

Zedekiah Rebels Against Nebuchadnezzar (c. 590 BC)

2 Kings 24:20	Jeremiah 52:3	2 Chronicles 36:13–16
<p>20 For through the anger of the LORD <i>this</i> came about in Jerusalem and Judah until He cast them out from His presence. And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.</p>	<p>3 For through the anger of the LORD <i>this</i> came about in Jerusalem and Judah until He cast them out from His presence. And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.</p>	<p>13b But he [Zedekiah] stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD God of Israel. 14 Furthermore, all the officials of the priests and the people were very unfaithful <i>following</i> all the abominations of the nations; and they defiled the house of the LORD which He had sanctified in Jerusalem. 15 The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent <i>word</i> to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; 16 but they <i>continually</i> mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, until there was no remedy. 13a He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar who had made him swear <i>allegiance</i> 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 Now in the ninth year of his reign, on the tenth day of the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, camped against it and built a siege wall all around it.</p>	<p>1 Now when Jerusalem was captured in the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came to Jerusalem and laid siege to it;</p>	<p>4 Now it came about in the ninth year of his reign, on the tenth <i>day</i> of the tenth month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, camped against it and built a siege wall all around it.</p>	<p>17a Therefore He [God] brought up 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 the LORD came to me in the ninth year, in the tenth month, on the tenth of the month, saying,
 2 "Son of man, write the name of the day, this very day. The king of Babylon has laid siege to Jerusalem this very day.
 3 Speak a parable to the rebellious house and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,

"Put on the pot, put *it* on and also pour water in it;

- 4 Put in it the pieces,
 Every good piece, the thigh and the shoulder;
 Fill *it* with choice bones.

- 5 "Take the choicest of the flock,
 And also pile wood under the pot.
 Make it boil vigorously.

Also seethe its bones in it.”

6 ‘Therefore, thus says the Lord God,

“Woe to the bloody city,
To the pot in which there is rust
And whose rust has not gone out of it!
Take out of it piece after piece,
Without making a choice.

7 “For her blood is in her midst;
She placed it on the bare rock;
She did not pour it on the ground
To cover it with dust.

8 “That it may cause wrath to come up to take vengeance,
I have put her blood on the bare rock,
That it may not be covered.”

9 ‘Therefore, thus says the Lord God,

“Woe to the bloody city!
I also will make the pile great.

10 “Heap on the wood, kindle the fire,
Boil the flesh well
And mix in the spices,
And let the bones be burned.

11 “Then set it empty on its coals
So that it may be hot
And its bronze may glow
And its filthiness may be melted in it,
Its rust consumed.

12 “She has wearied *Me* with toil,
Yet her great rust has not gone from her;
Let her rust *be* in the fire!

13 “In your filthiness is lewdness.
Because I *would* have cleansed you,
Yet you are not clean,
You will not be cleansed from your filthiness again
Until I have spent My wrath on you.

14 I, the LORD, have spoken; it is coming and I will act. I will not relent, and I will not pity and I will not be sorry; according to your ways and according to your deeds I will judge you,” declares the Lord GOD.”

The Death of Ezekiel’s Wife

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

16 “Son of man, behold, I am about to take from you the desire of your eyes with a blow; but you shall not mourn and you shall not weep, and your tears shall not come.

17 Groan silently; make no mourning for the dead. Bind on your turban and put your shoes on your feet, and do not cover *your* mustache and do not eat the bread of men.”

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

19 The people said to me, “Will you not tell us what these things that you are doing mean for us?”

20 Then I said to them, “The word of the LORD came to me saying,

21 ‘Speak to the house of Israel, “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I am about to profane My sanctuary, the pride of your power, the desire of your eyes and the delight of your soul; and your sons and your daughters whom you have left behind will fall by the sword.

22 You will do as I have done; you will not cover *your* mustache and you will not eat the bread of men.

23 Your turbans will be on your heads and your shoes on your feet. You will not mourn and you will not weep, but you will rot away in your iniquities and you will groan to one another.

24 Thus Ezekiel will be a sign to you; according to all that he has done you will do; when it comes, then you will know that I am the Lord GOD.”

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

25 'As for you, son of man, will *it* not be on the day when I take from them their stronghold, the joy of their pride, the desire of their eyes and their heart's delight, their sons and their daughters,

26 that on that day he who escapes will come to you with information for *your* ears?

27 On that day your mouth will be opened to him who escaped, and you will speak and be mute no longer. Thus you will be a sign to them, and they will know that I am the LORD."

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

Ezekiel 25

Ammon

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

2 "Son of man, set your face toward the sons of Ammon and prophesy against them,

3 and say to the sons of Ammon, 'Hear the word of the Lord GOD! Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because you said, 'Aha!' against My sanctuary when it was profaned, and against the land of Israel when it was made desolate, and against the house of Judah when they went into exile,

4 therefore, behold, I am going to give you to the sons of the east for a possession, and they will set their encampments among you and make their dwellings among you; they will eat your fruit and drink your milk.

