26:8-9, 12-15**

Jeremiah called in last days and arrested for his prophecy

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Jeremiah and the Promise of Renewal

■ 10/12: Jeremiah 7:1-11,21-23

Jeremiah speaks out against the idolatry of the Temple and reminds the people of what God truly wants

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Jeremiah and the Promise of Renewal

■ 10/19: Jeremiah 35:5 – 11

Jeremiah uses the example a non-Jewish family that follows their rules more faithfully than those of the Jews who are supposed to follow God

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Jeremiah and the Promise of Renewal

- **10/26: Jeremiah 31:29-34; John 1:17**

Jeremiah gives hope to Israel and Judah that people would be judged by their own actions rather than that of their ancestors

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
11/02/2025

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Judah, From Isaiah to Exile Jeremiah and the Promise of Renewal

Jeremiah's Rescue

Jeremiah 38:7 – 13

Last Days of Judah

597	Jehoiachin (Son)	Evil / Evil	<i>Zephaniah</i> <i>Jeremiah</i> <i>Ezekiel</i> (Lamentations)	2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36
597 - 586	Zedekiah (Son of Josiah)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36
Judah into Babylonian captivity - 586 BC				
586-450			<i>Jeremiah</i> <i>Haggai</i> <i>Zechariah</i> <i>Malachi</i>	

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Background

- Jeremiah continues to prophesy in Judah, warning of their pending capture by the Babylonians
- The last king of Judah – Zedekiah, son of Josiah is appointed king by the Babylonians (**Jeremiah 37:1**)

Background

- Jerusalem is under siege, but the Egyptians were also advancing, thus the Babylonians were pulled from the city to meet them
(Jeremiah 37:5)

Background

- God gave Jeremiah a word saying that the Egyptians would be of no use in the matter and would return home, and the city would be burned to the ground (**Jeremiah 37:6-10**). Judah's fate is inevitable

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Background

- When the Babylonian army leaves, Jeremiah makes his way to his home territory in Benjamin, but is imprisoned by a sentry, believing he was defecting to the Babylonians (Jeremiah 37:11-16)

Background

- King Zedekiah calls for Jeremiah to come to the palace, asking for a word, but Jeremiah protests and demand the king does not send him back to prison (**Jeremiah 37:17-21**)

Background

- Jeremiah continued to prophecy about the fate of the city and God's promise to spare those who surrender.
- This angers some to ask the king for permission to imprison Jeremiah once again (**Jer. 38:1-6**)

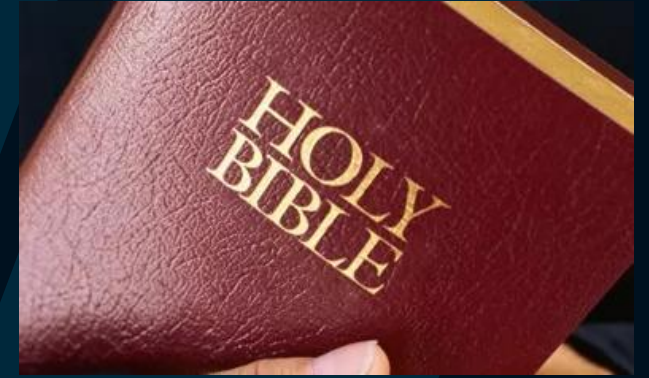
Background

- He is then placed into a deep, muddy cistern – a water repository left there to die (**Jeremiah 38:6**)

Lesson Text

JEREMIAH 38:7 (NKJV)

⁷ Now Ebed-Melech the Ethiopian, one of the ^[a]eunuchs, who was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the dungeon. When the king was sitting at the Gate of Benjamin,



Lesson Text

JEREMIAH 38:8 (NKJV)

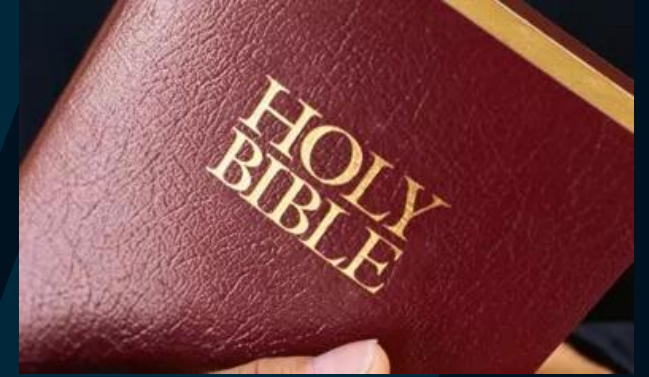
⁸ Ebed-Melech went out of the king's house and spoke to the king, saying:



Lesson Text

JEREMIAH 38:9 (NKJV)

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 likely to die from hunger in the place where he is. For there is no more bread in the city.



