

# Sefer Yirmiyahu - When Politics & Religion Clash

## Class #4 - The time-period of Tzidkiyahu & the False Prophets

[Why everything changes in Year 5 / in light of Year 4 of Yehoyakim]]

For Torah in Motion - by Menachem Leibtag

### Intro:

*In our study thus far, we have shown how God's anger due to Am Yisrael's inability to achieve their covenantal purpose - led to His decree in Year 4 of Yehoyakim that He will now enable the Babylonians to conquer the entire 'Middle East'; hence 'suggesting' that Israel surrender to the Babylonians to prevent their destruction and exile. This 'political prophecy' met fierce opposition from both political and religious leadership.*

*Our study today will begin with the sources that highlight that opposition - and help us understand the nature of the 'false prophets' as well as the transition of leadership from Yehoyakim to Tzidkiyahu*

## I. Review, the Decree in Year 4 Yehoyakim /Chapter 25

**א** הַדְּבָר אֲשֶׁר-הָיָה עַל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ, עַל-כָּל-עַם יְהוּדָה, בַּשָּׁנָה הָרְבִיעִית, לִיהוֹיָקִים בֶּן-יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה: הִיא, הַשָּׁנָה הָרִאשׁוֹנִית, לְנְבוּכַדְרֶאצַּר, מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל.

**1** The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon;

**ב** אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְרֵמְיָהוּ הַנְּבִיא, עַל-כָּל-עַם יְהוּדָה, וְאֶל כָּל-יֹשְׁבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם, לֵאמֹר.

**2** which Jeremiah the prophet spoke unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying:

**ג** מִן-שְׁלֹשׁ עָשָׂר שָׁנָה לִיֹאשִׁיָּהוּ בֶן-אָמוֹן מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה וְעַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, זֶה שְׁלֹשׁ וְעֶשְׂרִים שָׁנָה, הָיָה דְבַר-יְהוָה, אֵלַי; וְאָדַבֵּר אֵלֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁכִּים וְדַבֵּר, וְלֹא שָׁמַעְתֶּם.

**3** From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, even unto this day, these three and twenty years, the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, speaking betimes and often; but ye have not hearkened.

**ד** וְשָׁלַח יְהוָה אֵלֵיכֶם אֶת-כָּל-עֲבָדָיו הַנְּבִאִים, הַשְּׂכֵם וְשָׁלַח--וְלֹא שָׁמַעְתֶּם; וְלֹא-הִטִּיתֶם אֶת-אָזְנוֹכֶם, לְשָׁמֹעַ.

**4** And the LORD hath sent unto you all His servants the prophets, sending them betimes and often--but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear--

ה לֵאמֹר, שׁוּבוּ-נָא אִישׁ מִדְרָכּוֹ הַרְעָה וּמַרְעֵ  
מַעֲלָלֵיכֶם, וּשְׁבוּ עַל-הָאָדָמָה, אֲשֶׁר נָתַן יְהוָה  
לָכֶם וּלְאֲבוֹתֵיכֶם--לְמֶן-עוֹלָם, וְעַד-עוֹלָם.

5 saying: 'Return ye now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD hath given unto you and to your fathers, for ever & ever;

....

ח לָכֵן, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת :  
יַעַן, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-שָׁמַעְתֶּם אֶת-דִּבְרָי.

8 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts: Because ye have not heard My words,

ט הִנְנִי שְׁלַח וְלָקַחְתִּי אֶת-כָּל-מִשְׁפָּחוֹת צְפוֹן  
נְאֻם-יְהוָה, וְאֶל-נְבוּכַדְרֶאֱצַר מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל עַבְדִּי,  
וְהִבְאֵתִים עַל-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת וְעַל-יֹשְׁבֵיהָ, וְעַל  
כָּל-הַגּוֹיִם הָאֵלֶּה סְבִיב ; וְהִחַרְמֹתִים--  
וְשִׁמְתִים לְשִׁמָּה וּלְשָׂרָקָה, וּלְחָרְבוֹת עוֹלָם.

9 behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and I will send unto Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about; and I will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and a hissing, and perpetual desolations.

י וְהִאַבְדֹתִי מֵהֶם, קוֹל שִׁשׁוֹן וְקוֹל שִׁמְחָה,  
קוֹל חֲתוּן, וְקוֹל כֹּלָה--קוֹל רַחִים, וְאוֹר נֵר.

10 Moreover I will cause to cease from among them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the lamp.

יא וְהִיְתָה כָּל-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת, לְחָרְבָה לְשִׁמָּה ;  
וְעַבְדוּ הַגּוֹיִם הָאֵלֶּה, אֶת-מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל--  
שִׁבְעִים שָׁנָה.

11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and a waste; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

יב וְהָיָה כַּמְלֵאוֹת שִׁבְעִים שָׁנָה אֶפְקָד עַל-  
מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל וְעַל-הַגּוֹי הַהוּא נְאֻם-יְהוָה,  
אֶת-עוֹנָם--וְעַל-אָרֶץ כַּשְׂדִּים ; ...

