

NO CLASSROOM STUDY NEXT WEEK – JUNE 28-29 ZOOM ONLY! CCCM campus closed due to conference, 6/28-7/1.

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

NOTES FOR THIS WEEK: 6/21-22/2021

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *Jeremiah Chapter 50*

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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Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 For Audio & notes from previous studies -

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OPENING PRAYER

THIS WEEK'S STUDY:

Chapter 50 – Judgment on Babylon and Babylonia - (vs. 1-46).

- **The next two chapters are directed against Babylon.** Most of the book of Jeremiah is taken up with the judgement of God that is going to come against Judah **because** they had turned their backs upon God and had been worshipping the gods of the heathen. So, they are going to be judged. God is going to use Babylon as His instrument of judgement. But now God's instrument of judgement, Babylon, is to be judged by God. For a thorough study of God's judgment, one should read Isaiah chapters 13 & 14; Jeremiah chapters 50 & 51; and Revelation chapters 17 & 18.

- **Babylon has been God's instrument in the judgement of the nations.** But having served the purposes of God, as His instrument of judgement, yet they also are to be judged. Babylon had exceeded God's prescribed cruelty against Judah and had become very prideful. Just because God used them, does not exempt them from the judgement of God. Sometimes people make a mistake in thinking, that they have been used by God, therefore they have some kind of special dispensation or some kind of exemption from God's judgement, and they begin to live carelessly, recklessly, but they too, are to be judged.
- **There is a condemnation against Babylon a moral and ethical, a deceptive, idolatrous spiritual atmosphere that we all live in.** We can see three different aspects of Babylon -spiritual, political and economic. There is the spiritual part – that part of idolatrous Babylon beginning in Genesis 10, at the tower of Babel, going all the way to Revelation 18. We can see them as a world power at the time of Nebuchadnezzar & Cyrus; and we can see them economically in the last days in Rev chapters 17 & 18. God will bring destruction then.

INTRODUCTION:

Judgment on Babylon:

Jer 50:1 The word that the LORD spoke against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.

- **Babylon is a reference to the great city itself. The land of the Chaldeans** is that territory that was occupied around the great city of **Babylon**, but it was more the whole Babylonian territory, known as *the land of the Chaldeans*.

Jer 50:2 "Declare among the nations, Proclaim, and set up a standard; Proclaim—do not conceal it—Say, 'Babylon is taken, Bel is shamed. Merodach is broken in pieces; Her idols are humiliated, Her images are broken in pieces.'

- **The destruction of Babylon is here spoken of as a thing already done.** Let it be published to the nations as a piece of news, true news, and great news, and news they are all concerned in. Let them hang out the flag, as is usual on days of triumph, to give notice of it; let all the world take notice of it: **Babylon is taken.** Let God have the honor of it, let His people have the comfort of it, and therefore do not conceal it.
- **The Babylonians had attributed their success and their victories unto their chief god, Bel.** Bel is the same as Baal (Babylonian spelling). It means Lord, and it is the worship of the sun god. Merodach means little Lord, perhaps the worship of the moon. The Babylonians were great into astrology. They attributed their success over the other nations to their gods. The idea being that our god is stronger, and thus able to defeat the other gods, so **Babylon** itself is going to fall, and their gods are to be **broken in pieces**.

Jer 50:3 For out of the north a nation comes up against her, Which shall make her land desolate, And no one shall dwell therein. They shall move, they shall depart, Both man and beast.

- **Out of the north would likely be a reference to the Medes**, who were going to come, along with the Persians, and will conquer Babylon, over time. It did not all happen at 538-39 B.C., Cyrus led the Medes to take the city of Babylon, which occurred nearly 70 years after Jeremiah's prophecy and almost 200 years after Isaiah's prophecy (*Isa 13:17*)! The whole land was not made desolate. When the city was taken by Cyrus, being so vast, half of the people in the city did not even know it for a few days! There was not much devastation. The city was pretty much intact.
- **Later, the Babylonians rebelled against the powers of the Medes and the Persians.** Darius came and slaughtered about 4,000 of the chief inhabitants, the lords of Babylon. Even later yet, Babylon



was conquered again, its walls were partially destroyed, but for many years, it was a strong and powerful city. It was not until the time of the Roman Empire under Adrian, that the walls of Babylon were mostly destroyed, and the city then became uninhabited.

