

Zedekiah Rebels Against Nebuchadnezzar (c. 590 BC)

2 Kings 24:20	Jeremiah 52:3	2 Chronicles 36:13–16
<p>20 For it happened because of the anger of Yahweh, in Jerusalem and in Judah, until they were cast out from his presence. Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.</p>	<p>3 For because of the anger of Yahweh this happened in Jerusalem and Judah until his casting them from his presence. And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.</p>	<p>13b He [Zedekiah] stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to Yahweh, the God of Israel. 14 All the leaders of the priests and the people likewise increased in unfaithfulness according to all the detestable things of the nations. And they polluted the house of Yahweh that he had consecrated in Jerusalem. 15 And Yahweh, the God of their ancestors, had repeatedly and persistently sent to them by the hand of his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place. 16 But they were mocking the messengers of God and despising his words and scoffing at his prophets until the wrath of Yahweh rose against his people until there was no remedy. 13a And he also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God.</p>

Nebuchadnezzar’s Third and Final Siege of Jerusalem (January 27, 589 BC)

2 Kings 25:1	Jeremiah 39:1	Jeremiah 52:4	2 Chronicles 36:17a
<p>1 It happened that in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth of the month, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came, he and his army, against Jerusalem. He encamped against it and built siege works against it all around.</p>	<p>1 In the ninth year of Zedekiah, the king of Judah, in the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem and laid siege to it.</p>	<p>4 And then in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth <i>day</i> of the month, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came against Jerusalem, he and all his army. And they laid siege to it, and built siege works against it all around.</p>	<p>17a Therefore he [God] brought against them the king of the Chaldeans,</p>

Ezekiel’s Prophecy to the Exiles—Jerusalem’s Final Judgment (January 27, 589 BC)

Ezekiel 24

The Boiling Pot

1 And the word of Yahweh came to me in the ninth year, in the tenth month, on the tenth *day* of the month, saying,
 2 “Son of man, write for yourself the name of the day, this very day. The king of Babylon laid siege to Jerusalem on exactly this day!
 3 And deliver a proverb to the rebellious house, and you must say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Place the pot! Place *it* and also pour water into it.
 4 Gather its pieces to it, every good piece, thigh and shoulder, fill it *with* choice bones;
 5 take the choicest of the flock, and also pile the bones under it; boil it vigorously; indeed, its bones boiled in the midst of it.” ’
 6 Therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Woe *to* the city of bloodguilt! A pot that *has* its rust in it; its rust did not go out from it.

Bring it out piece by piece; one is as good as another.

7 For her blood was in the midst of her; she put it on a bare rock; she *did* not pour it on the ground to cover it *with* dust.

8 To stir up rage, to avenge myself *through* vengeance, I placed its blood on *the* barrenness of a rock, so that it may not be covered.”

9 Therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Woe *to* the city of bloodguilt! I, even I, will make the pile of wood great!

10 Pile up the logs; kindle the fire; finish *cooking* the meat, and mix *in* the spices, and let the bones be burned.

11 And make it stand empty upon its burning coals so that it may become hot, and its copper may become molten and be melted in the midst of it, *so that* its uncleanness and its rust be consumed.

12 *Through* effort she has caused weariness; its thick rust went not *out of* it. Its rust! Into *the* fire *with* its rust!

13 In your uncleanness *is* obscene conduct, because I cleansed you, but you were not clean from your uncleanness; you will not be clean again until I fully vent my rage on you.

14 I, Yahweh, I have spoken. *It is* coming, and I did *it*; I will not disregard, and I will not take pity, and I will not reconsider. According to your ways and according to your deeds they will judge you!” declares the Lord Yahweh.

The Death of Ezekiel’s Wife

15 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

16 “Son of man, look! I *am* taking from you what is pleasing to your eyes with a plague, but you shall not mourn, and you shall not weep, and your tears shall not run down.

17 Sigh in silence *for the* dead; you shall not make a mourning ceremony. Bind your turban on you, and you must put your sandals on your feet. You must not cover your *upper* lip, and the bread of mourners you shall not eat.”

18 And I spoke to the people in the morning, and my wife died in the evening, and I did in the morning just as I was commanded.

19 And the people said to me, “Will you not make known to us what these *things* that you are doing *mean* for us?”

20 And I said to them that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

21 “Say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Look! I *will be* profaning my sanctuary, the pride of your strength *and* the delight of your eyes and the object of your own affection; and your sons and your daughters whom you left behind will fall by the sword,

22 and you shall do just as I did: You shall not cover your *upper* lip, and you shall not eat *the* bread of mourners.

23 And your turban *must be* on your heads, and your sandals *must be* on your feet. You shall not mourn, and you shall not weep, but you shall waste away because of your iniquities, and you shall groan to one another.

24 And Ezekiel will be to you as a sign; everything that he did you shall do; and when it comes you will know that I *am* the Lord Yahweh.

A Fugitive Will Bring News of Jerusalem’s Fall to Ezekiel (fulfilled in Ezekiel 33:21)

25 “And you, son of man, *will it* not *be that* on the day when I take from them their stronghold, the joy of their glory, the delight of their eyes, and the longing of their inner self, their sons and daughters—

26 on that day a survivor will come to you with the news.

27 On that day your mouth shall be opened at the arrival of the fugitive, and you shall speak, and you shall not be silent *any* longer, and you shall be to them as a sign, and they will know that I *am* Yahweh.”

Ezekiel’s Prophecy to the Exiles—Concerning the Nations Around Judah (January 27, 589 BC)

Ezekiel 25

Ammon

1 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face toward the Ammonites and prophesy against them,

3 and you must say to the Ammonites, ‘Hear the word of the Lord Yahweh! Thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Because of your saying, ‘Ah!’ to my sanctuary when it was profaned, and to the land of Israel when it was desolate, and to the house of Judah when they went into the exile,

4 therefore look! I *am* giving you to the people of the East as a possession, and they will set up their encampments in you, and they will make in you their dwelling places; they themselves will eat your fruit and they themselves will drink your milk.

