

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 7/5-7/6 2021 *Jeremiah Chapter 52*

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

**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

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: PROPHECIES FULFILLED!

Judgment on Judah:

Chapter 52 – The Fall of Jerusalem Reviewed - (vs. 1-11); The Temple and City Plundered and Burned – (vs. 12-23); The People Taken Captive to Babylonia – (vs. 24-30); Jehoiachin Released from Prison – (vs. 31-34)

Chapter fifty-two, it is sort of an appendix in which we see recorded the fulfillment of the prophecies that Jeremiah had been uttering for some forty years. Thus, we find Jeremiah crying out against the abominations, warning them that because of these if they did not repent, if they did not turn to the Lord with their whole heart, then surely God would allow them to go into captivity. That they would be

destroyed by Babylon and carried away as captives to the strange land. In chapter fifty-two, after Jeremiah had been preaching and warning for forty years, the day finally came, of which Jeremiah spoke.

- **This narrative begins with the reign of Zedekiah**, the last king of Judah prior to the fall of Jerusalem, in the third captivity. There were two captivities before, one in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, the other in the first of Jeconiah; but probably it was drawn up by some of those that were carried away with Zedekiah, as a reproach to themselves for imagining that they should not go into captivity.
- **Dates differing by a year, between the accounts in 2nd Kings and 2nd Chronicles.** We are given the Jewish year in the Kings/Chronicles, which is one year earlier than the dates in Jeremiah (587 vs, 586 for the destruction of the temple). In Jeremiah, you are getting the year of ascension relative to Babylonian kings, which differ by a year.
- **Did Baruch or possibly Ezra finish this?** We are not told. It seems to coincide with 2 Kings. The Holy Spirit uses this to put a capstone on the end of the book, historically and give us what we need to know, giving a complete confirmation that Jeremiah was a faithful and true prophet in all that he prophesied!.

Judgment on Babylon:

The Fall of Jerusalem Reviewed –

Jer 52:1 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. (2Ch 36:11-14) Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. [12] He did evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the LORD. [13] And he also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear an oath by God; but he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD God of Israel. [14] Moreover all the leaders of the priests and the people transgressed more and more, according to all the abominations of the nations, and defiled the house of the LORD which He had consecrated in Jerusalem.

- **Jerusalem had already been taken by Nebuchadnezzar in an earlier period.** The first of three assaults against Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar was when Daniel, and a group were taken as captives to Babylon, about 606 B.C. The king at the time, Jehoiakim was taken as a captive to Babylon, and Zedekiah was set up by King Nebuchadnezzar. It was by his decree that Zedekiah was made king over Judah. When he was made king, Nebuchadnezzar made him swear by God, that he would not rebel against Babylon. Zedekiah took an oath by the Lord, that he would not rebel, but in the eleventh year of his reign, thirty- two years old, he did rebel.
- **God was greatly displeased with him for his dealing with the king of Babylon. (Eze 17:15-16) But he rebelled against him by sending his ambassadors to Egypt, that they might give him horses and many people. Will he prosper? Will he who does such things escape? Can he break a covenant and still be delivered? [16] 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'surely in the place where the king dwells who made him king, whose oath he despised and whose covenant he broke—with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die.**

Jer 52:2 He also did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

- **He continued in the evil ways.** They continued in the worship of the other gods, because God was wanting to judge them.

Jer 52:3 For because of the anger of the LORD this happened in Jerusalem and Judah, till He finally cast them out from His presence. Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

- **The anger of the LORD is a doctrine** that people do not like to accept. Yet, it is there in the scripture. **Till Judah** had been **cast out from His presence**, which resulted from Zedekiah's rebelling against the king of Babylon. God's patience and longsuffering had finally run its course and He allowed, even prompted, the Babylonian conquest of Judah.

Jer 52:4 Now it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign (588 B.C.), in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem and encamped against it; and they built a siege wall against it all around.

- **A siege wall with tall wooden towers, higher than the walls of Jerusalem,** was built by Nebuchadnezzar. The warfare in those days was done mainly with spears, swords, bows and arrows. The person who had the high ground, had the advantage. In order to overcome the advantage of high city walls, the sieging enemy would build these tall wooden forts that would actually be higher than the walls of the city. From the top of these forts, they could look down in the city, shooting their arrows, downward at the people to harass them. Nebuchadnezzar built these forts around Jerusalem, as a preparation to taking this city, and he laid siege against the city, shutting off the supplies from coming into Jerusalem.