- **Often, prophecy has a dual fulfillment**, with an immediate fulfillment, but it is only a precursor and a type of a future kind of fulfillment that shall take place. Thus, the prophecies here in Jeremiah, had an immediate kind of fulfillment, that is it will take place within a hundred years or so, but then there is that dual fulfillment, and much of it is yet to be fulfilled, and remains for the last days.

Jer 50:4 "In those days and in that time," says the LORD, "The children of Israel shall come, They and the children of Judah together; With continual weeping they shall come, And seek the LORD their God. (Jer 31:31a, Heb 10:16a) "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: a

- **At the time when Babylon falls, there will be a regathering of the Jews back into the land.** We know historically that that is exactly what happened. When Babylon fell, and Cyrus, the conquering general became the king of the Neo-Persian empire, it is said that Daniel brought, according to Josephus, Daniel brought to Cyrus, the prophecy of Isaiah. He showed Cyrus, in the prophecy Isaiah, where the prophet had named him as the prince that God would use to allow His people to return to captivity.
- **Two hundred years before this time, God had announced that Cyrus would be His instrument.** (*Isa 44:28-45:3*) *Who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid." ' [45:1] "Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, That is the king of Babylon, when the handwriting came on the wall, we read that Belshazzar's knees smote one against another, his loins were loosed. To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut: (Cyrus conquered the city by diverting the river Euphrates, came up and the two leveed gates within the city were left open, and the troops entered and took the city of Babylon. [2] 'I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron. [3] I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the LORD, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel.*
- **When Cyrus took Babylon, he also received a tremendous wealth**, that had been amassed by Babylon. God had promised unto Cyrus, that He would give him the treasures of Babylon. (*Isa 45:4*) *For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.* The Lord tells him that he is the one who is to allow the children of Israel to go back to their land.
- **Here, the prophecy of Jeremiah is that the time that Babylon falls, that Israel and Judah will together return** to the land. It is believed that complete fulfillment will not occur until the last days.

Jer 50:5 They shall ask the way to Zion, With their faces toward it, saying, 'Come and let us join ourselves to the LORD In a perpetual covenant That will not be forgotten.'

- **The children of Israel will come back**, saying, *"Let us join ourselves to the Lord.* Let us return to God and keep the *covenant* of God. Let it be a *perpetual covenant*. Now, this portion of the prophecy is yet to be fulfilled. That complete turning of the nation unto God, and that *perpetual covenant* with the Lord.

Jer 50:6 "My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray; They have turned them away on the mountains. They have gone from mountain to hill; They have forgotten their resting place. (Mat 11:28) Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

- **Where is their resting place? Their resting place was in God.** They had forgotten the Lord! The Lord places the blame upon the shepherds, who had led the sheep astray. God cries for the sheep, lost sheep. It is a very sad and tragic thing when men who are ordained to the ministry, become so liberal in their thinking, that they begin to deny God's word. The inerrancy of God's word. The inspiration of the scriptures. They have their degrees, they have their titles, but yet, they do not believe in the basic foundational truths of the Bible. They do not believe in the virgin birth of Jesus Christ. They do not believe in His resurrection. They believe that the stories of the bible are myths by which morality was to be taught. They lead people astray.

- **That is a very sad thing and God will hold the shepherds responsible.** In (*Jas 3:1*) *My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.* Thus, a warning for those that would teach the word of God. With it comes a responsibility of teaching the word of God correctly. Those who are involved in the ministry, need to realize the awesome responsibility that is theirs, in guiding the sheep and leading the sheep in God's paths. In nurturing, strengthening the sheep.

Jer 50:7 All who found them have devoured them; And their adversaries said, 'We have not offended, Because they have sinned against the LORD, the habitation of justice, The LORD, the hope of their fathers.'