12 And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity....

## II. What prophecy happened first?

that the Temple might be destroyed (chapter 7) - or

the forthcoming conquest by the Babylonians (chapter 25)

## Chapter 26 - can set the approx. date for chapter 7

א בְּרֵאשִׁית, מִמְּלָכוֹת יְהוֹיָקִים בֶּן-יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ--  
מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה : הָיָה הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה, מֵאֵת יְהוָה לֵאמֹר.

1 In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, came this word from the LORD, saying:

ב כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, עֲמַד בְּחֹצֵר בַּיִת-יְהוָה, וּדְבַרְתָּ עַל-כָּל-  
עָרֵי יְהוּדָה הַבָּאִים לְהַשְׁתַּחֲוֹת בַּיִת-יְהוָה, אֶת כָּל-  
הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִיךָ לְדַבֵּר אֵלֵיהֶם : אֶל-תִּגְרַע, דְּבָר.

2 'Thus saith the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD'S house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word.

ג אולי ישמעו-- וישבו, איש מדרך הרעה; ונחמתי אל-הרעה, אשר אנכי חשב לעשות להם, מפני, רע מעלליהם.

3 It may be they will hearken, and turn every man from his evil way; that I may repent Me of the evil, which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings.

ד ואמרתי אליהם, כה אמר יהוה: אם-לא תשמעו, אלי, ללכת בתורת, אשר נתתי לפניכם.

4 And thou shalt say unto them: Thus saith the LORD: If ye will not hearken to Me, to walk in My law, which I have set before you,

ה לשמע, על-דברי עבדי הנבאים, אשר אנכי, שלח אליכם; והשכם ושלח, ולא שמעתם.

5 to hearken to the words of My servants the prophets, whom I send unto you, even sending them betimes and often, but ye have not hearkened;

ו ונתתי את-הבית הזה, כשילה; ואת-העיר הזאתה (הזאת) אתו לקללה, לכל גוי הארץ.

6 then will I make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.' {P}

ז וישמעו הכהנים והנבאים, וכל-העם, את-ירמיהו, מדבר את-הדברים האלה בבית יהוה.

7 So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD.

ח ויהי ככלות ירמיהו, לדבר את כל-אשר צוה יהוה, לדבר, אל-כל-העם; ויתפשו אתו הכהנים והנבאים, וכל-העם לאמר--מות תמות.

8 Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold on him, saying: 'Thou shalt surely die.

ט מדוע נבית בשם-יהוה לאמר, כשלו יהיה הבית הזה, והעיר הזאת תחרב, מאין יושב; ויקהל כל-העם אל-ירמיהו, בבית יהוה.

9 Why hast thou prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying: This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without an inhabitant?' And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

י וישמעו שרי יהודה, את הדברים האלה, ויעלו מבית-המלך, בית יהוה; וישבו בפתח שער-יהוה, החדש. {ס}

10 When the princes of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house unto the house of the LORD; and they sat in the entry of the new gate of the LORD'S house. {S}

יא ויאמרו הכהנים והנבאים, אל-השרים, ואל-כל-העם, לאמר: משפט-מות, לאיש הזה, כי נבא אל-העיר הזאת, כאשר שמעתם באזניכם.

11 Then spoke the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to all the people, saying: 'This man is worthy of death, for he hath prophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears.'

יב ויאמר ירמיהו אל-כל-השרים, ואל-כל-העם לאמר: יהוה שלחני, להנבא אל-הבית הזה ואל-העיר הזאת, את כל-הדברים, אשר שמעתם.

12 Then spoke Jeremiah unto all the princes and to all the people, saying: 'The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city all the words that ye have heard.

יג ועתה, היטיבו דרכיכם ומעלליכם, ושמעו, בקול יהוה אלהיכם: וינחם יהוה--אל-הרעה, אשר דבר עליכם.

13 Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and hearken to the voice of the LORD your God; and the LORD will repent Him of the evil that He hath pronounced against you.

יד ואני, הנני בידכם: עשו-לי כטוב וכישר, בעיניכם.

14 But as for me, behold, I am in your hand; do with me as is good and right in your eyes.

טו אך ידע תדעו, כי אם-ממתים אתם אתי--כי-דם נקי אתם נתנים עליכם, ואל-העיר הזאת

15 Only know ye for certain that, if ye put me to death, ye will bring innocent blood upon yourselves, and upon this city, and upon the inhabitants thereof; for of a truth

וְאֶל-יֹשְׁבֵיהֶּ: כִּי בָאֲמַת, שְׁלַחְנֵי יְהוָה עֲלֵיכֶם,  
לְדַבֵּר בְּאָזְנֵיכֶם, אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה. {ס}

the LORD hath sent me unto you to speak  
all these words in your ears. {S}

**טז** וַיֹּאמְרוּ הַשָּׂרִים וְכָל-הָעָם, אֶל-הַכֹּהֲנִים וְאֶל-  
הַנְּבִיאִים: **אִין-לְאִישׁ הַזֶּה, מִשְׁפַּט-מוֹת, כִּי  
בְשֵׁם יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, דָּבַר אֵלֵינוּ.**

16 Then said the princes and all the people  
unto the priests and to the prophets: 'This  
man is not worthy of death; for he hath  
spoken to us in the name of the LORD our  
God.'

**יז** וַיִּקְמוּ אַנְשֵׁים, מִזְקְנֵי הָאָרֶץ;  
וַיֹּאמְרוּ, אֶל-כָּל-קְהַל הָעָם לֵאמֹר.

17 Then rose up certain of the elders of the  
land, and spoke to all the assembly of the  
people, saying:

**יח** מִיכָה (מִיכָה), הַמּוֹרְשֵׁתִי, הָיָה נָבֵא, בְּיָמַי  
חִזְקִיָּהוּ מְלֹךְ-יְהוּדָה; וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-כָּל-עַם יְהוּדָה  
לֵאמֹר כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, צִיּוֹן שָׂדֵה תִּחְרַשׁ  
וִירוּשָׁלַיִם עֵיִים תִּהְיֶה, וְהָר הַבַּיִת, לְבָמוֹת יַעַר.

18 'Micah the Morashtite prophesied in  
the days of Hezekiah king of Judah; and  
he spoke to all the people of Judah,  
saying: Thus saith the LORD of hosts:  
Zion shall be plowed as a field, and  
Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the  
mountain of the house as the high places  
of a forest.

**יט** הֲהֵמַת הִמַּתְהוּ חִזְקִיָּהוּ מְלֹךְ-יְהוּדָה וְכָל-  
יְהוּדָה, הֲלֹא יָרָא אֶת-יְהוָה--וַיִּחַל אֶת-פְּנֵי יְהוָה,  
וַיִּנְחַם יְהוָה אֶל-הַרְעָה אֲשֶׁר-דָּבַר עֲלֵיהֶם; וַאֲנַחְנוּ,  
עֲשִׂים רָעָה גְדוֹלָה--עַל-נַפְשׁוֹתֵינוּ.

19 Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all  
Judah put him at all to death? did he not  
fear the LORD, and entreat the favour of  
the LORD, and the LORD repented Him  
of the evil which He had pronounced  
against them? Thus might we procure  
great evil against our own souls.'

**כ** וְגַם-אִישׁ, הָיָה מִתְנַבֵּא בְשֵׁם יְהוָה, אוֹרִיָּהוּ בֶן-  
שְׁמַעְיָהוּ, מִקְרִיַת הַיְעָרִים; וַיִּנְבֵּא עַל-הָעִיר הַזֹּאת,  
וְעַל-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת, כְּכֹל, דְּבַרֵי יִרְמְיָהוּ.

20 And there was also a man that  
prophesied in the name of the LORD,  
Uriah the son of Shemaiah of Kiriath-  
jearim, and he prophesied against this city  
and against this land according to all the  
words of Jeremiah;

**כא** וַיִּשְׁמַע הַמֶּלֶךְ-יְהוֹיָקִים וְכָל-גְּבוּרָיו וְכָל-  
הַשָּׂרִים, אֶת-דְּבָרָיו, וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הַמֶּלֶךְ, הַמִּיתוֹ;  
וַיִּשְׁמַע אוֹרִיָּהוּ וַיִּרָא, וַיִּבָּרַח וַיָּבֵא מִצְרַיִם.

21 and when Jehoiakim the king, with all  
his mighty men, and all the princes, heard  
his words, the king sought to put him to  
death; but when Uriah heard it, he was  
afraid, and fled, and went into Egypt;

**כב** וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ יְהוֹיָקִים, אַנְשִׁים--מִצְרַיִם: אֶת  
אַלְנָתָן בֶּן-עֲכָבוֹר וְאַנְשִׁים אֲתוֹ, אֶל-מִצְרַיִם.

22 and Jehoiakim the king sent men into  
Egypt, Elnathan the son of Achbor, and  
certain men with him, into Egypt;

**כג** וַיּוֹצִיאוּ אֶת-אוֹרִיָּהוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם, וַיָּבֵאוּ אֹתוֹ אֶל-  
הַמֶּלֶךְ יְהוֹיָקִים, וַיַּכֵּהוּ, בַּחֶרֶב; וַיִּשְׁלֹךְ, אֶת-נַבְלָתוֹ,  
אֶל-קְבָרֵי, בְּנֵי הָעָם.

23 and they fetched forth Uriah out of  
Egypt, and brought him unto Jehoiakim  
the king; who slew him with the sword,  
and cast his dead body into the graves of  
the children of the people.

**כד** אַךְ, יָד אַחִיקָם בֶּן-שָׁפָן, הָיְתָה, אֶת-יִרְמְיָהוּ-  
לְבַלְתֵי תַת-אֲתוֹ בַיַּד-הָעָם, לְהַמִּיתוֹ. {פ}

24 Nevertheless the hand of Ahikam the  
son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah, that  
they should not give him into the hand of  
the people to put him to death. {P}

This implies Yirmiyahu must go into hiding at this point -

As can be proven from chapter 36 !

The chapter that also explains how the book came about!