Jer 52:5 So the city was besieged until the eleventh year (586 B.C) of King Zedekiah.

Jer 52:6 By the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, the famine had become so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land.

- **It was an eighteen-month siege.** As the result there was no bread for the people in the land. The famine became very severe. The people were suffering tremendously as a result of the famine. When people get desperate for food, they become like animals in their destroying one another, for food. If you read from the accounts of Josephus, of Jerusalem under siege, the horrible atrocities that were going on within Jerusalem, as the people were fighting one another for the food. As gangs began to form and the gangs began to have warfare with each other, within Jerusalem. There are reports that there were more Jews killed by Jews, than were actually killed by the Babylonians.
- **Later on, in the siege of the Romans, in 70 A.D., the same thing was repeated.** Josephus records that with great detail. The tremendous fighting that was going on by the Jews as they were fighting for survival, fighting for food, and it became really a very fierce and a horrible experience, being within the city.

Jer 52:7 Then the city wall was broken through, and all the men of war fled and went out of the city at night by way of the gate between the two walls, which was by the king's garden, even though the Chaldeans were near the city all around. And they went by way of the plain.

- By night, King Zedekiah some of his top personal guards, with his family and children, fled from Jerusalem, down toward the wilderness toward Jericho, hoping to escape. .

Jer 52:8 But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king, and they overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho. All his army was scattered from him.

- **At that point it was every man for himself.**

Jer 52:9 So they took the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, and he pronounced judgment on him.

- **Nebuchadnezzar judged him** because of his rebellion against Babylon.

Jer 52:10 Then the king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. And he killed all the princes of Judah in Riblah.

Jer 52:11 He also put out the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him in bronze fetters, took him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

- **He had to watch his own children being slain.** It was a rather infamous end to a wicked king. His eyes were put out. He was carried away to Babylon, where he was put in prison until he died.
- **This event proved the apparent conflicting prophecies of Ezekiel and Jeremiah to both entirely accurate.** Ezekiel, captive in Babylon, had prophesied, (*Eze 12:13*) *I will also spread My net over him, and he shall be caught in My snare. I will bring him to Babylon, to the land of the Chaldeans; yet he shall not see it, though he shall die there.* The Lord says, "I will bring Zedekiah to Babylon, and yet he won't see it, but he's going to die there".
- **Jeremiah, in Jerusalem had prophesied.** (*Jer 34:3*) *And you shall not escape from his hand but shall surely be taken and delivered into his hand; your eyes shall see the eyes of the king of Babylon, he shall speak with you face to face, and you shall go to Babylon.'* It seemed

contradictory to Zedekiah, according to Josephus. How could I be taken to Babylon and not see it?”, that he sort of put down the whole prophecy. He put down the prophecy of Jeremiah saying that “You know, you’ll be taken to Babylon”. He put down the prophecy of Ezekiel, saying, “You guys can’t even get together, you contradict”. But there at Riblah, Nebuchadnezzar put out his eyes, so that when he came to Babylon as the prophet said he would, he did not see it, as the prophet said! God’s word was fulfilled!

The Temple and City Plundered and Burned –

Jer 52:12 Now in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month (which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon), Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard (chief executioner, slaughterer), who served the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem.

- **Now these men returned back to Jerusalem after taking Zedekiah to Riblah**, where he was, where he watched his sons being killed, his eyes were put out. Then, Nebuzaradan and this elite group of men, came back to Jerusalem, for the specific purpose of sacking the city completely, burning the city and destroying the city. Just to make it a ruinous heap. To make it uninhabitable, as this was the third time they had to come back because of rebellion.