- **Wherever the Jews went, they were persecuted.** This has remained to the present day. The tremendous persecution against the Jews. It seems like the whole world is against the Jews! Our nation is turning really, against the Jews. There are many churches that have turned against the Jews, by declaring that the church is Israel, and God is through with them as a people. Not so. If you will look at history, you will find that everyone that turned against the Jew was judged by God. God said to Abraham, in His covenant with Abraham, "I will bless those that bless you, and I will curse those that curse you".
- **'We have not offended, Because they have sinned against the LORD** In other words, we're right in doing this, **because** they turned their backs against God. But God will deal with them. You know, you do not, you do not spank another person's child, unless you want to be in real trouble with that other person. If you touch God's child, though they may be wrong, though they may be doing wrong, though they may be guilty, you do not touch them! You leave that to the Father, He will take care of them.

Jer 50:8 "Move from the midst of Babylon, Go out of the land of the Chaldeans; And be like the rams before the flocks.

- **In other words, lead the people back.** *The rams* (he-goats) always sort of go out in front, and the flocks sort of follow the *rams*. So be like those *rams*, where the leading them back to the land that the sheep may follow them back.

Jer 50:9 For behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon An assembly of great nations from the north country, And they shall array themselves against her; From there she shall be captured. Their arrows shall be like those of an expert warrior; None shall return in vain.

Jer 50:10 And Chaldea shall become plunder; All who plunder her shall be satisfied," says the LORD.

Jer 50:11 "Because you were glad, because you rejoiced, You destroyers of My heritage, Because you have grown fat like a heifer threshing grain, And you bellow like bulls,

- **They were excessive in their cruelty against the people of God.** They had grown fat, they had robbed the temple of God. They had taken the gold and the silver vessels of tremendous value. They even took the pillars of brass that were on the porch of Solomon, in the temple that Solomon had built. They had sacked the city. Thus, they had grown fat as an un-muzzled heifer, at threshing. Babylon became like a fat heifer, then also ***bellowing like the bulls.***

Jer 50:12 Your mother shall be deeply ashamed; She who bore you shall be ashamed. Behold, the least of the nations shall be a wilderness, A dry land and a desert.

- **The least of the nations,** the whole land is going to be left as a desert area

Jer 50:13 Because of the wrath of the LORD She shall not be inhabited, But she shall be wholly desolate. Everyone who goes by Babylon shall be horrified And hiss at all her plagues.

- **The city of Babylon shall be wholly desolate.** That once great city. In fact, the greatest city of the ancient world, as far as the power, the size, the walls 300 feet high, 80 feet thick, and they had double walls around it with huge towers on the walls. It was thought to be totally impregnable and yet God pronounces the fact that it is going to be taken. When people see the destruction of it they will hiss at it. This prophecy undoubtedly has multiple fulfillments, as no nation has yet totally destroyed Babylon.

Jer 50:14 "Put yourselves in array against Babylon all around, All you who bend the bow; Shoot at her, spare no arrows, For she has sinned against the LORD.

- God is challenging now, the instruments, Cyrus and the Medes and Persians. *“Put yourselves in array against Babylon all around, for she has sinned, and will be judged and punished.*

Jer 50:15 Shout against her all around; She has given her hand, Her foundations have fallen, Her walls are thrown down (not in Cyrus’ days); For it is the vengeance of the LORD. Take vengeance on her. As she has done, so do to her. (In harmony with Rev.18?)

- **God so often measures out in kind.** The judgement comes back in the same measure as you gave it out. So, God’s judgement. Be the instruments. It is the *vengeance* that the Lord is taking. You know it is a part of our human nature to want to get even. That is just part of our whole make up. The Lord tells us that we are not to try to get even. He said, *“Vengeance is Mine. I will repay”*, says the Lord.
- **As believers, the Lord is calling us to a higher standard of living. (Rom 12:21) Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Vengeance.** Getting even. But the Lord said that, as His people, our standards should be higher. Were to return evil with good! Not after the natural code’s desire for violence and vengeance. But the Lord says, “No! That is not to be. You’re to live in a higher standard than that”! You are to leave the getting even to God, commit it to the Lord. (Heb 10:30) For we know Him who said, “VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord. And again, “THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE.” We may think that God’s a little slow in taking *vengeance*. We want to see it right now on our enemies! Yet, ours is to just commit it to the Lord. “Lord, they’re in Your hands. They’ve done wrong, and I leave it to You to deal with them and to take care of them.” To allow God to bring His *vengeance* upon them.