5 I will make Rabbah a pasture for camels and the sons of Ammon a resting place for flocks. Thus you will know that I am the LORD."

6 For thus says the Lord GOD, "Because you have clapped your hands and stamped your feet and rejoiced with all the scorn of your soul against the land of Israel,

7 therefore, behold, I have stretched out My hand against you and I will give you for spoil to the nations. And I will cut you off from the peoples and make you perish from the lands; I will destroy you. Thus you will know that I am the LORD."

Moab

8 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because Moab and Seir say, 'Behold, the house of Judah is like all the nations,'

9 therefore, behold, I am going to deprive the flank of Moab of *its* cities, of its cities which are on its frontiers, the glory of the land, Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon and Kiriathaim,

10 and I will give it for a possession along with the sons of Ammon to the sons of the east, so that the sons of Ammon will not be remembered among the nations.

11 Thus I will execute judgments on Moab, and they will know that I am the LORD."

Edom

12 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because Edom has acted against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and has incurred grievous guilt, and avenged themselves upon them,"

13 therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "I will also stretch out My hand against Edom and cut off man and beast from it. And I will lay it waste; from Teman even to Dedan they will fall by the sword.

14 I will lay My vengeance on Edom by the hand of My people Israel. Therefore, they will act in Edom according to My anger and according to My wrath; thus they will know My vengeance," declares the Lord GOD.

Philistia

15 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because the Philistines have acted in revenge and have taken vengeance with scorn of soul to destroy with everlasting enmity,"

16 therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I will stretch out My hand against the Philistines, even cut off the Cherethites and destroy the remnant of the seacoast.

17 I will execute great vengeance on them with wrathful rebukes; and they will know that I am the LORD when I lay My vengeance on them."'"

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

Jeremiah 21

Jeremiah's Answer to Zedekiah

1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur the son of Malchijah, and Zephaniah the priest, the son of Maaseiah, saying,

2 "Please inquire of the LORD on our behalf, for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon is warring against us; perhaps the LORD will deal with us according to all His wonderful acts, so that *the enemy* will withdraw from us."

3 Then Jeremiah said to them, "You shall say to Zedekiah as follows:

4 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel, "Behold, I am about to turn back the weapons of war which are in your hands, with which you

are warring against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans who are besieging you outside the wall; and I will gather them into the center of this city.

5 I Myself will war against you with an outstretched hand and a mighty arm, even in anger and wrath and great indignation.

6 I will also strike down the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast; they will die of a great pestilence.

7 Then afterwards," declares the LORD, "I will give over Zedekiah king of Judah and his servants and the people, even those who survive in this city from the pestilence, the sword and the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their foes and into the hand of those who seek their lives; and he will strike them down with the edge of the sword. He will not spare them nor have pity nor compassion."

8 "You shall also say to this people, 'Thus says the LORD, "Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death.

9 He who dwells in this city will die by the sword and by famine and by pestilence; but he who goes out and falls away to the Chaldeans who are besieging you will live, and he will have his own life as booty.

10 For I have set My face against this city for harm and not for good," declares the LORD. "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 "Then say to the household of the king of Judah, 'Hear the word of the LORD,

12 O house of David, thus says the LORD:

"Administer justice every morning;

And deliver the *person* who has been robbed from the power of *his* oppressor,

That My wrath may not go forth like fire

And burn with none to extinguish *it*,

Because of the evil of their deeds.

Warning to a Complacent City

13 "Behold, I am against you, O valley dweller,

O rocky plain," declares the LORD,

"You men who say, 'Who will come down against us?

Or who will enter into our habitations?'

14 "But I will punish you according to the results of your deeds," declares the LORD,

"And I will kindle a fire in its forest

That it may devour all its environs."""

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

Jeremiah 37:4–5

4 Now Jeremiah was *still* coming in and going out among the people, for they had not *yet* put him in the prison.

5 Meanwhile, Pharaoh's army had set out from Egypt; and when the Chaldeans who had been besieging Jerusalem heard the report about them, they lifted the *siege* from Jerusalem.

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

Jeremiah 37:3, 6–10

3 Yet King Zedekiah sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, to Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "Please pray to the LORD our God on our behalf."

6 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

7 "Thus says the LORD God of Israel, 'Thus you are to say to the king of Judah, who sent you to Me to inquire of Me: "Behold, Pharaoh's army which has come out for your assistance is going to return to its own land of Egypt.

8 The Chaldeans will also return and fight against this city, and they will capture it and burn it with fire.'"

9 Thus says the LORD, 'Do not deceive yourselves, saying, "The Chaldeans will surely go away from us," for they will not go.

10 For even if you had defeated the entire army of Chaldeans who were fighting against you, and there were *only* wounded men left among them, each man in his tent, they would rise up and burn this city with fire."