

Chapter 29

(1) Now these *are* the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the remainder of the elders who were carried away captives, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon;

(2) (After Jeconiah the king, and the queen, and the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the carpenters, and the smiths, were taken from Jerusalem;)

(3) By the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon) saying,

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(4) This is what the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts, the God of Israel says, to all who are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon;

(5) Build houses, and live *in them*; and plant gardens, and eat their fruit;

(6) Take for yourselves wives, and father sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that you may be increased there, and not diminished.

(7) And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray to the LORD {Jehovah} for it: because in its peace you will have peace.

(8) Because this is what the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies; multitudes}, the God of Israel says; Do not let your prophets and your diviners, who *are* in your midst, deceive you, neither listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed.

(9) Because they prophesy falsely to you in My Name: I have not sent them, says the LORD {Jehovah}.

(10) Because this is what the LORD {Jehovah} says, That after seventy years^a are accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform My good word towards you, in causing you to return to this place.

(11) Because I know the thoughts that I think towards you, says the LORD {Jehovah}, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

(12) Then you will call upon Me, and you will go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

(13) And you will seek Me, and find *Me*, when you will search for Me with all your heart.

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29:10a – Jer. 25:11,12

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(14) And I will be found by you, says the LORD {Jehovah}: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD {Jehovah}; and I will bring you again into the place where I caused you to be carried away captive.

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(15) Because you have said, The LORD {Jehovah} has raised up for us prophets in Babylon;

(16) *Know* that this is what the LORD {Jehovah} says of the king who sits upon the throne of David, and of all the people who live in this city, *and* of your brothers who have not gone forth with you into captivity;

(17) This is what the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies; multitudes} says; Indeed, I will send upon them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like bad figs, that cannot be eaten, they are so bad.

(18) And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and a hissing, and a reproach, among all the nations where I have driven them:

(19) Because they have not listened to My words, says the LORD {Jehovah}, which I sent to them by My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending *them*; but you would not hear, says the LORD {Jehovah}.