Jer 50:16 Cut off the sower from Babylon, And him who handles the sickle at harvest time. For fear of the oppressing sword Everyone shall turn to his own people, And everyone shall flee to his own land. (not in Cyrus’ days);

- **Babylon used to be a place of tremendous agriculture.** Herodotus, the historian said that they reaped 200 percent in their corn planting. In other words, plant one seed and get 200 kernels. The weather is quite warm, and they had plenty of water though the vast river Euphrates. They made all of these canals, irrigation canals, and the whole area was just a full, productive area, as far as growing. Very, very fertile. They took full advantage of the weather, the water, and it was just a great agricultural area. But the Lord said, *“Cut off the sower from Babylon”*. The place is going to become barren. It is going to become like a desert.

Jer 50:17 "Israel is like scattered sheep; The lions have driven him away. First the king of Assyria devoured him; Now at last this Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has broken his bones."

- *Israel is like scattered sheep*; like a flock which has been scared and driven in all directions, *for lions have chased him.*

Jer 50:18 Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, As I have punished the king of Assyria.

- Assyria was conquered by Babylon. God brought His judgement against the Syrians, now He will bring it against the Babylonians.

Jer 50:19 But I will bring back Israel to his home, And he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan; His soul shall be satisfied on Mount Ephraim and Gilead. (this has to be future)

- Israel will come back, and they will inhabit the land that was once there.

Jer 50:20 In those days and in that time," says the LORD, "The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve. (Psa 103:11-12) For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

- **The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found!** Amazing! How wonderful this is! This of course is yet future. God says it was His land. You know, the big thing today whose land is it? The Palestinians, or whose? It is God’s land. God gave it to Abraham, and to his descendants.
- **The LORD is saying that they will look for their iniquity and sins, but they will not find them, because I am going to pardon those whom I preserve! That is the kind of a covenant that we believers are under! God has forgiven us through Jesus Christ!** Paul, the apostle said, “Who is he that

condemns”, and in answer to that question, he said, “It isn’t Jesus. It is not Christ, for He died for your sins, in fact He is risen again and is at the right hand of the Father, making intercession. Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s account, Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s elect?” It is God who is justified. God does not have any charges against you if you have received Jesus Christ. Let them look for your sins, they will not find them. God’s forgiven them. You know, let them come with their accusations to God. Satan may come with his accusations against you! The LORD says, I have pardoned that already!

- **How glorious it is! If God be for us, who can be against us?** Who shall lay anything to the charge of *God’s elect*? ***It is God who has justified.*** God’s the One that is forgiven you. He is not laying charges against you. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ who has died, yes, rather is risen again, and is even at the right hand of the Father, making intercession. Now Jesus is your attorney, up there, in essence. He is pleading your case. “It is Christ who died, yes, rather who is risen again, even at the right hand of the Father, making intercession for us.” So, with Israel when God’s salvation comes, God ***will pardon.*** He said, “I will have mercy upon whom I will have mercy”. His people, and God gives special treatment to His people. Special loving treatment. I am so glad I am one of His people. “I will pardon them”, He said, “whom I reserve”, “I’ll pardon who I want!” I like that!

Jer 50:21 "Go up against the land of Merathaim (rebellion, pride), against it, And against the inhabitants of Pekod (negative visitation). Waste and utterly destroy them," says the LORD, "And do according to all that I have commanded you.

Jer 50:22 A sound of battle is in the land, And of great destruction.