### III. Chapter 36 - 'burning the Book'

- א** וַיְהִי בַשָּׁנָה הָרְבַעִית, לַיהוֹיָקִים בֶּן-יֹאשָׁיָהוּ מִלְּךְ יְהוּדָה; הָיָה הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה, אֶל-יִרְמְיָהוּ, מֵאֵת יְהוָה, לֵאמֹר.
- ב** קַח-לְךָ, מִגִּלְת־סֵפֶר, וְכָתַבְתָּ אֵלַיָּה אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר-דִּבַּרְתִּי אֵלֶיךָ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל-יְהוּדָה, וְעַל-כָּל-הַגּוֹיִם--מִיּוֹם דִּבַּרְתִּי אֵלֶיךָ, מִיּוֹם יֹאשָׁיָהוּ, וְעַד, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה.
- ג** אוּלַי יִשְׁמְעוּ, בַּיַּת יְהוּדָה, אֶת כָּל-הַרְעָה, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי חֹשֵׁב לַעֲשׂוֹת לָהֶם--לְמַעַן יָשׁוּבוּ, אִישׁ מִדְּרָכּוֹ הַרְעָה, וְסָלַחְתִּי לְעֹנָם, וּלְחַטָּאתָם. {ס}
- ד** וַיִּקְרָא יִרְמְיָהוּ, אֶת-בָּרוּךְ בֶּן-נֶרְיָה; וַיִּכְתַּב בָּרוּךְ מִפִּי יִרְמְיָהוּ, אֶת כָּל-דְּבָרֵי יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר-דִּבַּר אֵלָיו--עַל-מִגִּלְת־סֵפֶר.
- ה** וַיִּצְוֵה יִרְמְיָהוּ, אֶת-בָּרוּךְ לֵאמֹר: אֲנִי עֶצּוּר--לֹא אוּכַל, לָבוֹא בַּיַּת יְהוָה.
- ו** וּבָאתְ אַתָּה וְקִרְאתְ בַּמִּגִּלָּה אֲשֶׁר-כָּתַבְתָּ מִפִּי אֶת-דְּבָרֵי יְהוָה בְּאָזְנֵי הָעָם, בַּיַּת יְהוָה--בְּיוֹם צֹם; וְגַם בְּאָזְנֵי כָל-יְהוּדָה הַבָּאִים מֵעָרֵיהֶם, תִּקְרְאִים.
- ז** אוּלַי תִּפְּל תַּחֲנֹנְתֶם, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁבוּ, אִישׁ מִדְּרָכּוֹ הַרְעָה: כִּי-גָדוֹל הָאָף וְהַחֲמָה, אֲשֶׁר-דִּבַּר יְהוָה אֶל-הָעָם הַזֶּה.
- ח** וַיַּעַשׂ, בָּרוּךְ בֶּן-נֶרְיָה, כְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּהוּ, יִרְמְיָהוּ הַנְּבִיא--לִקְרֹא בַסֵּפֶר דְּבָרֵי יְהוָה, בַּיַּת יְהוָה. {פ}
- ט** וַיְהִי בַשָּׁנָה הַחֲמִשִּׁית לַיהוֹיָקִים בֶּן-יֹאשָׁיָהוּ מִלְּךְ-יְהוּדָה, בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַתְּשַׁעִי, קָרְאוּ צוֹם לִפְנֵי יְהוָה כָּל-הָעָם, בִּירוּשָׁלַם; וְכָל-הָעָם, הַבָּאִים מֵעָרֵי יְהוּדָה--בִּירוּשָׁלַם.
- י** וַיִּקְרָא בָרוּךְ בַּסֵּפֶר אֶת-דְּבָרֵי יִרְמְיָהוּ, בַּיַּת יְהוָה--בְּלִשְׁכַּת גְּמַרְיָהוּ בֶן-שָׁפָן הַסֹּפֵר בְּחִצְרֵי הָעֶלְיוֹן, פֶּתַח שַׁעַר בַּיַּת-יְהוָה הַחֲדָשׁ, בְּאָזְנֵי, כָּל-הָעָם.
- 1** And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:
- 2** 'Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day.
- 3** It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way, and I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.' {S}
- 4** Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah; and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which He had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.
- 5** And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying: 'I am detained, I cannot go into the house of the LORD;
- 6** therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD'S house upon a fast-day; and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities.
- 7** It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will return every one from his evil way; for great is the anger and the fury that the LORD hath pronounced against this people.'
- 8** And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the LORD in the LORD'S house. {P}
- 9** Now it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the LORD, all the people in Jerusalem, and all the people that came from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem.
- 10** Then did Baruch read in the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the upper court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD'S house, in the ears of all the people.

**יא** וַיִּשְׁמַע מִכַּיָּהוּ בֶן-גְּמַרְיָהוּ בֶן-שָׁפָן, אֶת-כָּל-  
דְּבָרֵי יְהוָה--מֵעַל הַסֵּפֶר.

11 And when Micaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the words of the LORD,

**יב** וַיֵּרַד בַּיֵּת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, עַל-לְשַׁכַּת הַסֵּפֶר, וְהֵנָּה-שָׁם,  
כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים יוֹשְׁבִים: אֶלְיִשְׁמַע הַסֵּפֶר וּדְלִיָּהוּ בֶן-  
שָׁמְעִיָּהוּ וְאַלְנָתָן בֶּן-עֲכָבוֹר וְגַמְרִיָּהוּ בֶן-שָׁפָן,  
וְזֶדְקִיָּהוּ בֶן-חֲנַנְיָהוּ--וְכָל-הַשָּׂרִים.

12 he went down into the king's house, into the scribe's chamber; and, lo, all the princes sat there, even Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.

**יג** וַיַּגֵּד לָהֶם מִכַּיָּהוּ, אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַע,  
בְּקֶרֶא בְרוּךְ בַּסֵּפֶר, בְּאָזְנֵי הָעָם.

13 Then Micaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

**יד** וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ כָל-הַשָּׂרִים אֶל-בְּרוּךְ, אֶת-יְהוּדִי בֶן-  
נְתַנְיָהוּ בֶן-שְׁלֵמְיָהוּ בֶן-כוּשִׁי לֵאמֹר, הַמְּגִלָּה אֲשֶׁר  
קָרָאתָ בָּהּ בְּאָזְנֵי הָעָם, קְחָנָה בְיָדְךָ וְלֵךְ; וַיִּקַּח  
בְּרוּךְ בֶּן-נְרִיָּהוּ אֶת-הַמְּגִלָּה, בְּיָדוֹ, וַיָּבֵא, אֵלֵיהֶם.

14 Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, unto Baruch, saying: 'Take in thy hand the roll wherein thou hast read in the ears of the people, and come.' So Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand, and came unto them.

**טו** וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו--שֵׁב נָא, וּקְרָאנָה בְּאָזְנֵינוּ;  
וַיִּקְרָא בְרוּךְ, בְּאָזְנֵיהֶם.

15 And they said unto him: 'Sit down now, and read it in our ears.' So Baruch read it in their ears.

**טז** וַיְהִי, כְּשָׁמְעָם אֶת-כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים, פָּחְדוּ, אִישׁ  
אֶל-רֵעֵהוּ; וַיֹּאמְרוּ, אֶל-בְּרוּךְ, הֲגִיד נְגִיד לְמַלְךְ,  
אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה.

16 Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they turned in fear one toward another, and said unto Baruch: 'We will surely tell the king of all these words.'

**יז** וְאֶת-בְּרוּךְ--שָׁאָלוּ, לֵאמֹר: הֲגַד נָא לָנוּ--אֵיךְ  
כָּתַבְתָּ אֶת-כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, מִפִּי.

17 And they asked Baruch, saying: 'Tell us now: How didst thou write all these words at his mouth?'

**יח** וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם, בְּרוּךְ, מִפִּי וַיִּקְרָא אֵלַי, אֶת כָּל-  
הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וְאֲנִי כָתַב עַל-הַסֵּפֶר, בְּדִי. {ס}

18 Then Baruch answered them: 'He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book.' {S}

**יט** וַיֹּאמְרוּ הַשָּׂרִים אֶל-בְּרוּךְ, לֵךְ הַסֵּתֵר אִתָּהּ  
וַיִּרְמָיָהוּ; וְאִישׁ אֶל-יָדַע, אֵיפֹה אַתֶּם.

19 Then said the princes unto Baruch: 'Go, hide thee, thou and Jeremiah, and let no man know where ye are.'

**כ** וַיָּבֵאוּ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, חֲצָרָה, וְאֶת-הַמְּגִלָּה הַפְּקֻדוֹ,  
בְּלְשַׁכַּת אֶלְיִשְׁמַע הַסֵּפֶר; וַיִּגִּידוּ בְּאָזְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶת  
כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים.

20 And they went in to the king into the court; but they had deposited the roll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and they told all the words in the ears of the king.

**כא** וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-יְהוּדִי, לְקַחַת אֶת-הַמְּגִלָּה,  
וַיִּקְחָהּ, מִלְּשַׁכַּת אֶלְיִשְׁמַע הַסֵּפֶר; וַיִּקְרָאָהּ יְהוּדִי,  
בְּאָזְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וּבְאָזְנֵי כָל-הַשָּׂרִים, הָעֹמְדִים מֵעַל  
הַמֶּלֶךְ.

21 So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll, and he took it out of the chamber of Elishama the scribe. And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes that stood beside the king.

**כב** וְהַמֶּלֶךְ, יוֹשֵׁב בֵּית הַחֹרֶף, בַּחֹדֶשׁ, הַתְּשִׁיעִי;  
וְאֶת-הָאֵח, לִפְנָיו מְבַעֵרֵת.

22 Now the king was sitting in the winter-house in the ninth month, and the brazier was burning before him.

**כג** וַיְהִי כִּקְרֹא יְהוּדִי, שָׁלַשׁ דָּלְתוֹת וְאַרְבָּעָה, יִקְרָעָהּ בְּתֵעַר הַסֵּפֶר, וְהִשְׁלִיךְ אֶל-הָאֵשׁ אֲשֶׁר אֶל-הָאֵח: עַד-תָּם, כָּל-הַמְּגִלָּה, עַל-הָאֵשׁ, אֲשֶׁר עַל-הָאֵח.

23 And it came to pass, when Jehudi had read three or four columns, that he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was in the brazier, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier.

**כד** וְלֹא פָחְדוּ, וְלֹא קָרְעוּ אֶת-בְּגְדֵיהֶם--הַמְּלָךְ, וְכָל-עֲבָדָיו, הַשְּׂמָעִים, אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה.

24 Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words.

**כה** וְגַם אֶלְנָתָן וַיְדַלְּיָהוּ וַיְגַמְרִיָּהוּ הִפְגְּעוּ בַּמְּלָךְ, לְבַלְתִּי שָׂרֹף אֶת-הַמְּגִלָּה; וְלֹא שָׁמַע, אֵלֵיהֶם.

25 Moreover Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had entreated the king not to burn the roll; but he would not hear them.

**כו** וַיִּצְוֶה הַמְּלָךְ אֶת-יִרְחֻמְאֵל בֶּן-הַמְּלָךְ וְאֶת-שְׂרָיָהוּ בֶן-עֲזַרְיָאֵל, וְאֶת-שֶׁלְמִיָּהוּ בֶן-עֲבַדְיָאֵל, לְקַחַת אֶת-בְּרוּךְ הַסֵּפֶר, וְאֶת יִרְמְיָהוּ הַנְּבִיא; וַיִּסְתְּרֵם, יְהוָה. {ס}

26 And the king commanded Jerahmeel the king's son, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet; but the LORD hid them. {S}

**כז** וַיְהִי דְבַר-יְהוָה, אֶל-יִרְמְיָהוּ--אַחֲרֵי שָׂרֹף הַמְּלָךְ, אֶת-הַמְּגִלָּה וְאֶת-הַדְּבָרִים, אֲשֶׁר כָּתַב בְּרוּךְ מִפִּי יִרְמְיָהוּ, לֵאמֹר.

27 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying:

**כח** שׁוּב קַח-לְךָ, מְגִלָּה אַחֶרֶת; וּכְתַב עָלֶיהָ, אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָרִאשׁוֹנִים, אֲשֶׁר הָיוּ עַל-הַמְּגִלָּה הָרִאשׁוֹנָה, אֲשֶׁר שָׂרֹף יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה.

28 'Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned.

**כט** וְעַל-יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה תֹּאמַר, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה: אֲתָה שָׂרַפְתָּ אֶת-הַמְּגִלָּה הַזֹּאת, לֵאמֹר, מִדּוּעַ כָּתַבְתָּ עָלֶיהָ לֵאמֹר בֹּא-יָבוֹא מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל וְהִשְׁחִית אֶת-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת, וְהִשְׁבִּית מִמֶּנָּה אָדָם וּבְהֵמָה. {ס}

29 And concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah thou shalt say: Thus saith the LORD: Thou hast burned this roll, saying: Why hast thou written therein, saying: The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from thence man and beast? {S}

**ל** לָכֵן כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה, עַל-יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, לֹא-יְהִיָּה-לוֹ יוֹשֵׁב, עַל-כִּסֵּא דָוִד; וְנִבְלָתוֹ תִּהְיֶה מִשְׁלֶכֶת, לַחֹרֵב בַּיּוֹם וּלְקָרַח בַּלַּיְלָה.

30 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah: He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David; and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.

**לא** וּפְקַדְתִּי עָלָיו וְעַל-זֶרְעוֹ וְעַל-עֲבָדָיו, אֶת-עוֹנָם; וְהִבֵּאתִי עֲלֵיהֶם וְעַל-יֹשְׁבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם וְאֶל-אִישׁ יְהוּדָה, אֶת כָּל-הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר-דִּבַּרְתִּי אֵלֵיהֶם--וְלֹא שָׁמְעוּ.

31 And I will visit upon him and his seed and his servants their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them, but they hearkened not.'

**לב** וַיִּרְמְיָהוּ לְקַח מְגִלָּה אַחֶרֶת, וַיִּתְּנָהּ אֶל-בְּרוּךְ בֶּן-יִרְיָהוּ הַסֵּפֶר, וַיְכַתֵּב עָלֶיהָ מִפִּי יִרְמְיָהוּ, אֶת כָּל-דְּבָרֵי הַסֵּפֶר אֲשֶׁר שָׂרֹף יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה בְּאֵשׁ; וְעוֹד נוֹסֵף עֲלֵיהֶם דְּבָרִים רַבִּים, כְּהֵמָה. {פ}

32 Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire; and there were added besides unto them many like words.

## IV. Chapter 27 - The 'yoke' & its symbolism

[note - this prophecy relates to both Yehohaykim & Tzidkiyahu]

- א בְּרֵאשִׁית, מִמְּלַכַת יְהוֹיָקִים בֶּן-יְאוֹשָׁיָהוּ--מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה: הִזָּה הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה, אֶל-יִרְמְיָה, מֵאֵת יְהוָה, לֵאמֹר.**
- ב כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵי, עַשֵׂה לְךָ, מוֹסְרוֹת וּמִטּוֹת; וּנְתַתֶּם, עַל-צְוָארְךָ.**
- ג וְשַׁלַּחְתָּם אֶל-מֶלֶךְ אֲדוּם וְאֶל-מֶלֶךְ מוֹאָב, וְאֶל-מֶלֶךְ בְּנֵי עַמּוֹן, וְאֶל-מֶלֶךְ צֹר, וְאֶל-מֶלֶךְ צִדּוֹן--בְּיַד מַלְאָכִים הַבָּאִים יְרוּשָׁלַם, אֶל-צִדְקִיָּהוּ מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה.**
- ד וְצוֹיַתְּ אֹתָם, אֶל-אֲדֹנֵיהֶם לֵאמֹר: כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, כֹּה תֹאמְרוּ, אֶל-אֲדֹנֵיכֶם.**
- ה אֲנֹכִי עָשִׂיתִי אֶת-הָאָרֶץ, אֶת-הָאָדָם וְאֶת-הַבְּהֵמָה אֲשֶׁר עַל-פְּנֵי הָאָרֶץ, בְּכַחַי הַגָּדוֹל, וּבְזְרוּעֵי הַנְּטוּיָה; וּנְתַתִּיָּהּ, לְאֲשֶׁר יִשֶׁר בְּעֵינָי.**
- ו וְעַתָּה, אֲנֹכִי נֹתַתִּי אֶת-כָּל-הָאָרְצוֹת הָאֵלֶּה, בְּיַד נְבוּכַדְנֶאֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל, עַבְדִּי; וְגַם אֶת-חַיַּת הַשָּׂדֶה, נֹתַתִּי לוֹ לְעֶבְדוֹ.**
- ז וְעַבְדוּ אֹתוֹ כָּל-הַגּוֹיִם, וְאֶת-בָּנוּ וְאֶת-בְּנֵי-בָנוּ--עַד בְּאֶעַת אַרְצוֹ, גַּם-הוּא, וְעַבְדוּ בוֹ גּוֹיִם רַבִּים, וּמְלָכִים גְּדֹלִים.**
- ח וְהָיָה הַגּוֹי וְהַמְּמַלְכָּה, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יַעֲבֹדוּ אֹתוֹ אֶת-נְבוּכַדְנֶאֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל, וְאֶת אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִתֵּן אֶת-צְוָאָרוֹ, בְּעַל מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל--בַּחֶרֶב וּבַרְעָב וּבַדְּבַר אֶפְקָד עַל-הַגּוֹי הַהוּא, נֹאֵם-יְהוָה, עַד-תִּמְּי אֹתָם, בְּיָדוֹ.**
- ט וְאַתֶּם אֵל-תִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶל-נְבִיאֵיכֶם וְאֶל-קִסְמֵיכֶם, וְאֶל חִלְמֵיכֶם, וְאֶל-עֲנִינֵיכֶם, וְאֶל-כַּשְׁפֵּיכֶם--אֲשֶׁר-הֵם אֹמְרִים אֵלֵיכֶם, לֵאמֹר, לֹא תַעֲבֹדוּ, אֶת-מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל.**
- י כִּי שָׁקֵר, הֵם נְבִיאֵים לָכֵם, לְמַעַן הִרְחִיק אֶתְכֶם מֵעַל אֲדַמְתְּכֶם, וְהִדְחִיתִי אֶתְכֶם וְאַבְדֶּתֶם.**
- יא וְהַגּוֹי, אֲשֶׁר יָבִיא אֶת-צְוָאָרוֹ בְּעַל מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל--וְעַבְדוֹ: וְהִנְחִיתִיו עַל-אֲדָמְתוֹ נֹאֵם-יְהוָה, וְעַבְדָּהּ וַיֵּשֶׁב בָּהּ.**
- 1** In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, came this word unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:
- 2** Thus saith the LORD to me: Make thee bands and bars, and put them upon thy neck;
- 3** and send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the children of Ammon, and to the king of Tyre, and to the king of Zidon, by the hand of the messengers that come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah;
- 4** and give them a charge unto their masters, saying: Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Thus shall ye say unto your masters:
- 5** I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the face of the earth, by My great power and by My outstretched arm; and I give it unto whom it seemeth right unto Me.
- 6** And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant; and the beasts of the field also have I given him to serve him.
- 7** And all the nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the time of his own land come; and then many nations and great kings shall make him their bondman.
- 8** And it shall come to pass, that the nation and the kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I visit, saith the LORD, with the sword, and with the famine, and with the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand.
- 9** But as for you, hearken ye not to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreams, nor to your soothsayers, nor to your sorcerers, that speak unto you, saying: Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon;
- 10** for they prophesy a lie unto you, to remove you far from your land; and that I should drive you out and ye should perish.
- 11** But the nation that shall bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him, that nation will I let remain in their own land, saith the LORD; and they shall till it, and dwell therein.'



**יב וְאֶל-צִדְקִיָּה מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה דִּבַּרְתִּי, כָּכָל-הַדְּבָרִים  
הָאֵלֶּה לֵאמֹר: הֵבִיאוּ אֶת-צִוְאַרְיָכֶם בְּעַל מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל,  
וְעַבְדוּ אֹתוֹ וְעַמּוֹ--וְחִיּוּ.**

12 And I spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying: 'Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live.'

**יג לָמָּה תָּמוּתוּ אֶתְּהָ וְעַמְּךָ, בַּחֶרֶב בְּרָעַב וּבַדָּבָר--  
כְּאֲשֶׁר, דִּבַּר יְהוָה, אֶל-הַגּוֹי, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יַעֲבֹד אֶת-מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל.**

13 Why will ye die, thou and thy people, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as the LORD hath spoken concerning the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

**יד וְאֶל-תְּשֻׁמְעוּ אֶל-דְּבָרֵי הַנְּבִאִים, הָאֹמְרִים אֲלֵיכֶם  
לֵאמֹר, לֹא תַעֲבֹדוּ, אֶת-מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל:  
**כִּי שֶׁקֶר, הֵם נְבִאִים לָכֶם.****

14 And hearken not unto the words of the prophets that speak unto you, saying: Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon, for they prophesy a lie unto you.

**טו כִּי לֹא שָׁלַחְתִּים נְאֻם-יְהוָה, וְהֵם נְבִאִים בְּשֵׁמִי  
לְשֶׁקֶר: לְמַעַן הִדִּיחֵי אֶתְכֶם, וְאַבְדֶּתֶם--אֶתְּכֶם,  
וְהַנְּבִאִים הַנְּבִאִים לָכֶם.**

15 For I have not sent them, saith the LORD, and they prophesy falsely in My name; that I might drive you out, and that ye might perish, ye, and the prophets that prophesy unto you.'

**טז וְאֶל-הַכֹּהֲנִים וְאֶל-כָּל-הָעָם הִזָּה דִּבַּרְתִּי לֵאמֹר, כֹּה  
אָמַר יְהוָה, אֶל-תְּשֻׁמְעוּ אֶל-דְּבָרֵי נְבִיאֵיכֶם הַנְּבִאִים  
לָכֶם לֵאמֹר, הִנֵּה כָּלִי בַיִת-יְהוָה מוֹשָׁבִים מִבְּבִלְיָה  
עֲתָה מְהֵרָה: כִּי שֶׁקֶר, הֵמָּה נְבִאִים לָכֶם.**

16 Also I spoke to the priests and to all this people, saying: 'Thus saith the LORD: Hearken not to the words of your prophets that prophesy unto you, saying: Behold, the vessels of the LORD'S house shall now shortly be brought back from Babylon; for they prophesy a lie unto you.'

**יז אֶל-תְּשֻׁמְעוּ אֲלֵיהֶם, עַבְדוּ אֶת-מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל  
וְחִיּוּ: לָמָּה תִּהְיֶה הָעִיר הַזֹּאת, חֲרָבָה.**

17 Hearken not unto them; serve the king of Babylon, and live; wherefore should this city become desolate?

**יח וְאִם-נְבִאִים הֵם, וְאִם-יֵשׁ דָּבָר-יְהוָה אִתְּכֶם--יִפְגְּעוּ-  
נָא, בִּיהוָה צָבָאוֹת, לְבַלְתִּי-בָאוּ הַכְּלִים הַנוֹתְרִים  
בְּבַיִת-יְהוָה וּבַיִת מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה וּבִירוּשָׁלַם, בְּבִלְיָה.**

18 But if they be prophets, and if the word of the LORD be with them, let them now make intercession to the LORD of hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, go not to Babylon.

**יט כִּי כֹה אָמַר, יְהוָה צָבָאוֹת, אֶל-הָעַמּוּדִים, וְעַל-הַיָּם  
וְעַל-הַמְּכֹנֹת--וְעַל יֵתֶר הַכְּלִים, הַנוֹתְרִים בְּעִיר הַזֹּאת.**

19 For thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, and concerning the sea, and concerning the bases, and concerning the residue of the vessels that remain in this city,

**כ אֲשֶׁר לֹא-לָקַחְסָם, נְבוּכַדְנֶאֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל, בְּגִלוֹתוֹ אֶת-  
יְכוֹנִיָּה (יְכֹנְיָה) בֶן-יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה מִירוּשָׁלַם,  
בְּבִלְיָה; וְאֵת כָּל-חֲרֵי יְהוּדָה, וִירוּשָׁלַם.**

20 which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took not, when he carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem;

**כא כִּי כֹה אָמַר יְהוָה צָבָאוֹת, אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל--עַל-  
הַכְּלִים, הַנוֹתְרִים בַּיִת יְהוָה, וּבַיִת מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה,  
וִירוּשָׁלַם.**

21 yea, thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels that remain in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem:

**כב בְּבִלְיָה יוֹבְאוּ, וְשָׁמָּה יְהִיו--עַד יוֹם פְּקֻדֵי אֶתְּכֶם,  
נְאֻם-יְהוָה, וְהֵעֲלִיתִים וְהִשְׁיבֹתִים, אֶל-הַמְּקוֹם  
הַזֶּה. {פ}**

22 They shall be carried to Babylon, and there shall they be, until the day that I remember them, saith the LORD, and bring them up, and restore them to this place.' {P}

[Discuss order of events/ also reason vs. excuse]