
Journey Through the Bible- Week 6

3/15/26

MESSAGE NOTES

Zedekiah - **Pride**

“But when Rehoboam was firmly established and strong, he abandoned the Law of the Lord, and all Israel followed him in this sin.” 2 Chronicles 12:1 (NLT)

- The kingdom is divided north and south
- Both Israel and Judah are in rebellion against God
- God sends prophet after prophet to warn them

We will do right long enough to get God off our backs.

“Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eleven years. But Zedekiah did what was evil in the sight of the Lord his God, and **he refused to humble himself** when the prophet Jeremiah spoke to him directly from the Lord.” 2 Chronicles 36:11-12 (NLT)

- Isaiah walked half naked and barefoot for 3 years
- Hosea married a prostitute
- Ezekiel acted out siege warfare in his backyard
- John the Baptist wore rough camel’s hair and ate bugs in the wilderness

This is what the Lord said to me: “Make a yoke, and fasten it on your neck with leather straps.” Jeremiah 27:2 (NLT)

The yoke symbolized:

- **Submission**
- **Surrender**
- **Accepting God’s correction**

Humble yourself under God's authority.

"You have broken wooden bars, but you have made in their place bars of iron." Jeremiah 28:13
(NLT)

Jeremiah's yoke represents:

The heavy burden created by resisting God

"He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, even though he had taken an **oath of loyalty in God's name**. Zedekiah was a hard and stubborn man, refusing to turn to the Lord, the God of Israel. Likewise, all the leaders of the priests and the people became more and more unfaithful. They followed all the pagan practices of the surrounding nations, desecrating the Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem, the Temple that the Lord had consecrated as holy. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, **repeatedly sent His prophets to warn them**, for He had compassion on His people and His Temple." 2 Chronicles 36:13-15 (NLT)

"But the **people mocked these messengers of God** and despised their words. They scoffed at the prophets until the Lord's anger could no longer be restrained and nothing could be done." 2 Chronicles 36:16 (NLT)

"Until there was no remedy"

When the creature **unplugs from the Creator**, self-destructive decisions are made.

So on January 15, during the ninth year of Zedekiah's reign, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon led his entire army against Jerusalem. They surrounded the city and built siege ramps against its walls. Jerusalem was kept under siege until the eleventh year of Zedekiah's reign, the famine in the city had become very severe, and the last of the food was entirely gone. Jeremiah 52:4-6 (NLT)

REDEMPTION

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me... For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

Jeremiah's Yoke:

- Symbol of **discipline**
- Result of **rebellion**
- Leads to **exile**

Jesus' Yoke

- Symbol of **relationship**
- Result of **surrender**
- Leads to **rest**

Jesus' yoke is **light because he carries the weight.**