Jer 50:23 How the hammer of the whole earth has been cut apart and broken! How Babylon has become a desolation among the nations! I have laid a snare for you;

- **God is commanding the forces that would bring destruction** upon Babylon. In general, **Do according to all that I have commanded you**, Assurances are given them of success. Let them do what God commands, and they shall accomplish what He threatens. A **great destruction** shall be made:
- **The hammer, which was Babylon had pounded the whole earth! But the hammer is cut apart! It is broken! Babylon has become a desolation among the nations.** The judgement of God has fallen, and Babylon cannot stand.

Jer 50:24 You have indeed been trapped, O Babylon, And you were not aware; You have been found and also caught, Because you have contended against the LORD. (Isa 45:9a) "Woe to him who strives with his Maker!

- **You have been found and also caught!** Babylon had sinned against the Lord, and offended Him, not only by her idolatry and luxury, but by her oppression of his people, and profaning the vessels of His house!
- **Contended against!** The Bible says, “**Woe unto him who strives with His maker!** “How foolish for a man to fight God”. Yet we see so many people trying to fight against God. How foolish to shake their fist at God? “God, you know, I hate You, I don’t know why You did this or that”. If you fight against God you are in a no-win situation, even if you are the hammer of the whole earth! Because if you win, in resisting Him, then you have really lost totally. Never strive against the Lord.

Jer 50:25 The LORD has opened His armory, And has brought out the weapons of His indignation; For this is the work of the Lord GOD of hosts In the land of the Chaldeans.

- **This is God’s work in judgement.** They fought against God, or chose to fight against the Lord, and thus they are to be destroyed.

Jer 50:26 Come against her from the farthest border; Open her storehouses; Cast her up as heaps of ruins, And destroy her utterly; Let nothing of her be left.

- **That has not yet been fulfilled**, so that lies yet for the future.

Jer 50:27 Slay all her bulls, Let them go down to the slaughter. Woe to them! For their day has come, the time of their punishment.

- **Slay all her bulls**, all her mighty men; **let them go down** drunken without sense, as an ox **to the slaughter.** See how little account the great God makes of those things which men so much value and value themselves so much upon. Their princes and great men, who are fat and bulky, shall fall by the sword, not as honorable men of war in the field of battle, but as beasts by the butcher’s hand. **Woe unto them!** Their case is even more sad for the little sense they have of it. **Their day has come** to

fall, *the time* when they must be reckoned with, and they are not aware of it.

Jer 50:28 The voice of those who flee and escape from the land of Babylon Declares in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God, The vengeance of His temple. (Heb 10:30a) For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. ."

- **They destroyed the temple of God.** God is now taking *vengeance* against them for what they have done. Babylon ruined Jerusalem, the holy city, and the holy temple there, and must now be called to an account for that. This is the declaration published in Zion, in the day of Babylon's visitation; it is *the vengeance of the Lord our God, the vengeance of His temple.*

Jer 50:29 "Call together the archers against Babylon. All you who bend the bow, encamp against it all around; Let none of them escape. Repay her according to her work; According to all she has done, do to her; For she has been proud against the LORD, Against the Holy One of Israel.

- *She has been proud against the Lord, against the Holy One of Israel!* Striving against God! Being *proud against God*, she is to be brought low. Babylon's pride must unavoidably be her ruin!

Jer 50:30 Therefore her young men shall fall in the streets, And all her men of war shall be cut off in that day," says the LORD.

- *Her young men and her men of war* which should have been her defense, but they *shall be cut off in that day!*

Jer 50:31 "Behold, I am against you, O most haughty one!" (Nebuchadnezzar? Could this, in the future be the anti-Christ?) says the Lord GOD of hosts; "For your day has come, The time that I will punish you.

