

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!
NOTES FOR THIS WEEK: 3/8-9/2021
THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *Jeremiah Chapters 27-28*

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS112, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).
THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER – Introduction Jeremiah Chapters 27 & 28

Jer 27:12 I also spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, "Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live!

Jer 28:13 "Go and tell Hananiah, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "You have broken the yokes of wood, but you have made in their place yokes of iron."

- What a blessing, under the New Covenant, to be able to surrender the better yoke of Jesus Christ, (*Mat 11:30*) *For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.* Happily, the power of God can break even an iron yoke – if we will only turn to Him and trust Him!
- We praise Him that *His yoke is easy and His burden is light.*
- *With my life laid down I'm surrendered now I give You everything*

THE GOODNESS OF GOD (5:03)

I love You, Lord, Oh Your mercy never fails me. All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head, I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus - And all my life You have been faithful And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire. In the darkest night, You are close like no other. I've known You as a Father. I've known You as a Friend. And I have lived in the goodness of God (Chorus)

Cause Your goodness is running after. It's running after me.

Your goodness is running after. It's running after me.

With my life laid down I'm surrendered now I give You everything

Your goodness is running after, It's running after me. (2x)

(Chorus) (2x)

Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God

THIS WEEK'S STUDY:

Chap. 27 Symbol of the Bonds and Yokes (vs. 1-22); Chap. 28 Hananiah's Falsehood and Doom (vs. 1-17).

The Yoke of Nebuchadnezzar

Jer 27:1 In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim (should likely read, Zedekiah) the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

- *In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim:* The reference to *Jehoiakim* is a problem, because it isn't in many manuscripts and doesn't match with the rest of the chapter, which seems clearly to speak to the time of *Zedekiah*, not *Jehoiakim*. This is possibly an error in chapter break; **or** that the vision and instruction to *Jeremiah* to make yokes for himself and 6 kings was given in the beginning of *Jehoiakim's reign*, and the yokes were not given out until 11 years later; **or** possibly a scribal error in translation.

Jer 27:2 "Thus says the LORD to me: 'Make for yourselves bonds and yokes, and put them on your neck,

Jer 27:3 and send them to the king of Edom, the king of Moab, the king of the Ammonites, the king of Tyre, and the king of Sidon, by the hand of the messengers who come to Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah.

- *Bonds and yokes* – As a sign of servitude, *Jeremiah* was to make a yoke and put upon his neck. They would put the yoke on the ox so they could press the ox into the service in pulling the plow. *Jeremiah* was to wear

this yoke as a sign to the people that they were going to become servants to the Babylonian king. The purpose or result of a yoke is servitude to the one you are yoked to!

- **A confederacy to stop the march of Nebuchadnezzar!** None of nations were sufficient in themselves to defeat Babylon, but they felt that if they would join together, they would perhaps have some effect against the Babylonian army. *Jeremiah* was commanded to go to these emissaries who come from *Edom* and *Moab*, and *Ammon*, and from *Tyre*, and *Sidon* and to give them these yokes.
- **Send them to the king of Edom, the king of Moab:** God likely told *Jeremiah* to speak to a gathering of messengers from the kings of the surrounding kingdoms (*Edom*, *Moab*, the *Ammonites*, *Tyre*, and *Sidon*). They came to meet with *King Zedekiah* of Judah to plot a revolt against Nebuchadnezzar's rule over them. *Jeremiah* probably spoke before them wearing the *bonds and yokes*, giving them a vivid message to take back to their kings.

Jer 27:4 And command them to say to their masters, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel—thus you shall say to your masters:

Jer 27:5 'I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are on the ground, by My great power and by My outstretched arm, and have given it to whom it seemed proper to Me.

- **God is the One who appoints and sets on the throne, those who He will.** God appoints the rulers, and He sometimes chooses the basest of men, but God reigns, and God uses even the wicked men to accomplish His purposes, thus God calls them His servants. Here He refers to Nebuchadnezzar as *His servant*. Because God is going to use him, even though he isn't aware of it or isn't really anxious, he may be reluctant, but God will still use him. God called another king Darius or Cyrus, *His servant*. God uses people to accomplish His purposes even when they do not realize that they are being used by God! He reigns! God is basically announcing that God has ordained, that Nebuchadnezzar, though a pagan king, should reign over the world, over these kingdoms.