Jer 52:13 He burned the house of the LORD and the king's house; all the houses of Jerusalem, that is, all the houses of the great, he burned with fire. (Jer 21:10) For I have set My face against this city for adversity and not for good," says the LORD. "It shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire." (Jer 34:2, 22) "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: 'Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah and tell him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire. [22] Behold, I will command,' says the LORD, 'and cause them to return to this city. They will fight against it and take it and burn it with fire; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation without inhabitant.' "

- ***He burned the house of the LORD!*** We have an account of the woeful havoc that was made by the Chaldean army, a month after the city was taken, under the command of Nebuzaradan, who was ***captain of the guard***, or general of the army.. Nebuzaradan was chief of those soldiers, but, in the execution he did, we have reason to fear he had no eye to God, but he served the king of Babylon and his own designs. He laid the temple in ashes, having first plundered it of everything, that was valuable, which has not been taken in the two previous invasions. He ***burned the house of the Lord***, that holy and beautiful house, where their fathers praised Him. He burnt the royal palace, probably that which Solomon built after he had built the temple, which was, ever since, ***the king's house***. He burnt ***all the houses of Jerusalem***, that is, all the houses of the great men.
- **Today when you go to Jerusalem and** walk down the path from the area just outside of the dung gate to the Spring of Gihon, you will see the excavations that were done about forty years ago, by Professor Shiloh. You will see there a layer of ash about four to six inches. That ash is the remains of some of the houses. It gives you a rather awesome feeling. Looking at that ash and realizing that those are the very ashes that are spoken about here.
- **Another interesting discovery in these diggings there on Ophel, was a seal of Gedaliah, the son of Shaphan**, who is mentioned here in Jeremiah as one of the scribes, like a notary public, and every scribe had his own seal. Once again archeology uncovered an interesting confirmation, of even the names that are mentioned in the book of Jeremiah. The interesting thing is, the archeologist will discover something, and then they will go to the bible to find out what they discovered. The bible becomes the source, or the reference book for the archeologists, in their work there in the Holy Land.
- **Idolatry - One further thing discovered and confirmed.** Jeremiah was citing the idolatry of Judah. The people were going to the temple, true, but Jeremiah was saying, “Your houses are filled with idols”, and he was crying out against their worship of idols. In the diggings, they discovered in the places where the houses were, hundreds and hundreds of little idols. Idols of Ashtoreth, who was the female goddess of fertility, who was represented in sort of a pornographic type of idol.

Jer 52:14 *And all the army of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down all the walls of Jerusalem all around. (Neh 1:3-4) And they said to me, "The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province are there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire." [4] So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.*

- **They broke down all the walls of Jerusalem!** They came back and just systematically dismantled the wall and broke it down. Thus, the well defended city was made a ruin! There will be not more rebellions!

Jer 52:15 *Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive some of the poor people, the rest of the people who remained in the city, the defectors who had deserted to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the craftsmen.*

Jer 52:16 *But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left some of the poor of the land as vinedressers and farmers.*

- **He carried away many into captivity.** He took away *some of the poor of the people*, of the people in the city, for *the poor of the land*. He left for *vinedressers and farmers*, just to take care of the vineyards. He also carried off *the rest of the people who remained in the city*, that had escaped the sword and famine, and the deserters, such as he thought fit, or rather such as God thought fit!

Jer 52:17 *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.*

- **The bronze pillars.** When Solomon built the temple, there were those two large pillars of bronze, with the capitals and the pomegranates. These they broke in pieces and **carried them to Babylon**. Two items of note regarding the pillars are that they represented much valuable bronze and that they were very beautiful! The big **bronze Sea** that was built by Solomon, and set upon the twelve oxen, was also broken up and taken to Babylon as part of the loot.

Jer 52:18 *They also took away the pots, the shovels, the trimmers, the bowls, the spoons, and all the bronze utensils with which the priests ministered.*

Jer 52:19 *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.*

- **Utensils with which the priest ministered.** Possibly in accordance with 'God's leading, the Babylonian army had not taken previously taken these items used in the priestly ministry, but now in this third invasion, they are going to take everything and burn the temple! The larger items were broken up in order to make them portable.
- **This action also shows the accuracy of Jeremiah's prophecy and the falseness of the false prophet, Hananiah** who said the yoke of Babylon would be broken and that the vessels taken during the previous invasions would be returned within two full years. (**Jer 28:1, 3**) *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,*
- **[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.** Here is another example of the detail in God's prophecy being absolutely accurate! Just as God declared, so it came to pass!

Jer 52:20 *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.*

- **The bronze of all these articles was beyond measure.** There was so much bronze, you could not weigh it. It was beyond measure! It was too much to weigh when it was brought in, (**2Ch 4:18**) *And Solomon had all these articles made in such great abundance that the weight of the*

bronze was not determined. Now, as it is being taken out, it is too much to be determined as well!

Jer 52:21 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.