- *O most haughty one!"* The problem with Nebuchadnezzar was his great pride. That is why God brought him down. He had this dream, and in this dream he saw this great tree, and all the birds lodged in the tree. He asked Daniel to interpret the vision, and he said, "Oh this dream is one that your enemies are going to like! Not a good thing. Because God has made you great, your branches cover out over the earth and the nations of the earth find shelter under your strength. But your pride is going to bring you low. You're going to get cut down". So, He said, "Walk carefully, be careful Nebuchadnezzar. Don't let pride get the best of you".
- **He behaved himself for a while. But about a year later** when he was walking in the midst of the glorious city of Babylon, the hanging gardens and all, he said, "Is this not the great Babylon that I have built?" And wham, he was smitten by God! He became mad. He went insane! He lived with the oxen for a period of seven seasons, until he knew that it was the God of heaven who ruled, and set over the kingdoms of the earth, those whom He would.
- **Again, the pride of Babylon!** They thought they were invincible. When the city of Babylon was under siege, the armies of the Medes and Persians had surrounded, and were besieging the city, they still felt secure within these tremendous walls, and fortification. Belshazzar ordered this huge party for a thousand of his lords, just in disdain against the enemy that would think they could possibly conquer the great city of Babylon and destroy her fortification. In utter disdain he ordered this huge party, so it went on for weeks. Rather than war and desolation, thus their pride for which they are to be brought down.

Jer 50:32 The most proud shall stumble and fall, And no one will raise him up; I will kindle a fire in his cities, And it will devour all around him."

- **Babylon has insulted Him in insulting over His people.** She has made Him her enemy, and therefore, when she *has stumbled and fallen, none shall raise her up.* Who can help those up whom God will throw down?

Jer 50:33 Thus says the LORD of hosts: "The children of Israel were oppressed, Along with the children of Judah; All who took them captive have held them fast; They have refused to let them go.

Jer 50:34 Their Redeemer is strong; The LORD of hosts is His name. He will thoroughly plead their case, That He may give rest to the land, And disquiet the inhabitants of

Babylon. (1Jn 2:1) My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

- **Israel's sufferings, and their deliverance out of those sufferings.** God takes notice of the bondage

of His people in Babylon, as He did of their bondage in Egypt. He has surely seen it and has heard their cry. **Israel and Judah were oppressed together**

- **Their Redeemer is strong!** In contrast, this is their comfort in distress, that, though they are weak, **their Redeemer is strong!** Their Avenger, so the word signifies. He that has a right to them and will claim His right and make good His claim. He is stronger than their enemies that hold them fast. He can overpower all the force that is against them and put strength into His own people though they are very weak. **The Lord of hosts is His name**, and He will answer to His name, and make it to appear that He is what his people call Him, being that to them for which they depend upon Him. It is the unspeakable comfort of the people of God that, though they have enemies against them, they have the Lord of hosts for them! He will thoroughly plead their case, pleading! He shall **plead** it, **plead** it with jealousy, **plead** it effectually, **plead** it and carry it, **that He may give rest to the land**, and to His people's land, rest from all their enemies round about. He sets us free when we genuinely come to repentance!
- **This applies to all believers, who complain of the dominion of sin and corruption**, and of their own weakness and manifold infirmities. May they know that **their Redeemer is strong!** He is able to keep what they commit to Him, and He will **plead** their cause. Sin shall not have dominion over them; He will make them free, and they shall be free indeed! He will give them **rest**, which remains for the people of God.

Jer 50:35 "A sword is against the Chaldeans," says the LORD, "Against the inhabitants of Babylon, And against her princes and her wise men.

- **The Chaldeans had long been God's sword**, whom He used to bring execution upon the sinful nations round about. But now, they being as bad as any of them, or worse, **a sword** is brought upon them, even **against the inhabitants of Babylon**, a **sword** of war; and, as it is in God's hand, sent and directed by Him, it is a **sword** of justice. It shall be **against her princes**; they shall fall by it, and their dignity, wealth, and power, shall not secure them. **Against her wise men**, their philosophers, their statesmen, and counsellors. Their learning and policy shall neither secure them nor stand the public in any stead.

Jer 50:36 A sword is against the soothsayers (liars), and they will be fools. A sword is against her mighty men, and they will be dismayed.

