



**Jeremiah
Warned Judah**

Introduction

As the people of Judah were facing God's judgement, God told Jeremiah to write on a scroll all the words God had spoken to him regarding Israel, Judah, and all the nations. If the people of Judah heard about the destruction God intended, maybe they would repent, and God would forgive them. Jeremiah had his scribe, Baruch write down the messages.

At the time, Josiah's son Jehoiakim (named Eliakim at birth) was King of Judah. He was put on the throne by Pharaoh Neco after he took captive Jehoiakim's brother King Jehoahaz. Neco then renamed Eliakim - Jehoiakim.

During Jehoiakim's disastrous reign, the people returned to idolatry and corruption as in the days of Manasseh.

After Jeremiah's scroll was read to the people at the Temple and the king's officials, it was read to King Jehoiakim. Rather than heed God's warning, Jehoiakim cut off pieces of the scrolls and threw them into the fire until the entire scroll was burned. He then sent his men to find and arrest Jeremiah and Baruch, but God kept them hidden.

God told Jeremiah to make another scroll with the same words as the first and Jeremiah obeyed. God pronounced judgment on Jehoiakim and his descendants. God would punish Jehoiakim for rejecting His Word about the coming judgment.

Scripture is a gracious gift from the Lord. In it, we see the plan of God from before time began. John 1 says that Jesus is the Word. He is Immanuel, God with us, and by giving people the written Word, God showed us His standard.

The people of Judah faced God's judgment against sin. Years later, God sent His Son. Jesus lived a perfect life and satisfied God's righteous requirement. He took the punishment we deserve, and those who trust in Him are forgiven. This is the gospel—the word that was preached to us, the word that remains forever.



During the fourth year of King Jehoiakim's reign, God said to Jeremiah, "Take a scroll and write on it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel, Judah and all the nations, from the time of King Josiah until today. Maybe the house of Judah will hear all the disaster I am about to bring upon them and turn from their wicked ways, and I will forgive them."

Jeremiah called the scribe Baruch, and Baruch wrote all that Jeremiah dictated to him on the scroll. Then Jeremiah told Baruch that since he was banned from the Temple of the Lord, he would have to go for him and read the words from the scroll to all the people of Judah on the day of fasting.

Baruch went to the Temple and read the scrolls to the people. A man named Micaiah was there. When Micaiah heard the words of the Lord, he went to the palace and told the king's officials.

The officials had Baruch come to the palace and read the scrolls to them. When they heard what was written, they turned to each other in fear.

They knew they needed to report the scrolls to the king and asked Baruch how he had written all the words, and he explained they were all from Jeremiah's dictation. So they told Baruch that he and Jeremiah needed to hide and not tell anyone where they were.

The officials went and reported all the words of the scroll to King Jehoiakim. The king sent Jehudi to get the scroll and had him read it to him.



As Jehudi read three or four columns, the king became angry and cut off a piece of the scroll and threw it into the fire. He did this until the entire scroll was burned. His officials pleaded with him not to burn the scroll, but he wouldn't listen. He was not afraid of God's message of judgement.

God spoke to Jeremiah again and told him to write another scroll with the same words as the first one. So Jeremiah did as God commanded.

God then said to Jeremiah, "Tell Jehoiakim that since he burned up the scroll that said the king of Babylon would come and destroy Judah, I am going to bring judgement on his house and punish him, his family, and his leaders for the wrong they had done."

Christ Connection: John 1 says that Jesus is the Word. Jesus showed people what God is like. God gives us His written Word, the Bible, to tell us what He is like too. The Bible has the most important message: the good news about Jesus. It tells us that God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sin.

Let's Review



What did the official tell Jeremiah and Baruch to do while they read the scroll to the king? (Jer 36:19)

How did King Jehoiakim respond when he heard God's message? (Jer 36:23). What would happen because of this?

What do you think is the best way to warn people about the consequences of their actions?

What kind of warnings do you tend to listen to? How do you feel when someone tells you you're doing something wrong?

What is God's message to you right now? How receptive are you to messages from God?

"The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God remains forever."

Isaiah 40:8

Name the Sign

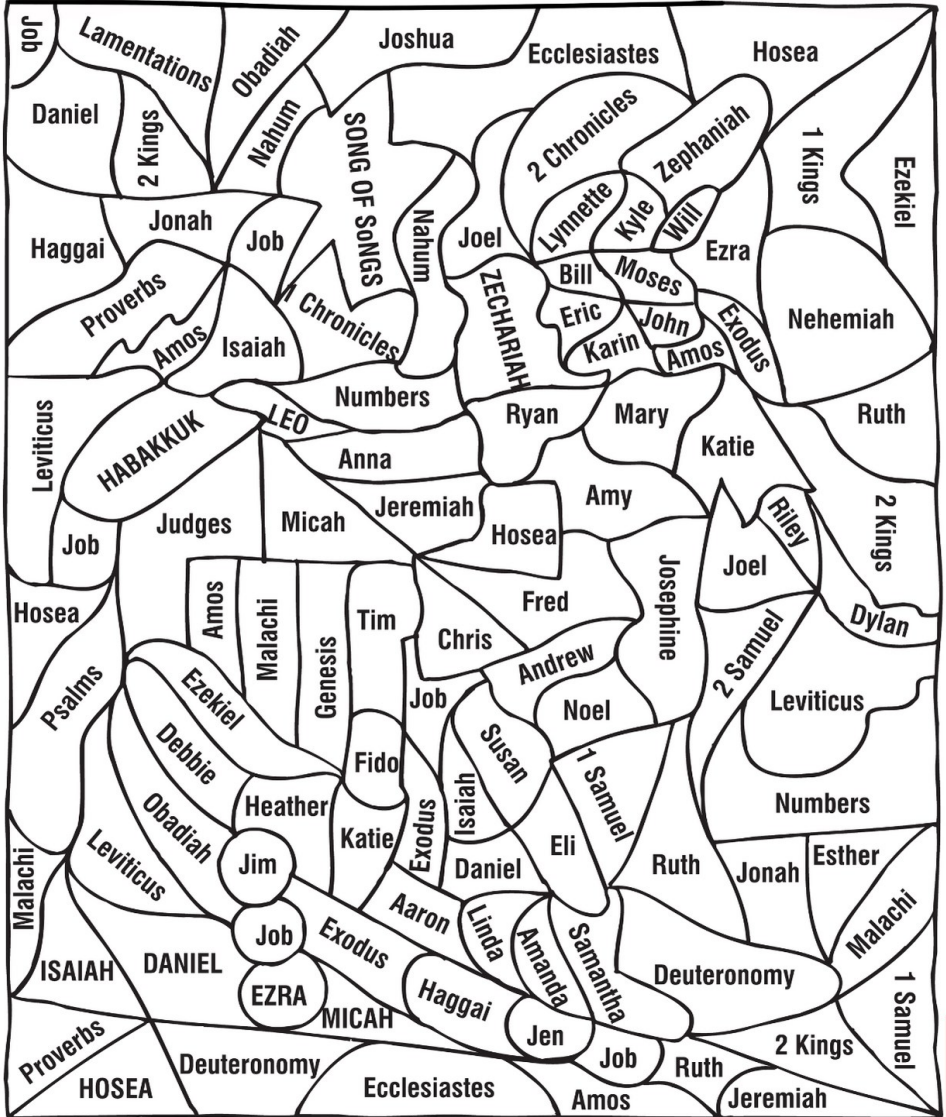
Can you figure out what the warning signs below mean?



BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

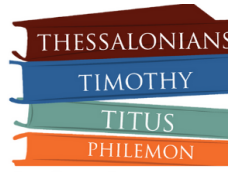
OLD TESTAMENT

Colour in each section that contains a book of the Old Testament. You'll find a picture of someone who is not found anywhere in the Bible.





Books of the Bible NEW TESTAMENT



Find the books of the New Testament in the puzzle. They can be found forward or backward. Then write the remaining letters below for the bible verse.

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | N | O | I | T | A | L | E | V | E | R | I |
| T | H | C | O | L | O | S | S | I | A | N | S |
| G | S | I | T | I | M | O | T | H | Y | O | D |
| A | T | J | 2 | P | E | T | E | R | L | S | L |
| 2 | C | O | R | I | N | T | H | I | A | N | S |
| T | A | H | T | M | H | J | U | D | E | A | N |
| H | I | N | M | A | T | T | H | E | W | I | A |
| E | N | H | G | R | O | M | A | N | S | T | I |
| S | S | O | E | K | U | L | A | R | E | A | N |
| S | 3 | J | O | H | N | P | O | S | S | L | O |
| A | I | 2 | T | I | M | O | T | H | Y | A | L |
| L | B | L | E | R | E | T | E | P | I | G | A |
| O | P | H | I | L | I | P | P | I | A | N | S |
| N | O | M | E | L | I | H | P | M | A | T | S |
| I | T | H | S | N | A | I | S | E | H | P | E |
| A | J | A | M | E | S | W | E | R | B | E | H |
| N | E | W | 1 | 9 | 2 | 6 | S | U | T | I | T |
| S | N | A | I | H | T | N | I | R | O | C | 1 |



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|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Matthew | Mark | Luke | John | Acts |
| Romans | 1 Corinthians | 2 Corinthians | Galatians | Ephesians |
| Philippians | Colossians | 1 Thessalonians | 2 Thessalonians | 1 Timothy |
| 2 Timothy | Titus | Philemon | Hebrews | James |
| 1 Peter | 2 Peter | 1 John | 2 John | 3 John |
| Jude | Revelation | | | |



Exile Is Coming!

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

2 1 2 25 12 15 14

19 5 22 5 14 20 25

16 18 15 13 9 19 5

15 2 5 25

Code key

| | | |
|-----|------|------|
| A 1 | J 10 | S 19 |
| B 2 | K 11 | T 20 |
| C 3 | L 12 | U 21 |
| D 4 | M 13 | V 22 |
| E 5 | N 14 | W 23 |
| F 6 | O 15 | X 24 |
| G 7 | P 16 | Y 25 |
| H 8 | Q 17 | Z 26 |
| I 9 | R 18 | |

Phrase:

10 5 18 5 13 9 1 8

20 15 12 4 5 24 9 12 5

23 1 19 1 8 5 1 4