Jer 27:6 And now I have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant; and the beasts of the field I have also given him to serve him.

- ***I have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar!*** There is no hoping for victory over Nebuchadnezzar, because God has given all of your kingdoms into his hands. Because God has so appointed, it's useless to try to defend yourself! It's only going to bring hurt. If you would just *submit*, and pay tribute, you can come under his reign, you can stay in the land and everything will be okay, but if you rebel and fight against him, then the destruction will be great and it will be costly, as far as lives and all. *Jeremiah* is pretty much exhorting them to just *surrender*.
- ***My servant:*** "What a condescending way to speak about the most powerful man on the face of the earth: 'my *Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant*; It's the kind of language an ancient king would use to describe one of his vassals.

Jer 27:7 So all nations shall serve him and his son and his son's son, until the time of his land comes; and then many nations and great kings shall make him serve them. (Dan 5:25-28) And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. [26] This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. [27] TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. [28] PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

- **That is exactly what happened historically!** When *Nebuchadnezzar* died, his son *Evil-Merodach* reigned in his stead, and then *Belshazzar*, the grandson of *Nebuchadnezzar*, was reigning when the Babylonian kingdom fell to the Medes and the Persians. God sort of gave him the succession. There will be three, your son, your son's son, and then that's it! That was it for Babylon. Taken by Cyrus of the Medes/Persians, October, 539 BC. That's all the longer, God appoints, God sets in order and He sets the timing. Really, you're really pretty much helpless to do anything about it. Except if you fight it, you're going to get hurt. *Surrender* to it and you'll get by.
- **That is always the way, concerning the will of God!** You can try to fight the will of God, but every time, you're only going to end up bloody, bruised, and whipped. Or you can surrender to the will of God and reap the benefits and the blessings of flowing with God. We should avoid making the mistake of trying to direct God. Don't develop and get behind a program, asking the Lord to bless it! No! Find out what God's doing and get behind God. It's much better to just find the flow of the Spirit and then flow with it, rather than trying to direct the flow of God!

Jer 27:8 And it shall be, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and which will not put its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation I will punish,' says the LORD, 'with the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand.

- **You're resisting will only bring the sword, and pestilence, and famine.** Now the city of Tyre did seek to defend itself against the Babylonian army. But it was costly. The Babylonian army besieged the city of Tyre for thirteen years, being able, because of the Phoenician navy, that ruled the seas, bringing supplies into the seaport city of Tyre. But Tyre fell! It was costly in the matter of lives, the famine, and the diseases that came as a result of this long period of siege. *Jeremiah* is just saying, this is what God has ordained. You don't want to fight against God. Go ahead and just accept this as God's ordained purpose at this time, and flow with it. If you bend, you won't break. So many of them though did not bend, they tried to defend themselves, and they were broken.

Jer 27:9 Therefore do not listen to your prophets, your diviners, your dreamers, your soothsayers, or your sorcerers, who speak to you, saying, "You shall not serve the king of Babylon."

Jer 27:10 For they prophesy a lie to you, to remove you far from your land; and I will drive you out, and you will perish.

Jer 27:11 But the nations that bring their necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him, I will let them remain in their own land,' says the LORD, 'and they shall till it and dwell in it.'

- **Do not listen!** Four times in this chapter, there was the warning, "do not listen!" These false prophets were actually inspired by Satan, giving Satanic advice. Always remember, Satan has one purpose, and that is to destroy. One of his names is Destroyer. Satan seeks to destroy you and give you false counsel, but the purpose of that counsel is destruction. Always! Jesus said, (*Joh 8:44b*) *He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.* A person chooses, to obey Christ and to have that life, or to obey Satan and be destroyed. But you can't really blame God for the destruction. You have to blame yourself, because you listened to the enemy, and you followed his advice and counsel.
- **If you will just surrender, you can stay right in your own land.** You can farm it and be prosperous there. If you fight and resist, then you will be removed unto all the lands. Now, these false prophets, diviners, sorcerers and so forth that were prophesying and encouraging them to resist and promising them victory over Babylon.
- **One aspect of the good news of the New Covenant is that we have a different yoke, a better one!** (*Mat 11:28-30*) *Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [29] Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*

Jer 27:12 I also spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, "Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live!"