Lesson Text

JEREMIAH 38:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Then the king commanded Ebed-Melech the Ethiopian, saying, "Take from here thirty men with you, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the dungeon before he dies."



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Commentary: Courage vs Cowardice

- We see that Zedekiah does not have much character, nor has much conviction.
- He gives attention to the moment and does not honor past promises

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Commentary: Courage vs Cowardice

- We see that Zedekiah does not have much character, nor has much conviction.
- He gives attention to the moment and forgetting past promises and only to what looks good for him

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Commentary: Courage vs Cowardice

- God uses this flaw to Jeremiah's benefit.
- He works through a non-Jewish servant to speak to the King in a PUBLIC setting – the king's court to have the king concede to rescue

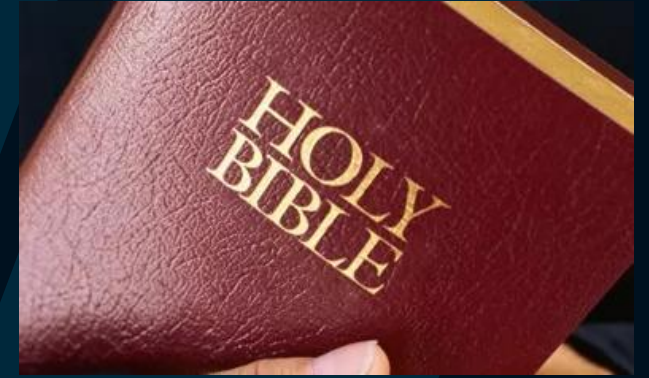
Commentary: Courage vs Cowardice

- What the king says to an open public is very difficult to renege on

Lesson Text

JEREMIAH 38:11 (NKJV)

11 So Ebed-Melech took the men with him and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took from there old clothes and old rags, and let them down by ropes into the dungeon to Jeremiah.



Lesson Text

JEREMIAH 38:12 (NKJV)

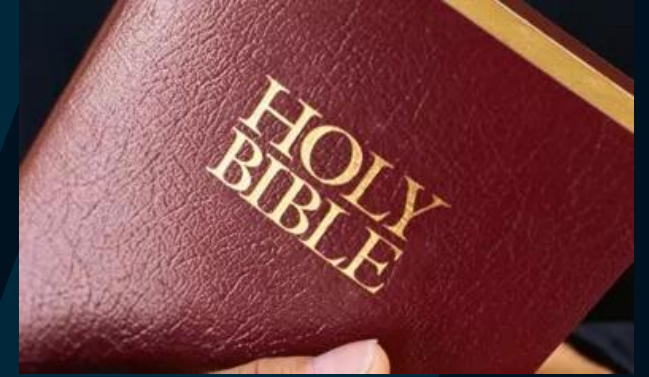
¹² Then Ebed-Melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, "Please put these old clothes and rags under your armpits, under the ropes." And Jeremiah did so.



Lesson Text

JEREMIAH 38:13 (NKJV)

¹³ So they pulled Jeremiah up with ropes and lifted him out of the dungeon. And Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.



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Commentary: Epilogue

- Zedekiah continues to see Jeremiah's council and reveals his cowardice (v. 38:19-38)
- Jeremiah does not falter in giving him the truth
- Jerusalem is burned as prophesied

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Commentary: Epilogue

- Jeremiah continues to be used of God for the remainder of his book.
- He is not spared from uncomfortable situations, but God was faithful to preserve his life.
- His last days were spent in Egypt

Commentary: Epilogue

- His life was solely dedicated to serving God – no wife nor family and endured much but did not waiver.
- Like the Apostle Paul, he endured until the end

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11/02/2025

Scripture References

Jeremiah 39–48

Romans 1:1

Titus 1:1

True Servants



Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

11/02/2025

Church School Creed

Our Church School must grow & grow
And we must help to make it so
Every member a Christian
Every Christian a worker
Every worker trained
A worker that will not be ashamed
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

11/02/2025

Church School Benediction

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN