

Week 36

Zedekiah

2 Kings 24 2 Chron 36

Jeremiah Ezekiel

The final years of the kingdom of Judah were marked by a power struggle between the Egyptians and the Babylonians. Babylon was the rising power that had overtaken the Assyrian Empire. As Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon grew ever more powerful, he finished off the Egyptians and seized control of the Mediterranean coast. Then Nebuchadnezzar placed Zedekiah on the throne of Judah as a puppet king, but he rebelled. So Nebuchadnezzar attacked Jerusalem and after a nearly two year siege, captured the city. Zedekiah fled. He ran out into the night through a hole in the city wall, but was trapped near Jericho. Babylonian soldiers took him to Riblah, where he was judged and punished by Nebuchadnezzar. Then the Babylonian army completely destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple and, as Jeremiah said, “wiped like a plate.”

Outline: Zedekiah

2 Kings 24-25 2 Chron 36

Jeremiah Ezekiel

2 Kings 24

Judah’s Greatest Defeat

24:17 Nebuchadnezzar replaces Jehoiachin with Zedekiah [*2 Chr 36:11-13*]

24:18-20 The reign of Zedekiah [*Jer 27*]

2 Kings 25

The End of Jerusalem

25:1-3 Zedekiah rebels—the final siege [*Jer 21*]

25:4-5 Zedekiah escapes

25:6-7 Zedekiah taken captive [*Ezek 12*]

25:8-10 The Temple and the City are destroyed [*2 Chr 36:17-21*]

25:11-21 Taking the people and the gold—586 BC Deportation #3 [*Deut 28*]

25:22-24 Nebuchadnezzar makes Gedaliah governor of Judah

25:25-26 Gedaliah is assassinated

25:27-30 Jehoiachin is released from prison