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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 37.

(2010).

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Teach it, don't demand it.

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Jeremiah 37.

The following is a brief overview of the main topics.
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History at this Time.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon has conquered Jerusalem and taken the men of influence from Judah and Jehoiachin Judah's king, captive to Babylon and made Mattaniah, whose name he changed to Zedekiah, king in his place.

All those without influence, authority and power Nebuchadnezzar has left at Jerusalem leaving king Zedekiah as king over them (Jeremiah is with this group at Jerusalem).

Zedekiah King of Judah asks Jeremiah to Pray for Judah.

Jeremiah 37:1-3 ----- ¹Zedekiah the son of Josiah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah, reigned instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim. ²But neither he nor his servants nor the people of the land listened to the words of the LORD that he spoke through Jeremiah the prophet. ³King Zedekiah sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah, and Zephaniah the priest, the son of Maaseiah, to Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "Please pray for us to the LORD our God."

Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has made Zedekiah the king over the land of Judah, but to their own destruction neither Zedekiah nor the people of Judah have listened to the words of the LORD that Jeremiah spoke to them, yet Zedekiah sends two men to ask Jeremiah to pray for them.

Note; Nebuchadnezzar has not conquered the city of Jerusalem yet.

The Babylonians Withdraw from Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 37:4-5 ----- ⁴Now Jeremiah was still going in and out among the people, for he had not yet been put in prison. ⁵The army of Pharaoh had come out of Egypt. And when the Chaldeans who were besieging Jerusalem heard news about them, they withdrew from Jerusalem.

Chaldeans; is the country of which Babylon was the capital, and which conquered Judah and carried its inhabitants into captivity, it is sometimes translated Babylon or Babylonians. The Chaldeans eventually established the Babylonian dynasty in the country (called Iraq today). At this time the Egyptians were coming up to Jerusalem to help those under Babylonian authority that were still living within the city walls (v7). Nebuchadnezzar heard they were coming and withdraw from Jerusalem.

Notice.

Jeremiah is not yet in prison, he is still able to mingle with the people even though he is under guard. Being under guard means Jeremiah was able to walk in the area referred to as the court of the guard or the court of the prison, it refers to a limited area that allows those under guard to walk freely around and mingle with the people, while prison refers to a dark room and sometimes a deep hole in the ground where there is no freedom of space for the one imprisoned.

The LORD tells Jeremiah what to say to Zedekiah.

Jeremiah 37:6-10 ----- ⁶Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet: ⁷"Thus says the LORD, God of Israel: Thus shall you say to the king of Judah who sent you to me to inquire of me, 'Behold, Pharaoh's army that came to help you is about to return to Egypt, to its own land. ⁸And the Chaldeans shall come back and fight against this city. They shall capture it and

burn it with fire. ⁹Thus says the LORD, Do not deceive yourselves, saying, "The Chaldeans will surely go away from us," for they will not go away. ¹⁰For even if you should defeat the whole army of Chaldeans who are fighting against you, and there remained of them only wounded men, every man in his tent, they would rise up and burn this city with fire."

Zedekiah king of Judah believes Babylon will go away from Jerusalem.

Jeremiah tells Zedekiah: -

- The Egyptians that were coming to help them will return to Egypt.
- King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon will come back and fight against Jerusalem.
- The Babylonians will capture Jerusalem and burn it.

To convince Zedekiah of the certainty of the LORD'S word Jeremiah; says even if the entire army of Nebuchadnezzar was defeated and there remained only wounded men they would rise up and burn Jerusalem.

Jeremiah leaves Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 37:11-15 ---- ¹¹Now when the Chaldean army had withdrawn from Jerusalem at the approach of Pharaoh's army, ¹²Jeremiah set out from Jerusalem to go to the land of Benjamin to receive his portion there among the people. ¹³When he was at the Benjamin Gate, a sentry there named Irijah the son of Shelemiah, son of Hananiah, seized Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "You are deserting to the Chaldeans." ¹⁴And Jeremiah said, "It is a lie; I am not deserting to the Chaldeans." But Irijah would not listen to him, and seized Jeremiah and brought him to the officials. ¹⁵And the officials were enraged at Jeremiah, and they beat him and imprisoned him in the house of Jonathan the secretary, for it had been made a prison.

Poor Jeremiah, he was probably looking forward to leaving Zedekiah and all his corrupt officials and peacefully heading off to the land of Benjamin, but Irijah seizes him takes him to the officials and accuses him of deserting to the Babylonian so the kings officials had him beaten and put in prison.

Notice; the prison is in in the house of Jonathan the secretary of the king.

A Brief Summary of the People Mentioned in this Chapter.

Coniah; (is also called Jehoiachin). Under the threatening shadow of Nebuchadnezzar Coniah became king and in his three months of power, "he did that which was. 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 Coniah from prison and exalted his throne above the throne of the vassal kings that were with him in Babylon. After thirty-seven years of captivity Coniah, was given a daily allowance of food the rest of his life.

Hananiah; means, Jehovah is gracious, he was father of Zedekiah, who was one of Jehoiakim's princes.

Irijah; means Jehovah sees he was the son of Shelemiah and a captain of the guard, who at the time of the Babylonian siege arrested Jeremiah at the gate of Benjamin, accusing him of leaving Jerusalem to desert to the enemy (Jer 37:13).

Jehoiakim; was the second son of Josiah the godly king of Judah and father of Jeconiah. The king of Egypt made Jehoiakim king over Jerusalem, he was an oppressive and thoroughly godless king and died in disgrace, "buried with the burial of an ass" (Jer 22:19).

Johanan; means, Jehovah has been gracious, he was the son of Kareah, a captain who with his men submitted to Gedaliah who had been appointed by Nebuchadnezzar as governor over Judah. Johanan warned Gedaliah of Ishamael's plot to murder him and when Gedaliah paid no heed and was assassinated, Johanan tried to avenge his death. Against the advice of Jeremiah, Johanan and other Jewish leaders led the remnant of Judah down into Egypt, taking Jeremiah with them (Jer 40:13-14) (Jer 41:11-15).

Zedekiah; means, Jehovah is righteous he was the son of Hanaaniah and a prince of Israel in the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah. He was one of the kings officials who had all the words of Jeremiah read to him that Baruch had written on a scroll (Jer 36:12-13).

Zephaniah; means, Hidden of Jehovah he was a priest and the son of Maaseiah, whom Zedekiah sent to inquire of Jeremiah, the Babylonian captain of the guard took him to Riblah where Nebuchadnezzar had him slain. (2 Kings 25:18-21) (Jeremiah 21:1).

End.