Jer 27:13 Why will you die, you and your people, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as the LORD has spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

- **Why will you die?** *Jeremiah* was now coming back from the message to the foreign emissaries. A good question. *Submit* and live. It's really almost the gospel isn't it? *Submit* to Jesus Christ and live, why resist Him and die? God has ordained that Jesus should reign. You can't stop that. (*Php 2:9-11*) *Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name, which is above every name, [10] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, [11] and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*
- **One day He's going to rule as Lord over the whole earth.** You can't stop that! God has appointed that He should. (*Psa 2:8-9*) *Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. [9] You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.* Now if you will yield to that, put **your neck under the yoke**, and serve Jesus Christ, then you'll *live* and reign with Him in His kingdom, but to fight against that, is only to bring destruction to your own soul. **Why will you die?** A very good question!

Jer 27:14 Therefore do not listen to the words of the prophets who speak to you, saying, 'You shall not serve the king of Babylon,' for they prophesy a lie to you;

Jer 27:15 for I have not sent them,' says the LORD, "yet they prophesy a lie in My name, that I may drive you out, and that you may perish, you and the prophets who prophesy to you."

- **For I have not sent them," says the LORD, "yet they prophesy a lie in My name,** God did not send these false prophets, yet He also did not stop them. He allowed them so that the people and rulers of Judah would have a genuine choice between the false and the true. If they chose the false, God would use it to *drive* them *out* of the land and to *perish* – both the people and *the prophets*.

Jer 27:16 Also I spoke to the priests and to all this people, saying, "Thus says the LORD: 'Do not listen to the words of your prophets who prophesy to you, saying, 'Behold, the vessels of the LORD's house will now shortly be brought back from Babylon'; for they prophesy a lie to you.

- Many of the vessels that were used in the temple, in the service to God, were taken as loot by the Babylonian army, back to Babylon. The smaller vessels, those that you could carry easily, were taken. They left some of the larger instruments of worship. The big brass laver, in which the priest bathed, that was left until the third deportation in 586 BC. It was a huge brass laver. The two giant brass pillars of the temple of Solomon. They were left there. The false prophets were going around prophesying saying, "Soon they will be returning all of the vessels of gold and silver that they took to Babylon. They'll be coming back, and we're going to be back to the good old days again." *The LORD said, "Do not listen to the false prophets, for they prophesy a lie to you.*

Jer 27:17 Do not listen to them; serve the king of Babylon, and live! Why should this city be laid waste?

- *Do not listen to them! Why should this city be laid waste?* We know how thoroughly it was destroyed. There is much uncovering of the rubble now there in Ophel, of the City of David, that was destroyed by the Babylonians. And it lies there today as a testimony to the truth of God's warnings.

Jer 27:18 But if they are prophets, and if the word of the LORD is with them, let them now make intercession to the LORD of hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of the LORD, in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, do not go to Babylon.'

- *Let them now make intercession to the LORD.* If they're really men of God, let them be praying and interceding that the rest of the things won't be carried off to Babylon. They were carried off. When they came back the third time, destroying the temple, they cut these big brass pillars that held the front porch of the temple. They cut those things in pieces and carried them back. They also took the brass laver and the other instruments and the treasures..

Jer 27:19 "For thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, concerning the Sea, concerning the carts, and concerning the remainder of the vessels that remain in this city, (Jer 52:17-22) The bronze pillars that were in the house of the LORD, and the carts and the bronze Sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces, and carried all their bronze to Babylon. [18] They also took away the pots, the shovels, the trimmers, the bowls, the spoons, and all the bronze utensils with which the priests ministered. [19] The basins, the firepans, the bowls, the pots, the lampstands, the spoons, and the cups, whatever was solid gold and whatever was solid silver, the captain of the guard took away. [20] The two pillars, one Sea, the twelve bronze bulls which were under it, and the carts, which King Solomon had made for the house of the LORD the bronze of all these articles was beyond measure. [21] Now concerning the pillars: the height of one pillar was eighteen cubits, a measuring line of twelve cubits could measure its circumference, and its thickness was four fingers; it was hollow. [22] A capital of bronze was on it; and the height of one capital was five cubits, with a network and pomegranates all around the capital, all of bronze. The second pillar, with pomegranates was the same. [23] There were ninety-six pomegranates on the sides; all the pomegranates, all around on the network, were one hundred.

