

## Jeremiah 21

King James Version (KJV)

**21** The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, when king Zedekiah sent unto him Pashur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying, **(This is a different Pashur from the last chapter)**

<sup>2</sup> Enquire, I pray thee, of the LORD for us; for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon maketh war against us; if so be that the LORD will deal with us according to all his wondrous works, that he may go up from us. **(They have been insulting God with their idol worship, and false religions taken from the heathen. But now that they are being attacked, they think God will save them. God will save the people that have been faithful <Daniel, etc...> but the country of Judah is doomed as a nation. Jeremiah has warned them over and over, and they won't listen)**

<sup>3</sup> Then said Jeremiah unto them, Thus shall ye say to Zedekiah: **(Zedekiah will be blinded by Nebuchadnezzar, taken to Babylon and killed)**

<sup>4</sup> Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, wherewith ye fight against the king of Babylon, and against the Chaldeans, which besiege you without the walls, and I will assemble them into the midst of this city. **(God has judged Judah. It will fall)**

<sup>5</sup> And I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath. **(God will see to it that the Chaldeans prevail against Judah)**

<sup>6</sup> And I will smite the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast: they shall die of a great pestilence. **(Those who rebelled against God will die. The faithful will prosper in Babylon during the captivity)**

<sup>7</sup> And afterward, saith the LORD, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life: and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, neither have pity, nor have mercy.

<sup>8</sup> And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death. (God gave them a choice; obey God and live or obey Zedekiah and die with him)

<sup>9</sup> He that abideth in this city shall die by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence: but he that goeth out, and falleth to the Chaldeans that besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be unto him for a prey. (God even told them which road to choose. They refused to listen)

(Today, everyone still has a choice; obey God and live; fight against God's decree and die. Antichrist is coming. Testify against him and live, side with him and die)

<sup>10</sup> For I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, saith the LORD: it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

<sup>11</sup> And touching the house of the king of Judah, say, Hear ye the word of the LORD;

<sup>12</sup> O house of David, thus saith the LORD; Execute judgment in the morning, and deliver him that is spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor, lest my fury go out like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings. (They brought it upon themselves. God is telling Zedekiah to judge honestly and do what's right by God and by the people)

<sup>13</sup> Behold, I am against thee, O inhabitant of the valley, and rock of the plain, saith the LORD; which say, Who shall come down against us? or who shall enter into our habitations? (Jerusalem sat partly in a valley and partly on a mont. They didn't believe Jeremiah. They didn't believe God. They thought they would go on living in Jerusalem, in their idolatry and perversion)

<sup>14</sup> But I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, saith the LORD: and I will kindle a fire in the forest thereof, and it shall devour all things round about it. (Any work they do against God's Word will amount to nothing)