

Bethel Bible Series

The Exile

Week 18

I'm most fearful when I'm around someone telling me how free they are. - PK

Welcome

Opening - Why did God have His prophets give promises of hope amongst their calls to faithfulness?

Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

InDepth Concept Review

Remaining Old Testament Schedule

Sundays: 4/6 – OT19; 4/13 – OT20; 4/20 – Review

Mondays: 3/31 – OT19; 4/7 – OT20; 4/14 – Review; 4/21 – OT Final

Sundays Starting 4/27 (8 weeks) - *Lutherans and Other Denominations*

Review of Last Week

Review of Last Week - *Pointing Ahead*

What warning did the prophets give? = Israel would be destroyed and exiled for unfaithfulness

What hopes did the prophets give? = Israel will return; A Messiah would be raised

Figure in center = The prophet speaks to Israel

Withered tree and barren earth = Prophets often spoke during time of crisis

Young boy points to green tree on horizon = Prophet gave hopes for Israel's future

Six manuscripts = Six specific promises of hope were given by the prophet

The coming of a Messiah out of David's seed

What promise had God given David that led to hope? = Dynasty would last forever

What kind of messiah would the Jews expect? = A King to reign wisely, just and right – faithful

Why did Jesus tell his disciples not to tell others who he was? = People had wrong idea of messiah

Did the disciples understand Jesus' mission? = Still unclear even after resurrection

The Birth of a New Era

How would the world differ under this new era? = New covenant, sins forgiven, peace

The Restoration of Paradise

How would paradise be restored? = Harmony with God, Self, Others and Nature

The Exaltation of Mount Zion

What was Mount Zion? = A hill in Jerusalem where the temple was built

Why was Mount Zion important to the Jews? = Focal point of worship, represented God's presence

How would Mount Zion be exalted? = People of world would come to Zion to learn of God

How did Jesus clarify Zion's role? = God is not confined to temple, Take gospel to world

The Return of a Remnant

How did the promise of a returning remnant comfort the Jews? = Israel not dead

The Suffering Servant

What role of God's calling had the Jews forgotten? = To be His servant

How would God's new servant suffer for others? = As offering, carry sins, justify many

Did the prophets understand what God told them to say? = No. Nor angels

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Lesson - *The Exile*

The Exile

Two large swords in the foreground = Two deportations by powerful Babylonian forces
Burning city in the background = Jerusalem is pillaged and destroyed
Masses moving out of the burning city = Judah's citizens are taken into exile
Expression of despair on face = Destruction and exile bring great despair
Ezekiel and Jeremiah scrolls = These prophets spoke before and during exile
Woman carries infant in arms = Prophets renew hope stating that a remnant shall return

God's Judgment of Judah

How did God try to get His people to return to Him?
Jeremiah 25:4-6 = He sent prophets to get the people to return
Was God's message effective?
Jeremiah 25:7 = You didn't listen to me, you have provoked me
Why didn't God's people find it necessary to return to God?
Micah 3:11b = *Isn't the Lord among us? No disaster will come upon us*

What did God decide to do as a result of Judah's continued faithlessness?
2 Kings 21:10-13 = Bring disaster on Judah and Jerusalem
How would God do this?
Jeremiah 25:8-11 = Summon my servant Nebuchadnezzar, 70 yrs exile
How would the 70 years of captivity be ended?
Jeremiah 25:12 = Babylon would be destroyed

The First Deportation

How did God begin to bring about this destruction?
2 Kings 24:10-12 = Jehoiachin surrendered to Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon
What did Nebuchadnezzar take back to Babylon with the first exile?
2 Kings 24:13-16 = Anything and anybody of value were deported to Babylon

The Response

How did the Jews respond to this?
Lamentations 1:1-2; 2:11; 5:21-22 = They were devastated, God had rejected them
What prophet was taken into exile with Jehoiachin?
Ezekiel 1:2-3 = Ezekiel began prophesying while in exile in Babylon (5 yrs after exile)
Why was Ezekiel compelled to warn the Jews even though they were already receiving His punishment?
Ezekiel 33:7-9 = Ezekiel responsible if the Jews stayed unfaithful because he didn't warn them

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Ezekiel Answered Doubts of Exiles

God is punishing us for the sins of our fathers. = For nation, not souls

Lamentations 5:7 = *Our fathers sinned, we bear their punishment*

Exodus 34:6-7 = God punishes children to the 4th generation

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 20 = Quote proverb no more. Father and son don't share guilt.

