

STEP INTO SCRIPTURE

WEEK 8: SOVEREIGNTY IN THE SEIGE

QUARTER 3: SOUNDS



STEP INTO SCRIPTURE

THIS WEEK'S READING:

WED, OCT 1 2 KINGS 24-35; 2 CHRONICLES 36

THU, OCT 2 HABAKKUK 1-3

FRI, OCT 3 JEREMIAH 41-45

SAT, OCT 4 JEREMIAH 46-48

SUN, OCT 5 JEREMIAH 49-50

MON, OCT 6 JEREMIAH 51-52

TUE, OCT 7 LAMENTATIONS 1-2

**30 minutes for arrival, fellowship,
and reading**

30 minutes for teaching

**30 minutes for table discussion and
announcements**

TODAY'S READING:

2 KINGS 24-25; 2 CHRONICLES 36
DAY 231 IN STEP INTO SCRIPTURE

PART 1:

THE DESTRUCTION OF A NATION

2 KINGS 25:3

By the ninth day of the fourth month the famine in the city had become so severe that there was no food for the people to eat.

2 KINGS 25:9-10

He set fire to the temple of the Lord, the royal palace and all the houses of Jerusalem. Every Important building he burned down. The whole Babylonian army under the commander of the Imperial guard broke down the walls around Jerusalem.

2 CHRONICLES 36:20

He carried into exile to Babylon the remnant, who escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and his successors until the kingdom of Persia came to power.

PART 2:

TISHA B'AV

**According to the Hebrew calendar,
Jerusalem was destroyed in 586 B.C.
on the 9th of Av.**

**Tisha B'Av—the single
saddest day in Jewish history.**

**650 years later, on the very
same date—the 9th of Av—
Herod's Temple was destroyed
by the Romans in A.D. 70.**

MATTHEW 24:2

“Do you see all these things? Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.”

(See also Luke 21:6.)



**When God warns,
we must listen.**

**This judgment did not
come without warning.**

Prophets Who Warned Judah

Amos:

Therefore this is what I will do to you, Israel, and because I will do this to you, Israel, prepare to meet your God. (Amos 4:12).

Isaiah:

Woe to the sinful nation, a people whose guilt is great, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the Lord; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him. (Isaiah 1:4).

Micah:

Therefore because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble, the temple hill a mound overgrown with thickets. (Micah 3:12).

Hosea:

They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind. The stalk has no head; it will produce no flour. Were it to yield grain, foreigners would swallow it up. (Hosea 8:7).

Zephaniah:

The great day of the Lord is near—near and coming quickly. The cry on the day of the Lord is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry. (Zephaniah 1:14).

JEREMIAH 25:3

For twenty-three years—from the thirteenth year of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah until this very day—the word of the Lord has come to me and I have spoken to you again and again, but you have not listened.

PART 3:

TIMELINE OF ISRAEL'S
“LOW POINTS”

Golden Calf at Sinai (c. 1446 B.C.)
Exodus 32

The Atrocity in Judges (c. 1200 B.C.)
Judges 19–21

The Death of Saul (c. 1010 B.C.)
1 Samuel 28, 31

Division of the Kingdom (931 B.C.)
1 Kings 12

The Violence of Jehu (841 B.C.)
2 Kings 9–10

The Fall of Israel (722 B.C.)
2 Kings 17

The Fall of Judah (586 B.C.)
2 Kings 25; 2 Chronicles 36

**God was purging sin and idolatry
from Judah, but His covenant
promises still stood.**

**David would always have a descendant
on the throne (2 Samuel 7:16).**

**Through Israel the whole world would
be blessed (Genesis 12:3).**

PART 4:

SURRENDER TO BABYLON?

JEREMIAH 27:12-13

I gave the same message to Zedekiah king of Judah. I said, “Bow your neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon; serve him and his people, and you will live. Why will you and your people die by the sword, famine and plague with which the Lord has threatened any nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?”

JEREMIAH 38:17

Then Jeremlah said to Zedeklah, “This is what the Lord God Almighty, the God of Israel, says: ‘If you surrender to the officers of the king of Babylon, your life will be spared and this city will not be burned down; you and your family will live.

PART 5:

**ZEDEKIAH'S
UNWILLINGNESS
TO SURRENDER**

2 KINGS 25:6-7

And he was captured. He was taken to the king of Babylon at Riblah, where sentence was pronounced on him. They killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. Then they put out his eyes, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon.

The ultimate picture of futility:

**Resisting God's judgment
instead of submitting to it only
leads to greater destruction.**

PART 6:

LOOKING AHEAD:
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

**God is faithful to His promises,
and even in the ruins, He is at
work preparing redemption.**

PART 7:

GLIMPSES OF RESTORATION

2 KINGS 25:21

There at Riblah, In the land of Hamath, the king had them executed. So Judah went into captivity, away from her land.

586 B.C.

2 KINGS 25:27-28

In the thirty-seventh year of the exile of JeholachIn king of Judah, In the year Awel-Marduk became king of Babylon, he released JeholachIn king of Judah from prison. He did this on the twenty-seventh day of the twelfth month. He spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat of honor higher than those of the other kings who were with him In Babylon.

2 KINGS 25:29-30

So Jeholachin put aside his prison clothes and for the rest of his life ate regularly at the king's table. Day by day the king gave Jeholachin a regular allowance as long as he lived.

561 B.C

586 B.C. → 561 B.C.
25 years lapsed between
these two passages

MATTHEW 1:12

**After the exile to Babylon:
Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,**

**Jeholachin/Jeconiah is part of
the genealogy of Jesus Christ.**

Submit to Babylon (Jeremiah 27:12–13; 38:17)

2 CHRONICLES 36:20-21

He carried into exile to Babylon the remnant, who escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and his successors until the kingdom of Persia came to power. The land enjoyed its sabbath rests; all the time of its desolation it rested, until the seventy years were completed in fulfillment of the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah.

SCRIPTURE MAPPING: PROPHECY AND FULFILLMENT OF THE 70 YEARS

Isaiah 44:28

who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd and will accomplish all that I please; he will say of Jerusalem, "Let it be rebuilt," and of the temple, "Let its foundations be laid."' "

FULFILLED

2 Chronicles 36:23

"This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up, and may the Lord their God be with them.' "

Daniel 9:1-2

In the first year of Darius son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years.

REVEALED

Jeremiah 25:11-12

This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years. "But when the seventy years are fulfilled, I will punish the king of Babylon and his nation, the land of the Babylonians, for their guilt," declares the Lord, "and will make it desolate forever.

FULFILLED

FULFILLED

Jeremiah 29:10

This is what the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place.

**Isalah wrote these prophecies
around 700 B.C.**

**Cyrus of Persia did not rise to
power until 539 B.C.**

The Dead Sea Scrolls (which contain a full copy of Isaiah) demonstrate that Isaiah was preserved as a single book long before the time of Christ.

**Early manuscripts and the Septuagint
(the Greek translation of the Old Testament)
confirm that Daniel was already regarded as
Scripture well before that time.**

2 CHRONICLES 36:23

The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah.

PART 8:

CLOSING

God is always in control of history.

**When you see chaos in the world, remember:
God is writing a larger story.**

**When you feel the weight of discipline or hardship,
remember: His judgment is never His last word—
He is always working toward restoration.**

**And when fear creeps in, cling to this truth:
Our God reigns. Always has, always will.**