5 And I will make Rabbah as a pasture of camels and the Ammonites as a haunt of flocks, and they will know that I *am* Yahweh.” ”

6 For thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Because of clapping your hand and stamping with your foot, and *because* you rejoiced in yourself with all of your malice over the land of Israel,

7 therefore look! I stretched out my hand against you, and I will give you as plunder to the nations, and I will cut you off from the peoples, and I will destroy you from the countries, and I will wipe you out, and you will know that I *am* Yahweh.”

Moab

8 Thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Because of Moab and Seir saying, ‘The house of Judah *is* like all of the nations,’

9 therefore, look! I *am* opening the side of Moab from the cities on its frontier, *the* glory of *the* land: Beth Jeshimoth, Baal Meon,

and Kiriathaim.

10 I will give it to the people of the East in addition to the Ammonites as a possession, so that the Ammonites will not be remembered among the nations.

11 And on Moab I will execute punishments, and they will know that I *am* Yahweh.”

Edom

12 Thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Because of the doings of Edom in avenging himself *with* vengeance for the house of Judah, and so they became very guilty and they avenged themselves on them,”

13 therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh: “so I will stretch out my hand against Edom and I will cut off from it *both* human and animal, and I will make it a ruin from Teman and Dedan; they will fall by the sword.

14 And I will exact my vengeance on Edom by the hand of my people Israel, and they will do in Edom according to my anger and according to my rage, and they will know my vengeance,” declares the Lord Yahweh.

Philistia

15 Thus says the Lord Yahweh: “Because of the acting of *the* Philistines in vengeance, so that they avenged themselves relentlessly with malice in themselves for destruction with everlasting hostility,

16 therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh: ‘Look! I *am* stretching out my hand against *the* Philistines, and I will cut off the Kerethites, and I will destroy the remainder of the seacoast.

17 And I will execute on them great vengeance with punishments of rage, and they will know that I *am* Yahweh when I exact my vengeance on them!”

Zedekiah Asks Jeremiah for Help (c. February 589 BC)

Jeremiah 21

Jeremiah’s Answer to Zedekiah

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur, the son of Malchiah, and Zephaniah, the son of Maaseiah, the priest, saying,

2 “Please inquire *of* Yahweh on behalf of us, for Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon *is* fighting against us. Perhaps Yahweh will do with us according to all his miraculous acts, so that he may go up from against us.”

3 Then Jeremiah said to them, “Thus you shall say to Zedekiah:

4 ‘Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel: “Look, I *am* about to turn back the weapons of war that *are* in your hands, *with* which you *are* fighting against them, the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans who are laying siege to you from outside the wall, and I will gather them into the center of this city.

5 And I myself will fight against you with outstretched hand, and with strong arm, and in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath.

6 And I will strike the inhabitants of this city, both humankind and animal; by a great plague they will die.

7 And afterward,” declares Yahweh, “I will give Zedekiah, the king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and those who remain in this city from the plague, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their lives, and he will strike them with *the* edge of *the* sword. He will not take pity on them, and he will not have compassion, nor will he show compassion.”

8 “And to this people you shall say, ‘Thus says Yahweh, “Look, I *am* setting before you the way of life and the way of death.

9 He who stays in this city will die by the sword, or by the famine, or by the plague. And he who goes out and goes over to the Chaldeans who are laying siege to you will live, and his life will be to him as booty.

10 For I have set my face against this city for evil and not for good,” declares Yahweh. It will be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he will burn it with fire.”

Warning to the House of David

11 “And to the house of the king of Judah, ‘Hear the word of Yahweh,

12 O house of David, thus says Yahweh,

“Execute judgment in the morning, justice,
and deliver *the* one who has been seized
from *the* hand of *the* oppressor,
lest my wrath goes forth like the fire and it burns,
and there is no *one who* quenches *it*
because of the evil of your deeds.

Warning to a Complacent City

13 Look, I *am* against you,

O inhabitants of the valley,
 O rock of the plain," declares Yahweh;
 "you who say, 'Who can descend against us,
 or who can enter into our hiding place?'

14 And I will punish you
 according to the fruit of your deeds," declares Yahweh,
 "And I will kindle a fire in its forest,
 and it will devour all its surroundings." "

Nebuchadnezzar Leaves Jerusalem to Deal with Pharaoh Hophra [Egypt] (589 BC)

Jeremiah 37:4–5

4 Now Jeremiah *was* coming and going out in the midst of the people and they had not put him *in* the house of imprisonment.
 5 And the army of Pharaoh had come out from Egypt, and the Chaldeans, who were laying siege to Jerusalem, heard their report and they withdrew from Jerusalem.

Hophra's Intervention Gives Zedekiah False Hope (589 BC)

Jeremiah 37:3, 6–10

3 And king Zedekiah sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, to Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "Please pray for us to Yahweh our God."
 6 And the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah the prophet, saying,
 7 "Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel, 'This is what you shall say to the king of Judah, who sent you to me to inquire *of* me, "Look, the army of Pharaoh, which set out to help you, *is* going to return to his land Egypt.
 8 And the Chaldeans will return, and they will fight against this city, and they will capture it, and they will burn it with fire."
 9 Thus says Yahweh: 'You must not deceive yourselves, saying, "Surely the Chaldeans will go from us," for they will not go.
 10 For *even* if you struck the whole army of *the* Chaldeans who are fighting against you, and *only* men pierced through remained among them, each one in his tent, they would rise up and they would burn this city with fire.'"

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