Jer 52:22 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.

Jer 52:23 There were ninety-six pomegranates on the sides; all the pomegranates, all around on the network, were one hundred.

- **The height of each pillar was eighteen cubits!** A cubit is about eighteen inches, so the columns themselves were about twenty-seven feet tall! On top of them were the capitals adding another seven and a half feet. A beautiful network of pomegranates **all the way around** encircled the eighteen-foot circumference of the pillars.

The People Taken Captive to Babylonia –

(Jer 1:3) It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the **carrying away of Jerusalem captive** in the fifth month. **(Jer 13:19)** The cities of the South shall be shut up, And no one shall open them; Judah shall be carried away captive, all of it; It shall be wholly **carried away captive**. **(Jer 20:4)** For thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and your eyes shall see it. I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall **carry them captive** to Babylon and slay them with the sword.

Jer 52:24 The captain of the guard took **Seraiah the chief priest, Zephaniah the second priest, and the three doorkeepers**. **(Ezr 7:1)** Now after these things, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of **Seraiah**, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah,

- **Seraiah the chief priest.** This is not the **Seraiah**, the son of Neriah that Jeremiah sent to Babylon with the prophecy of the destruction of Babylon that he threw in the river Euphrates, tied on a stone. This is not the same **Seraiah** but is the son of Azariah. **Seraiah** was a common name. This one was one of the chief priests at the time.

Jer 52:25 He also took out of the city an officer who had charge of the men of war, seven men of the king's close associates (likely his personal guard) who were found in the city, the principal scribe of the army who mustered the people of the land (the chief military leaders), and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the midst of the city. (the chief people of the land.)

Jer 52:26 And Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took these and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah.

- **Brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah** to know his mind concerning them. How they should be disposed of; and for him to pass sentence on them, just as he had done on the king of Judah, his sons, and his princes, in the same place.

Jer 52:27 Then the king of Babylon struck them and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. Thus Judah was carried away captive from its own land.

- **The king of Babylon struck them and put them to death at Riblah**, these being such, no doubt, who obstinately defended the city, and persuaded the prince and people not to surrender the city into the hand of the Chaldeans. Therefore, they were put to death in cold blood. **Thus, Judah was carried away captive out of his own land**, at different times, of which this was the completion; and of which an account is given, even of the number of the captives at various times.
- **Judah was carried away captive out of his own land.** Here is an account of two captivities, which we had before, one in the seventh year of Nebuchadnezzar - the same with that which is

said to be in his eighth year in 2 Kings, another in his eighteenth year, the same with that which is said to be in his nineteenth year in 2 Kings).

Jer 52:28 These are the people whom Nebuchadnezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year (about 597 B.C.), three thousand and twenty-three Jews;

- **The stages of deportation to Babylon include:** (1) in 605 B.C. under Jehoiakim which marked the beginning of the seventy years of exile; (2) in 597 B.C. under Jehoiachin; (3) in 586 B.C. under Zedekiah; and (4) a mopping-up campaign in 582-81 B.C.

Jer 52:29 in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar (about 586 B.C.) he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred and thirty-two persons;

- **The sums of the captives to seem small** in comparison to all the residue of the people carried away, one would think there should be more than 832. Some expositors have thought that these accounts being joined to the story of the putting to death of the great men at Riblah, those that are said here were to be carried away were **put to death** as rebels.

Jer 52:30 in the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar (about 582 B.C.), Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Jews seven hundred and forty-five persons. All the persons were four thousand six hundred.

- **Of a third captivity, not mentioned before**, which was in the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar, four years after the destruction of Jerusalem. Then **Nebuzaradan** came, and **carried away** 745 Jews, possibly in revenge of the murder of Gedaliah, which was another rebellion against the king of Babylon, and that those who were now taken were helped Ishmael in that murder, and were not only carried away, but put to death for it; yet this is uncertain.
- **All the persons were four thousand six hundred.** If this be the sum total of the captives, it may seem strange how they were reduced from what they had been mentioned in 2nd Kings. It may be that this lower number is that of only adult males of those in good health, with capabilities to be usable in Babylon.

Jehoiachin Released from Prison – This is about 21 years later than the preceding verse 30.

Jer 52:31 Now it came to pass in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah (560 B.C.), in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth day of the month, that Evil (meaning foolish)-Merodach king of Babylon, in the first year of his reign, lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah and brought him out of prison.