Jer 27:20 which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon did not take, when he carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of

- *When he carried away captive Jeconiah:* This happened about 598 BC, in the second of Nebuchadnezzar's three invasions of Jerusalem. The king of Babylon took *all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem* but left some of the temple treasures behind.

Judah and Jerusalem—

Jer 27:21 yes, thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels that remain in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah and of Jerusalem:

Jer 27:22 'They shall be carried to Babylon, and there they shall be until the day that I visit them,' says the LORD. 'Then I will bring them up and restore them to this place.' "

- *Carried to Babylon, and there they shall be until the day that I visit them.* *The LORD* promised that the remaining vessels *would* be carried away from the temple and brought to *Babylon*. In Ezra's time, about 458 BC – 140 years later, the LORD would *restore them to* the temple in Jerusalem.

Hananiah the False Prophet

Jer 28:1 And it happened in the same year, at the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year and in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, who

was from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the LORD in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying, (Jer 51:59-60) 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. [60] So Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that should come upon Babylon, even all these words that are written against Babylon.

- **Hananiah is giving this false prophecy, in complete contradiction** to that which **Jeremiah** had been warning about in the previous chapters. **“Do not listen** to the prophets that say things will soon be coming back, and things will soon be restored. **Do not listen!”** Here’s **Jeremiah** still wearing this yoke, to show that they would remain subjected to Nebuchadnezzar and their dreams of successful revolt would be unfulfilled. This false prophet **Hananiah** makes one of these false prophecies right there in front of **Jeremiah**. The very kind of prophecy that **Jeremiah** was warning about, declaring that they were lies and not to trust in them. By all this, it appears that whatever **Hananiah** pretended, he had only the spirit of the world, not the Spirit of God, that he aimed to please, not to profit.
- **Who was from Gibeon: Hananiah** came from a place with a reputation for deception and violence? The place where the Gibeonites had deceived the Israelites in Joshua’s day! It was the scene of a contest between Saul’s men and David’s men. It was here that Joab killed Amasa.

Jer 28:2 "Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: 'I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.

- **I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon: Hananiah** spoke in the name of the Lord, contradicting the message of **Jeremiah** recorded in the previous chapter. **Jeremiah** said they would be under the yoke of the king of Babylon; **Hananiah** said the Lord had **broken the yoke**.

Jer 28:3 Within two full years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the LORD's house, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon.

Jer 28:4 And I will bring back to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, with all the captives of Judah who went to Babylon,' says the LORD, 'for I will break the yoke of the of Babylon.' "

- **I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the Lord's house:** This was another **Hananiah**’s supposed prophecy explained that because the power of Nebuchadnezzar had been broken, the **vessels** of the temple would be returned, King **Jeconiah** would return, along with **all the captives of Judah who went to Babylon**. All this would happen **within two full years**. This was a big, dramatic message, something the frightened people of Judah would love to hear. It was a direct contradiction to **Jeremiah**’s previous prophecy. When **Jeremiah** prophesied exile and captivity, **Hananiah** prophesied return and restoration. They both spoke in the name of the Lord, but they both could not be right.

Jer 28:5 Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and in the presence of all the people who stood in the house of the LORD,

Jer 28:6 and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! The LORD do so; the LORD perform your words which you have prophesied, to bring back the vessels of the LORD's house and all who were carried away captive, from Babylon to this place. (1Ki 22:14-16) And Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives, whatever the LORD says to me, that I will speak." [15] Then he came to the king (Ahab); and the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall we refrain?" And he answered him, "Go and prosper, for the LORD will deliver it into the hand of the king!" [16] So the king said to him, "How many times shall I make you swear that you tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?"

