

ZEDEKIAH'S OUTLINE

Floyd Nolen Jones, Th.D., Ph.D.

Excerpt from Apples of Gold

“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.” Proverbs 25:11

1. **Zedekiah's lineage**

I Chr 3:15

The sons of Josiah were, the firstborn Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third Zedekiah, fourth Shallum.

2. **The Word of God comes to Jeremiah – 13th yr of Josiah to 11th of Zedekiah**

JER 1:1 The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests that were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin:

2 To whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign (**BC 628**).

3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah (**BC 609**), unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah (**BC 586**) the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

3. **BC 597 – "The Captivity" Begins –Nebuchadnezzar Enthrones Zedekiah as Babylon's vassal**

2 CHR 36:10 And when the year was expired, king Nebuchadnezzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the goodly vessels of the house of the LORD, and made Zedekiah his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.

12 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the mouth of the LORD.

4. **c.BC 597 – God likens Judah to rotten figs**

JER 24:8 And as the evil figs, which cannot be eaten, they are so evil; surely thus saith the LORD, So will I give Zedekiah the king of Judah, and his princes, and the residue of Jerusalem, that remain in this land, and them that dwell in the land of Egypt:

JER 24:9 And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places whither I shall drive them.

10 And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they be consumed from off the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers.

5. **BC 593 – Foreign envoys attempt to involve Judah in a rebellion against Babylon the sign of the yokes – all must submit to Nebuchadnezzar**

Jer 27:1-22

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6. BC 593 – Probably to assure Nebuchadnezzar of his loyalty, after sending ambassadors ahead – Zedekiah now goes to Babylon

JER 29:3 ... Elasha, the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah, the son of Hilkiah (whom Zedekiah, king of Judah, sent unto Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon) ... ,

JER 51:59 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.

7. BC 589 (Jos. Antiq., 10.7.3 – loyal for 8 years) – Zedekiah breaks treaty with Nebuchadnezzar

2CH 36:13 And he (Zedekiah) also rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God: but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel.

2CH 36:17 Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave them all into his hand.

8. BC 589 – Ezekiel predicts Zedekiah to be carried away to Babylon

Ezk 12:10-16

9. BC 589 – Ezekiel prophesies over Zedekiah's rebellion – Egypt will not save you

Ezk 17:11-21

10. c.BC 588 – **Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem**

2Ki 25:1; Jer 52:4, & Jer 39:1

JER 39:1 In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month (**Dec. 29, 588**), came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army against Jerusalem, and they besieged it.

11. c.BC 588 – Jeremiah's message for Zedekiah during the siege

Jer 21:1-14

12. c.BC 587 – A Prophecy to Zedekiah - he will die in peace but in Babylon

Jer 34:1-7

13. BC 587 – Judah rebuked for revoking the Jewish servants freedom when the Egyptian Army caused the Babylonian siege to break off – thus braking covenant with God

Jer 34:8-22

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14. **BC 587 – Like Ezekiel, Jeremiah warns against trusting in Pharaoh**
Jer 37:3-10
15. **BC 587 – Falsely accused of treason, the princes beat and imprison Jeremiah in the dungeon at the house of Jonathan the scribe**
Jer 37:15-16
16. **BC 587 – Zedekiah secretly sends for Jeremiah and moves him to the court of the prison "in the king of Judah's house"**
Jer 37:17-21 (see Jer 32:2).
17. **BC 587 – Zedekiah leaves Jeremiah in the court of the prison for his "treasonous" prophecies**
Jer 32:1-5
18. **c.BC 587 – The princes lower Jeremiah into the dungeon's miry pit to die**
Jer 38:5-6
19. **c.BC 587 – Ebedmelech the Ethiopian eunuch petitions Zedekiah and Jeremiah is taken from the pit and returned to the court of the prison**
Jer 38:7-13
20. **c.BC 587 – Zedekiah again secretly sends for Jeremiah. The King given a final opportunity to repent & surrender to Babylon**
Jer 38:14-28
21. **c.BC 586 – Jerusalem's walls breached – Zedekiah captured & brought to Nebuchadnezzar; his sons are slain before his eyes, he is then blinded & carried off to Babylon**
Jer 25:2, 39:2, 52:5-11
22. **c.BC 586 – Jerusalem and the Temple Burned**
2 Ki 25:8-10; Jer 39:8, 52:12-14; 2 Chr 36:19
23. **BC 586 – The temple's brass pillars, laver, vessels, treasures etc. are carried away to Babylon**
2 Chr 36:18; Jer 52:17-23
24. **BC 586 – The High Priest and remaining nobles slain at Riblah**
2 Ki 25:18-21a; Jer 52:24-27a

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- 25. BC 586 – Remainder of the people, except some of the the poor, are carried away to Babylon**
2 Ki 25:11 & 21b; 2 Chr 36:20a (for their transgression 1 Chr 9:1b); Jer 39:9, 52:15 & 27b
- 26. BC 586 – Others of the poor are left to farm the land of Judah for Nebuchadnezzar. Gedaliah is made their Governor**
2 Ki 25:12 & 22; Jer 39:10, 52:16
- 27. The length of the servitude at Babylon**
2 Chr 36:20b-21; (also Jer 25:11, 29:10)

2CH 36:20b ... where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia:

21 To fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years.

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