- **Now Jehoiachin was carried away captive 37 years earlier (597 B.C.)**. He had been in prison in Babylon, during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. When Nebuchadnezzar died, his son known as Evil Merodach, took over the throne, and when he did, he brought Jehoiachin out of the prison. The Jews have a tradition, that Nebuchadnezzar, after seven years' madness, coming to himself, and to his kingdom, and understanding that his son Evil-Merodach had rejoiced at his madness, cast him into prison, where he contracted a friendship with Jeconiah. When he came to the throne, upon the death of his father, released him. Others think that Jeconiah being a handsome young man, when he was brought a captive to Babylon, and about the age of this prince, he took a liking to him, and, pitying his case, showed him this favor, as soon as he had an opportunity.
- **Others think this was simply an act of the grace of God!** Jehoiachin, like Judah has sinned, yet God in His grace and mercy, possibly as a foreshadowing of the promise to Judah that after 70 years of captivity in Babylon, they would be brought out of captivity!

Jer 52:32 And he spoke kindly to him and gave him a more prominent seat than those of the kings who were with him in Babylon.

- **All of the captive kings were there, and he set his throne above** the others, partly for the glory of the Babylonish monarch. Jehoiachin's throne was higher and more grand and stately than the rest, to show the particular respect the king of Babylon had for him.

Jer 52:33 So Jehoiachin changed from his prison garments, and he ate bread regularly before the king all the days of his life.

- **Changed from his prison garments** - He took off the stripes. and put on clothes more fitting to appear in the presence of the king and his court.

Jer 52:34 And as for his provisions, there was a regular ration given him by the king of Babylon, a portion for each day until the day of his death, all the days of his life.

- **Jehoiachin's final days in Babylon were not too bad.** We are not told how long he lived after this. He was now fifty-five years old. It is certain he did not live to Judah's return from the captivity.

Application: Lessons to be Learned from Jeremiah:

God says that there are many things that you can be sure about:

- **You can be sure that your sins will find you out.**
- **You can be sure that what you sow you are also going to reap.** If you sow to the flesh, then you are going to reap of the flesh. If you sow to the Spirit, then you are going to reap of the Spirit. (*Gal 6:7*) *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.* Sin is always destructive! Repentance is so important! Failure to repent leads to judgment!

The Hidden Line (The Destiny of Men) by Joseph Addison Alexander (1809-1860)

There is a time, we know not when, A point we know not where,

That marks the destiny of men To glory or despair.

There is a line by us unseen, That crosses every path;

The hidden boundary between God's patience and His wrath.

Oh, where is this mysterious born By which our path is crossed;

Beyond which God Himself hath sworn, That he who goes is lost.

How far may we go on in sin? How long will God forbear?

Where does hope end, and where begin The confines of despair?

An answer from the skies is sent, "Ye that from God depart,

While it is called today, repent, And harden not your heart."

- **You can be sure that God will keep His word.** That which God has declared, shall surely come to pass. You cannot escape it. Never fight against God! He always wins!

God has promised:

- **God has promised salvation, eternal life, for those who will surrender their lives to Him!**
- **God has promised eternal judgement to those who reject and refuse to surrender to Him!**
- **You can be sure that one day, God's word shall come to pass.** Even as Jeremiah has written of these things, and later on, they happened, exactly as prophesied. Even though the predictions sometimes seem, perhaps contradictory. "Zedekiah is going to be taken as a captive to Babylon, but he will never see it." When it was fulfilled, they understood it. As God's word is being fulfilled, we understand more and more each day of what is happening in the world around us.

God has giving us clear instructions:

- **We are to be anticipating His second coming! We are to look up!**
- **To be obedient to His word! (*Luk 21:28*) *Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near. The Lord is coming soon!***
- **Let us just get ready and prepare, your redemption is drawing near! Watch and be ready!**

Closing Song:

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC (4:51)

I Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored, He has loosed the fateful lightening of His terrible swift sword. His truth is marching on. (Chorus) Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

2 I have seen him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps. They have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps I have read his righteous sentence in the dim and flaring lamps. His day is marching on. (Chorus)

*3 In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me: As **He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, While God is marching on.** (Chorus) (2x) Amen. Amen.*

Closing Prayer:

Read Matthew Chapters 1& 2