

Bible Challenge 2014
Going Deeper – Questions for Readings
Week 33

Who is God calling to task in Jeremiah 23? Why? What do the two separate baskets of figs symbolize in Jeremiah 24? What does this teach us about the Israelites understanding and experience of the Babylonian exile?

According to Jeremiah, how long does God say the Israelites will be in exile in Babylon? What will happen to them after that time? What will happen to Babylon and its rulers? (Jeremiah 25)

What message does Jeremiah preach in Jeremiah 26 that gets him into so much trouble with the religious authorities and people in Jerusalem? Why was this message so enraging that people even threatened Jeremiah's life? Can you think of a contemporary prophetic message that might spark that same type of reaction in the United States today?

Who is Hananiah? How does Jeremiah expose him as a "false prophet"? What was Hananiah preaching to the people and how did Jeremiah refute it? How do we know if a prophet is truly preaching God's Word? (Jeremiah 28)

Some theologians refer to the Babylonian exile as the second Exodus. Would you agree with that statement? Why or why not? (Jeremiah 30-31)

What is the new covenant that God says will be made with the Israelites when they return from exile? (Jeremiah 31:31-34) Does this covenant apply to us today? If so, how? If not, why not?

What is the message of hope that Jeremiah offers to the Israelites before the Babylonian exile? (Jeremiah 33) Would you have been comforted by this message if you were living in Jerusalem at that time? Why or why not?

What happens to King Zedekiah and the other rulers of Judah when the Babylonians finally invade Jerusalem? What does Nebuzaradan do when he arrives in Jerusalem that symbolically denotes the beginning of the Babylonian exile? What happens to Jeremiah during the exile? What happens to the small remnant of Israelites who are left behind in Jerusalem? What responsibility are they given? (Jeremiah 39-40, 2 Kings 24-25,)