### Jeremiah

## Chapter 26

1It was in the first part of the reign of King JehoiAkim (son of JosiAh) that this word came from Jehovah.  
  
[The Lord] said:  
  
 2‘Go and stand in [the Temple] courtyard  
 And there, give orders to those in Judea…  
 To all who are coming to bow here.  
 Tell them all the things that I said,  
 And don’t forget any words!  
  
 3‘Then perhaps they will listen and turn from their bad,  
 And I can bring an end to the evil  
 That I’ve arranged to send upon them  
 Because of the bad things they’re doing.  
  
 4‘So, tell them that thus says Jehovah:  
  
 If you refuse to listen to Me  
 And obey all the Laws that I’ve set before you…  
 [If you won’t] obey the words of My servant  
 5The words of the Prophet I sent,  
 But to whom you chose not to listen,  
 6I’ll make this Temple like ShiLoh  
 And appoint this city as a curse  
 Before all the nations on earth.’  
  
7Well, all the priests and false prophets, as well as all the people heard what JeremiAh said when he spoke those words in the Temple of Jehovah. 8And after he finished saying everything that the Lord had ordered him to say to the people, the priests, and the false prophets, they grabbed him and said:  
  
 9‘We’re going to kill you for prophesying in the Name of Jehovah and for saying that this Temple will become like ShiLoh and that this city will be desolate with no one living in it!’  
  
So thereafter, they all gathered inside the Temple of Jehovah and put JeremiAh on trial. 10But when the rulers of Judah heard [what JeremiAh was saying], they went from the king’s [palace] up to the Temple of Jehovah, and they all sat down on the threshold of the New Gate. 11Then the priests and false prophets said this before the rulers and all the people:  
  
 ‘This man deserves the judgment of death for prophesying against this city… Something that you all heard him say with your own ears!’  
  
12And [in reply], JeremiAh said this to the rulers and the people:  
  
 ‘It was Jehovah that sent me here to prophesy all these words that you heard me speak against this Temple and this city. 13So, it would really best for you to change the ways that you’re acting and the things that you’re doing, and to start listening to the voice of your God Jehovah. For then the Lord would bring an end to all of these evils that He has spoken against you here.  
  
 14‘However, {Look!} here I am in your hands! So, do to me whatever you think is going to be advantageous and best for yourselves! 15But know and understand that if you do away with me, you will have brought the guilt of innocent blood against yourselves, this city, and everyone who lives here; for it was really Jehovah that sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears!’  
  
16Well at that, the rulers and people said to the priests and false prophets:  
  
 ‘This man doesn’t really deserve the sentence of death, for he was speaking in the Name of our God Jehovah!’  
  
17Then, men from among the elders of the land stood up and spoke before the whole gathering and said:  
  
 18‘MicAh the Morasthite was a Prophet in the days of HezekiAh, the king of Judah, and he spoke to all the people of Judah and told them that Jehovah of Armies had said this:  
  
 ‘Zion is now a field to be plowed,  
 For JeruSalem will be a storehouse of fruits,  
 And the Temple Mount will soon be converted  
 Into a grove of sacred poles.’  
  
 19‘However, King HezekiAh and the people of Judah didn’t do away with him, because they were afraid of Jehovah. So they begged and bowed before [God], and He brought an end to the evils that He had spoken against them… And once again, we have [for a fact, been sinning] in a great way against our own souls!’  
  
  
20Well, around that same time, there was another man who had been prophesying in the Name of Jehovah, UriAh son of ShemaiAh (from KiriAth JaiRim). For he had also prophesied about the city and the land, using the very same words as JeremiAh.  
  
21But when he heard what King JehoiAkim and all the rulers had said about seeking to kill [JeremiAh], UriAh became afraid and he fled down to Egypt. 22However, the king sent his men (ElNathan son of AchBor, and some others) to Egypt 23and they brought him back from there. Then when he stood before the king, he was cut down with a sword and [his body] was thrown into the tomb of the sons of his people. 24But because the hand of AhiKam (son of ShaPhan) was with JeremiAh, he stopping him from being handed over to the people so they could do away with him.