- **Against their soothsayers and astrologers, here called fools**, for they cheated with their false prophecies of peace and prosperity. **The sword** upon them shall make them dote, so that they shall talk like fools, and be as men that have lost all their wits. God has **a sword** that can reach the soul and affect the mind, and bring men under spiritual plagues.
- **Against her mighty men**. A sword shall be upon their spirits; if they are not slain. Yet, **they will be dismayed**, and shall be no longer **mighty men**; for what good will their strong hands be, when their hearts fail them?

Jer 50:37 A sword is against their horses, Against their chariots, And against all the mixed peoples who are in her midst; And they will become like women. A sword is against her treasures, and they will be robbed.

- **A sword is against their horses and chariots**. The invaders shall make themselves masters of all their warlike stores, shall seize their horses and chariots for themselves, or destroy them. The troops of other nations that were in their service shall be quite disheartened. **The mixed people will become weak like women**, in a physical conflict.
- **A sword is against her treasures, and they will be robbed**, and used by the enemy against them. Notice the universal magnitude of destruction the sword makes when it comes with God's commission.

Jer 50:38 A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is the land of carved images, And they are insane with their idols.

- **A drought is against her waters**. When they built the city of Babylon, the great river Euphrates ran right through the middle of it, so there was always that water supply. Usually when a city was besieged, they would cut off the water, as you cannot go long without water. But here was the great river Euphrates flowing through Babylon. Thus, they had a sufficient water supply from the river, but the Lord is declaring that there is to be **a drought against her waters**, and the **waters would be dried up**.

- What actually happened, Cyrus, the general of the army of the Medes, had his soldiers build a dam, north of the city of Babylon, and divert the Euphrates, around the city of Babylon. They built these canals. When it was time for the army to enter the city, they diverted the river into these canals, which dried up the river in Babylon. Then the troops went on the river bed, under the bars, and the walls, and they came in the river bed, up into the city. The protective gates had been left wide open by those who were so drunk as a result of this party (*Isa 45:1b*) *To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut:* The troops were able to come right in to the party itself. Belshazzar was defeated.

Jer 50:39 "Therefore the wild desert beasts shall dwell there with the jackals, And the ostriches (owls) shall dwell in it. It shall be inhabited no more forever, Nor shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

- The great city of Babylon is going to be made waste and desolate, and become a dwelling place of wild animals. *inhabited no more forever*

Jer 50:40 As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah And their neighbors," says the LORD, "So no one shall reside there, Nor son of man dwell in it.

- Desolate like Sodom and Gomorrah. Now that has not been fulfilled yet, but most likely is yet to be fulfilled

Jer 50:41 "Behold, a people shall come from the north, And a great nation and many kings Shall be raised up from the ends of the earth.

- The Babylonian king and kingdom shall be put into the utmost confusion and consternation by the enemies' from the north invading them. Here, it seems like it's another battle against Babylon. Here not only the people from the north, but *many kings from the ends of the earth!*

Jer 50:42 They shall hold the bow and the lance; They are cruel and shall not show mercy. Their voice shall roar like the sea; They shall ride on horses, Set in array, like a man for the battle, Against you, O daughter of Babylon.

- *O daughter of Babylon!* Here is what is coming. *They shall hold the bow and the lance: they are cruel and shall not show mercy: their voice shall roar like the sea, and they shall ride upon horses, everyone put in array, like a man to the battle, against you!* This particular part of the prophecy of Babylon's destruction, could be yet future, as it describes complete destruction.

Jer 50:43 "The king of Babylon has heard the report about them, And his hands grow feeble; Anguish has taken hold of him, Pangs as of a woman in childbirth.

- *The king of Babylon has heard the report about them.* Belshazzar, likely had the report of the invasion of his land by them; of their approach to Babylon, and plans to conquer and of their number, character, and force:
- *And his hands grow feeble*, as they did when he saw the handwriting upon the wall in *Dan 5:6*;
- *Anguish has taken hold of him, Pangs as of a woman in childbirth!* A sudden panic seized him. He was quite dispirited at once, as a *woman in childbirth*, when her pains come upon her, and there is no avoiding them.