- **Amen! The LORD do so! Jeremiah** must have said this in a mocking way. Yes! I would like to see this. **Jeremiah** did not long for the coming destruction. He was heartbroken and weeping over it. He speaks often of the tears that he shed over the people’s rebellion against God, and that they would repent, turn to God, and seek the grace and the mercy of God. If perchance God would be merciful and spare them. But he had to be true to the word of God in his heart, and he had to speak God’s truth. Even though it wasn’t pleasant for the people to hear.
- **Throughout the Bible, there is warning against the false prophets.** Much of what a false prophet says is true, otherwise no one would **listen** to him. There is enough truth to get your attention, to catch your ear. But you want to look for net result of their testimony or the bottom line. In (**1Jn 4:1**) *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.* What’s the bottom line? It has to do with the nature of Jesus Christ, and the deity of Jesus Christ. It should never be, now if you’ll just send in your offering, God will bless you! You’ll see these things come to pass! Send me your money!”

Jer 28:7 Nevertheless hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people:

Jer 28:8 The prophets who have been before me and before you of old prophesied against many countries and great kingdoms—of war and disaster and pestilence.

Jer 28:9 As for the prophet who prophesies of peace, when the word of the prophet comes to pass, the prophet will be known as one whom the LORD has truly sent."

- **In the early days was if the prophecy came to pass, then he was a true prophet.** If the prophecy didn't come to pass, then he wasn't a true prophet, but then if the prophecies did come to pass, and then they would teach you and say, "Well now you should worship this other god", then they were false prophets and should be put to death. Always look to the bottom line, the net summary or result of the prophecy!
- **The prophets who have been before me and before you:** Wishing that *Hananiah's* words were true, *Jeremiah* challenged *Hananiah*, starting with the word "nevertheless," and reminding everyone that although not all prophetic messages were negative, most of them were. Note the messages from, *Joel, Amos, Hosea, Micah, Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk.*
- **Not denying that sometimes God's messengers bring a word of peace,** *Jeremiah* says, "If we see the peace in two years, then we'll know if you're a true prophet of God."

Jer 28:10 Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke off the prophet Jeremiah's neck and broke it.

Jer 28:11 And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, "Thus says the LORD: 'Even so I will break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years.' " And the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

- **Hananiah took the yoke off the prophet Jeremiah's neck and broke it:** *Jeremiah* had this yoke when he spoke to *King Zedekiah* and the messengers from other nations. Apparently, some days or weeks later, he walked the temple courts still wearing the yoke, as a public illustration of his prophecy. *Hananiah* didn't like the message of the yoke, so he took it from *Jeremiah* and broke it.
- **Even so I will break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar:** *Hananiah* said this in the name of the Lord. He illustrated his message that the revolt against Nebuchadnezzar would succeed by breaking the yoke and explaining the meaning of the broken yoke, again giving a time measure for it to happen.
- **The prophet Jeremiah went his way:** On the surface, it seems that *Hananiah* won this public dispute between the prophets. He seemed to overpower *Jeremiah*, he said the last word, and *Jeremiah* walked away without a response. This is a great example for us. Rather than just insisting on what is right above all else, *Jeremiah* seeming sensed the best thing to do was to walk away in this situation. We should be open to that as well!

Jer 28:12 Now the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

Jer 28:13 "Go and tell Hananiah, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "You have broken the yokes of wood, but you have made in their place yokes of iron."

- **You have broken the yokes of wood, but you have made in their place yokes of iron:** We aren't told how *Jeremiah* felt when he left the confrontation with *Hananiah* at the temple. Yet later, God gave him a message to send to *Hananiah*, who could break the wooden yoke *Jeremiah* wore as a prophetic illustration but could never break the yokes of iron God would set upon those who opposed Nebuchadnezzar.
- The yokes of iron can be understood as God's stricter discipline upon His people. If we resist God's gentler discipline – yokes of wood – we may find ourselves under much more unpleasant yokes of iron. It is far better to surrender the better yoke of Jesus Christ, (*Mat 11:30*) *For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.* Happily, the power of God can break even an iron yoke – if we will only turn to Him and trust Him again.