Matthew 23:29-36 = Like evil father, like evil son; Zechariah – son of Jehioda the priest

Our guilt is too great. God has brought us here to die.

Lamentations 1:8-9 = The pain of guilt was very heavy

Ezekiel 33:10-11 = God has no pleasure destroying wicked, turn from evil and live

Ezekiel 18:23, 26-27 = Righteous turned evil dies, wicked turned righteous lives

God has abandoned His people Israel. We have no hope.

Lamentations 3:1-3, 7-11, 18 = God has beaten and abandoned us. Our hope is gone.

Ezekiel 37:1-4, 10 = Ezekiel prophesies to dry bones and they come to life

Ezekiel 37:11-14 = I will raise you with my Spirit and return you to your land

The Second Deportation

How did God bring about the final exile? = Even ate their own children in famine (Lamentations 4:10)

2 Kings 25:1-7 = Neb besieged Jerusalem; Zedekiah fled, caught, sons killed, blinded

What did Nebuchadnezzar take back to Babylon with the second exile?

2 Chronicles 36:15-20 = Everything and everyone that was left, Jerusalem destroyed

How did those of the first exile hear of the final destruction and exile?

Ezekiel 33:21 = A man who had escaped brought word to Ezekiel

What happened to anyone who escaped the exile and stayed in Judah?

Ezekiel 33:27-29 = Killed by sword, animals or plague

2 Chronicles 36:21 = Land enjoyed 70 yrs of sabbath rests

Jeremiah

Jeremiah prophesied during the reigns of which kings of Judah?

Jeremiah 1:1-3 = Through Josiah, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin and Zedekiah

How was Jeremiah allowed to remain in Judah instead of going to Babylon?

Jeremiah 39:11-12; 40:1-6 = Nebuzaradan, comm of guard, released him to Gedaliah

What happened to Jews who had fled to nearby countries before the exile?

Jeremiah 40:11-12 = They returned to Judah to farm under Gedaliah

What happened to Gedaliah?

Jeremiah 40:13-14; 41:2-3 = He was killed by Ammonites (Ishmael)

How did the few left handle the assassination of Babylon's appointed ruler?

Jeremiah 42:1-3 = They had Jeremiah ask God what they should do

What answer did Jeremiah return with?

Jeremiah 42:9-16 = Stay here and I'll build you, Leave and you'll die

What did the Jews do with God's instructions?

Jeremiah 43:1-7 = They disobeyed and fled to Egypt, taking Jeremiah and Baruch

How did God punish this disobedience?

Jeremiah 44:13-14 = God would kill all who went to Egypt

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During the Exile

Synagogue was developed
Needed since temple no longer existed
Synagogue focused on instruction and prayer
Temple had focused on sacrifice and worship

Memories of older people were recorded

Daniel

Who was Belteshazzar and how was he trained to serve in the king's palace? = From Jehoiakim exile
Daniel 1:3-7 = Daniel was one of 4 young Jews selected to train in Babylonian ways
How did Daniel and his friends become trusted advisors to Nebuchadnezzar?
Daniel 1:18-20 = God gave them knowledge and wisdom, Understood visions and dreams
How long did they serve the Babylonians?
Daniel 1:21 = Until the Persians took over (King Cyrus)
Did Daniel know Jeremiah's prophecy that the exile would last 70 years?
Daniel 9:1-3 = After 70 years, Daniel prayed for remnant to return

Summary - *The Exile*

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Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 18 and Assignment

Next Week - *History Itself is the Judgment of God*