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God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Various information and topics that help the reader of the Bible understand the apostles and the Lord Jesus Christ's teachings.

Jeremiah 24.

(2010).

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Teach it, don't demand it.

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Jeremiah 24.

The following is a brief overview of the main topics.
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Judah is taken into Babylon.

Jeremiah 24:1 ----- ¹After Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had taken into exile from Jerusalem Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, together with the officials of Judah, the craftsmen, and the metal workers, and had brought them to Babylon, the LORD showed me this vision: behold, two baskets of figs placed before the temple of the LORD.

Jeconiah; he was the son of Jehoiakim and grandson of Josiah. He began to reign over Judah when 18 years of age, but after three months was captured by Nebuchadnezzar.

Jehoiachin; (means Jehovah establishes) Jeremiah calls him "Coniah" three times, under the threatening shadow of Nebuchadnezzar, Jehoiachin became king and in his three months of power, "he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah according to all that his father had done." King Nebuchadnezzar brought him to Babylon where he remained a captive the rest of his life. When Nebuchadnezzar died and his son Evil-merodach, succeeded him he took Jehoiachin from prison and "spoke kindly to him and exalted his throne above the throne of the vassal kings that were with him in Babylon. After thirty-seven years of captivity Jehoiachin was given a daily allowance of food the rest of his life.

Jehoiakim; was originally named Eliakim he was the second son of Josiah the godly king of Judah and the elder half-brother of Shallum (Jehoahaz). When Josiah died the people of Judah passed by Eliakim (Jehoiakim) and made his youngest brother Shallum (Jehoahaz) king after Josiah then when Shallum died the king of Egypt took Eliakim and changed his name to Jehoiakim and made him king over Jerusalem. Jehoiakim was an oppressive and thoroughly godless king and died in disgrace, "buried with the burial of an ass" (Jer 22:19).

A Basket of Very Good Figs and a Basket of Very Bad Figs.

Jeremiah 24:2-3 ----- ²One basket had very good figs, like first-ripe figs, but the other basket had very bad figs, so bad that they could not be eaten. ³And the LORD said to me, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" I said, "Figs, the good figs very good, and the bad figs very bad, so bad that they cannot be eaten."

Note; Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has conquered Jerusalem and taken the king and those in authority, the officials and the tradespeople people of Jerusalem into captivity to Babylon.

Jeremiah is still at Jerusalem and has a vision; of a good Basket full of figs and a bad basket full of figs standing before the Temple of the LORD.

The Basket of Very Good Figs.

Jeremiah 24:4-7 ----- ⁴Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁵Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Like these good figs, so I will regard as good the exiles from Judah, whom I have sent away from this place to the land of the Chaldeans. ⁶I will set my eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land. I will build them up, and not tear them down; I will plant them, and not uproot them. ⁷I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart.

God through Jeremiah is telling the people of Judah that remain in the city of Jerusalem that it is God's will for them to submit to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and go into captivity to Babylon.

If they do this God will: -

- Regard them as good figs.
- Set His eyes on them for good.
- Bring them back to Jerusalem.
- Build them up and not tear them down.
- Establish them and not uproot them.
- Give them a heart to know that He is the LORD.
- Be their God and they will be His people.
- Cause them to return to Him with their whole heart.

All of these promises were fulfilled for those who went into captivity: -

Babylon invaded Jerusalem and took its inhabitants (the Two Tribes of Judah) into captivity later Babylon conquered Assyria who had previously taken Israel (the Ten Tribes in the land of Samaria) captive. Israel and Judah were under Babylonian rule for 70 years. They went into captivity to Babylon as two rebellious nations who had turned from God to idols and who were even sacrificing their own children to pagan gods.

While in captivity God moulded them like a master potter moulds a beautiful clay jar. They went into Babylon as two unfaithful nations that had turned away from the LORD to idols and other gods. Seventy years later, Cyrus (King of Persia) who the LORD called His Shepherd (Isaiah 44:28) gave permission to Israel to return to Jerusalem. Under Ezra and Nehemiah God brought Israel back to their beloved City Jerusalem as one nation faithful to only one God, the LORD their God, the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob (Israel never turned to pagan gods again).

The Basket of Very Bad Figs.

Jeremiah 24:8-10 ----- ⁸"But thus says the LORD: Like the bad figs that are so bad they cannot be eaten, so will I treat Zedekiah the king of Judah, his officials, the remnant of Jerusalem who remain in this land, and those who dwell in the land of Egypt. ⁹I will make them a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a reproach, a byword, a taunt, and a curse in all the places where I shall drive them. ¹⁰And I will send sword, famine, and pestilence upon them, until they shall be utterly destroyed from the land that I gave to them and their fathers."

Those who remain at Jerusalem and who do not submit to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and go into captivity to Babylon.

God will: -

- Treat them like bad figs that are so bad they cannot be eaten.
- Make them a disgrace and all the surrounding nations will mock them.
- Scatter them from off their land.
- Send sword, famine, and pestilence, until they are utterly destroyed.

Zedekiah; (means, Jehovah is righteous) he was the son of Josiah he reigned 11 years and was the last king of Judah. Because of the wickedness of Judah, God finally brought on the predicted Babylonian captivity. King Nebuchadnezzar came to Jerusalem, took Jehoiachin Judah's king, captive to Babylon and made Mattaniah, whose name he changed to Zedekiah, king in his place.

Nebuchadnezzar having taken away the men of influence from Judah, felt the remaining Jews would be easily subdued, but foolishly Zedekiah, rebelled against

the king of Babylon, and as a result, he was taken by Nebuchadnezzar and bound. Zedekiah's sons were killed before his eyes and his own eyes put out. He was then taken to Babylon where he died.

A Brief History of those who remained at Jerusalem: -

Against the word of the LORD some Jews remained at Jerusalem and in the land of Judah, but out of fear of the king of Babylon sending his warriors against them they later fled to Egypt for protection (against Jeremiah's advice and the word of the LORD). Babylon later came against Egypt and conquered it. Many of the Jews who had fled there were killed during the battles and those who survived were taken into Babylonian captivity and joined the others who had previously been taken captive.

End.