Jer 28:14 For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "I have put a yoke of iron on the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him. I have given him the beasts of the field also." ' ' "

- **I have put a yoke of iron on the neck of all these nations:** Their proposed rebellion against Nebuchadnezzar would fail. They would serve him, and Nebuchadnezzar's dominion would be so complete that he would rule over the beasts of the field!

Jer 28:15 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, "Hear now, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, but you make this people trust in a lie.

- **Jeremiah's word, *Hear now, Hananiah, the Lord has not sent you, but you make this people trust a lie:*** Jeremiah felt it important to directly and publicly tell *Hananiah* that whatever his intentions, he was a *false prophet*. Worse, he harmed the people of Judah, **leading them in a fatal disservice, to trust in a lie** – a *lie* that they wanted to believe, because it was a much more comfortable message than *Jeremiah's*.
- ***You make this people to trust in a lie:*** How typical this is of much of human prophesying! All those philosophies which attempt to interpret life without the light of revelation — all so-called theologies, which result from speculations which invalidate the revelation, make men *trust in lies*, because they are uttered by men not sent by Jehovah.

Jer 28:16 Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will cast you from the face of the earth. This year you shall die, because you have taught rebellion against the LORD.' " (Deu 13:5) *But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst. (Jer 20:6) And you, Pashhur, and all who dwell in your house, shall go into captivity. You shall go to Babylon, and there you shall die, and be buried there, you and all your friends, to whom you have prophesied lies.' "* (Jer 29:31-32) *Send to all those in captivity, saying, Thus says the LORD concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite: Because Shemaiah has prophesied to you, and I have not sent him, and he has caused you to trust in a lie— [32] therefore thus says the LORD: Behold, I will punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite and his family: he shall not have anyone to dwell among this people, nor shall he see the good that I will do for My people, says the LORD, because he has taught rebellion against the LORD.*

- ***This year you shall die:*** This was God's message to *Hananiah*. He gave a time measure for his prophecy, so God gave him a time measure in return: *Hananiah* would die within the **year**, in the **seventh month**, only two months after this confrontation, not a long time, but it is plenty of time to repent if there was any such inclination. It was quickly obvious who was the true prophet and who was the false prophet,
- ***Because you have taught rebellion (very serious!) against the Lord:*** The Lord was saying, "**Submit, come under the yoke of Babylon**", and this guy is saying "resist". *Hananiah* is teaching them *rebellion* against the commandment of God. God would stop him from continuing to do so.

Jer 28:17 So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.

- **The LORD's sentence was executed! *Hananiah died the same year*,** within two months; for his prophecy is dated the fifth *month* and his death *the seventh*. Good men may perhaps be suddenly taken by death in the midst of their days, and in mercy to them, as Josiah was; but this being foretold as the punishment of his sin, and coming to pass accordingly, it may safely be construed as a testimony from Heaven against *Hananiah* and a confirmation of *Jeremiah's* mission. The prompt fulfilling of the sentence of death prevented Judah being further hardened by the deceitfulness of their prophets.

DO NOT LISTEN!

- ***Do not listen! Four times in this chapter, there was the warning, "do not listen!"*** These false prophets were actually inspired by Satan, giving Satanic advice. Always remember, Satan has one purpose, and that is to destroy. One of his names is Destroyer. Satan seeks to destroy you and give you false counsel, but the purpose of that counsel is destruction. Always! Jesus said, (***Joh 8:44b***) *He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.* A person chooses, to obey Christ and to have that life, or to obey Satan and be destroyed. But you can't really blame God for the destruction. You have to blame yourself, because you *listened* to the enemy, and you followed his advice and counsel.
- (***Exo 29:20***) - ***Aaron and sons consecrated:*** *Then you shall kill the ram, and take some of its blood and put it on the tip of the right ear of Aaron and on the tip of the right ear of his sons, on the thumb of their right hand and on the big toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood all around on the altar.*
- (***Lev 8:23***) - ***Aaron and sons consecrated:*** *and Moses killed it. Also he took some of its blood and put it on the tip of Aaron's right ear, on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot.*
- **To whom and to what are we not listening or surrendering to?**
- **To whom and to what are we listening intently to, surrendering to and doing what God is telling us?**
- **How about our hands and feet? Totally given over to serving God?**

Closing Prayer: