



The Destruction of Jerusalem and Aftermath

Jeremiah

39:11-44:30

2 Kings 25:22-26

1

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Jeremiah 39:11-14
 - Nebuchadnezzar issued orders concerning Jeremiah.
 - He was to be freed
 - No harm was to come to him

2

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Jeremiah is freed at Ramah 40:1-6
 - It seems that Jeremiah ended up with the other captives.
 - Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard released Jeremiah.
 - Nebuzaradan's words to Jeremiah indicated that the Babylonians took more heed to God's messages spoken by Jeremiah than the Israelites.

3

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Jeremiah is freed at Ramah 40:1-6
 - Jeremiah was given the option to go to Babylon or stay in the land.
 - It was suggested that he return to Gedaliah, the ruler Nebuchadnezzar set up to govern the people.
 - He was also given the option to go wherever he chose.
 - Jeremiah did return to dwell with Gedaliah and the people who were with him.

4

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Gedaliah appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar. 40:7-41:10
 - Established Mizpah as his headquarters.
 - Place where Jacob and Laban set up a pillar to commemorate their pact of nonaggression against each other
 - Home of the judge Jephthah
 - A gathering place for Israel during Samuel's ministry

5

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Gedaliah appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar. 40:7-41:10
 - Established Mizpah as his headquarters.
 - Where Saul was proclaimed king over Israel
 - Fortified by Asa, King of Judah with material Baasha, King of Israel had gathered to build Ramah 1 Kings 15:22

6

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Gedaliah appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar.
40:7-41:10
 - Gedaliah was approached by several heads of independent militia groups.
 - He assured them that all would be well if they served the king of Babylon.
 - He invited all the people to dwell in the abandoned cities and harvest the land.

7

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Gedaliah appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar.
40:7-41:10
 - Judeans who had fled during the siege returned to the land.
 - Johanan and the other commanders tried to warn Gedaliah about a plot on his life by the king of Ammon and Ishmael's involvement in it.

8

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Gedaliah appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar.
40:7-41:10
 - Johanan offered to secretly kill Ishmael.
 - Gedaliah would not allow this because he did not believe the threat was real.

9

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Gedaliah appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar.
40:7-41:10
 - Gedaliah was treacherously murdered by Ishmael in the seventh month of his tenure.
 - Ishmael's savagery is displayed in his butchering 80 men who were coming to the city of Mizpah.
 - These men were from the area conquered by Assyria in 722 B.C.
 - Their appearance indicates a blending of pagan practices with ritual worship of Yahweh.

10

The aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem.
2 Kings 25:22-26, Jeremiah 39:11-44:30

- Gedaliah appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar.
40:7-41:10
 - Ishmael then took all the people in the city captive and set out to take them to the Ammonites.

11

Lessons

- "When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him." (Proverbs 16:7, ESV)
- The activity of God is evident.
- Comfort and convenience should never be the determining criterion for a decision nor the basis on which a decision is judged.
- Submission to God's will is often not popular and can be costly.

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Lessons

- Discernment is that “sweet spot” between gullibility and paranoia.