Jer 50:44 "Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the floodplain of the Jordan Against the dwelling place of the strong; But I will make them suddenly run away from her. And who is a chosen man that I may appoint over her? For who is like Me? Who will arraign Me? And who is that shepherd Who will withstand Me?"

- *Behold, he shall come!* What is said of Nebuchadnezzar coming up against Edom is here said of Cyrus coming up against Babylon, with his army *shall come up like a lion from the floodplain of the Jordan; Against the dwelling place of the strong* to Babylon; where dwelt the king, his nobles, and his mighty men: *But I will make them suddenly run away from her*, as they did from her king Belshazzar, when the Medes entered the royal palace, and seized him
- *And who is a chosen man that I may appoint over her?* Or "a young man", such a one Cyrus was, who, by divine appointment, became master and governor of Babylon. The one that will rule? Sounds like Jesus doesn't it? The chosen Man. "The one He appoints, One who is like Me? The one He will appoint in His time, the shepherd that will stand before Me? *For who is like Me? Who will arraign Me?* To litigate the point with Me in a court of law, or contend with Me in battle: *And who is that shepherd Who will withstand Me?"* Not Belshazzar, he could not stand before the Lord.

There was no shepherd, no king, no leader who could stand against Him and His coming judgment.

Jer 50:45 Therefore hear the counsel of the LORD that He has taken against Babylon, And His purposes that He has proposed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out; Surely He will make their dwelling place desolate with them.

- ***Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out;*** the weakest and most feeble in the army of Cyrus should be more than a match for any in Babylon, and should draw them out, and devour them, as dogs and wolves draw out and devour the sheep out of the flock:
- ***Therefore hear the counsel of the LORD that He has taken against Babylon,*** The same is said in *Is H*; only, instead of Edom, Babylon is here put, and in the next clause: ***and His purposes that He has proposed against the land of the Chaldeans,*** instead of the inhabitants of Teman, the land of the Chaldeans:
- ***Surely He shall make their habitation desolate with them;*** Surely Babylon will be made desolate by the invading Medes and those from the north.

Jer 50:46 At the noise of the taking of Babylon The earth trembles, And the cry is heard among the nations. (Rev 18:19-20) They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping, and wailing, and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.' [20] "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"

- **God's judgement that will fall upon Babylon.** It did fall over a period of years, but it is not yet complete. It will happen! Many aspects of the prophecy, we may yet see fulfilled in our time.

Application: Lessons to be Learned:

- **DO NOT FORGET! God is our resting place! Is He yours?** Not men, not treasured things of the world! (*Isa 50:6*) (*Mt. 11:28-29*) **Vengeance is Mine,** says the LORD, I will repay! (*vs. 15, 28*) (*Heb. 10:30*) Commit your ways to the LORD and allow God to do His work in His time.
- **REMEMBER AND BE THANKFUL! God pardons and forgives!** He does not remember our transgressions but forgives and pardons whom He will! (*v. 20*) (*Psa. 103:8-17*) **Our Redeemer is strong!** We have an Advocate, who will plead our cause! (*v. 34*) (*1Jo 2:1*)
- **IT IS FOLLY TO: Fight against God!** It is folly to fight against God or to strive with Him! (*v. 24*) (*Isa. 45:9*) **To be prideful! God hates pride!** God resists the proud! The man who has pride has not yet fully met God! (Woe is me, I am undone! Not, look at me!) (*vs. 29-32*) (*Prov. 6:16-17*)

Closing Song:

This I Believe - (The Creed) (4:30) Hillsong

Our Father everlasting The all-creating One God Almighty Through your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son Jesus our Saviour
I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again For I believe in the Name of Jesus (In the name o' Lord)
Our Judge and our Defender Suffered and crucified Forgiveness is in You Descended into darkness
You rose in glorious light Forever seated high
I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again For I believe in the Name of Jesus
I believe in You I believe You rose again I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord (I believe)
And I believe in You I believe You rose again I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord
I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again For I believe in the Name of Jesus
I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again For I believe in the Name of Jesus
For I believe in the Name of Jesus For I believe in the Name of Jesus