

Jeremiah 50:1-46 **Judgment against Babylon**

Judgment on Babylon and Babylonia

1 The word that the Lord spoke against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.

2 "Declare among the nations, Proclaim, and set up a standard; Proclaim — do not conceal it — Say, 'Babylon is taken, Bel is shamed. Merodach is broken in pieces; Her idols are humiliated, Her images are broken in pieces.'

3 For out of the north a nation comes up against her, Which shall make her land desolate, And no one shall dwell therein. They shall move, they shall depart, Both man and beast.

4 "In those days and in that time," says the Lord, "The children of Israel shall come, They and the children of Judah together; With continual weeping they shall come, And seek the Lord their God.

5 They shall ask the way to Zion, With their faces toward it, saying, 'Come and let us join ourselves to the Lord In a perpetual covenant That will not be forgotten.'

6 "My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray; They have turned them away on the mountains. They have gone from mountain to hill; They have forgotten their resting place.

7 All who found them have devoured them; And their adversaries said, 'We have not offended, Because they have sinned against the Lord, the habitation of justice, The Lord, the hope of their fathers.'

8 "Move from the midst of Babylon, Go out of the land of the Chaldeans; And be like the rams before the flocks.

9 For behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon An assembly of great nations from the north country, And they shall array themselves against her; From there she shall be captured. Their arrows shall be like those of an expert warrior; None shall return in vain.

10 And Chaldea shall become plunder; All who plunder her shall be satisfied," says the Lord.

11 "Because you were glad, because you rejoiced, You destroyers of My heritage, Because you have grown fat like a heifer threshing grain, And you bellow like bulls,

12 Your mother shall be deeply ashamed; She who bore you shall be ashamed. Behold, the least of the nations shall be a wilderness, A dry land and a desert.

13 Because of the wrath of the Lord She shall not be inhabited, But she shall be wholly desolate. Everyone who goes by Babylon shall be horrified And hiss at all her plagues.

14 "Put yourselves in array against Babylon all around, All you who bend the bow; Shoot at her, spare no arrows, For she has sinned against the Lord.

15 Shout against her all around; She has given her hand, Her foundations have fallen, Her walls are thrown down; For it is the vengeance of the Lord. Take vengeance on her. As she has done, so do to her.

16 Cut off the sower from Babylon, And him who handles the sickle at harvest time. For fear of the oppressing sword Everyone shall turn to his own people, And everyone shall flee to his own land.

17 "Israel is like scattered sheep; The lions have driven him away. First the king of Assyria devoured

him; Now at last this Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has broken his bones."

18 Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel:

"Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, As I have punished the king of Assyria.

19 But I will bring back Israel to his home, And he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan; His soul shall be satisfied on Mount Ephraim and Gilead.

20 In those days and in that time," says the Lord, "The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve.

21 "Go up against the land of Merathaim, against it, And against the inhabitants of Pekod. Waste and utterly destroy them," says the Lord, "And do according to all that I have commanded you.

22 A sound of battle is in the land, And of great destruction.

23 How the hammer of the whole earth has been cut apart and broken! How Babylon has become a desolation among the nations! I have laid a snare for you;

24 You have indeed been trapped, O Babylon, And you were not aware; You have been found and also caught, Because you have contended against the Lord.

25 The Lord has opened His armory, And has brought out the weapons of His indignation; For this is the work of the Lord God of hosts In the land of the Chaldeans.

26 Come against her from the farthest border; Open her storehouses; Cast her up as heaps of ruins, And destroy her utterly; Let nothing of her be left.

27 Slay all her bulls, Let them go down to the slaughter. Woe to them! For their day has come, the time of their punishment.

28 The voice of those who flee and escape from the land of Babylon Declares in Zion the vengeance of the Lord our God, The vengeance of His temple.

29 "Call together the archers against Babylon. All you who bend the bow, encamp against it all around; Let none of them escape. Repay her according to her work; According to all she has done, do to her; For she has been proud against the Lord, Against the Holy One of Israel.

30 Therefore her young men shall fall in the streets, And all her men of war shall be cut off in that day," says the Lord.

31 "Behold, I am against you, O most haughty one!" says the Lord God of hosts; "For your day has come, The time that I will punish you.

32 The most proud shall stumble and fall, And no one will raise him up; I will kindle a fire in his cities, And it will devour all around him."

33 Thus says the Lord of hosts:

"The children of Israel were oppressed, Along with the children of Judah; All who took them captive have held them fast; They have refused to let them go.

34 Their Redeemer is strong; The Lord of hosts is His name. He will thoroughly plead their case, That He may give rest to the land, And disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.

35 "A sword is against the Chaldeans," says the Lord, "Against the inhabitants of Babylon, And against her princes and her wise men.

36 A sword is against the soothsayers, and they will be fools. A sword is against her mighty men, and they will be dismayed.

37 A sword is against their horses, Against their chariots, And against all the mixed peoples who are in her midst; And they will become like women. A sword is against her treasures, and they will be robbed.

38 A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is the land of carved images, And they are insane with their idols.

39 "Therefore the wild desert beasts shall dwell there with the jackals, And the ostriches shall dwell in it. It shall be inhabited no more forever, Nor shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

40 As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah And their neighbors," says the Lord, "So no one shall reside there, Nor son of man dwell in it.

41 "Behold, a people shall come from the north, And a great nation and many kings Shall be raised up from the ends of the earth.

42 They shall hold the bow and the lance; They are cruel and shall not show mercy. Their voice shall roar like the sea; They shall ride on horses, Set in array, like a man for the battle, Against you, O daughter of Babylon.

43 "The king of Babylon has heard the report about them, And his hands grow feeble; Anguish has taken hold of him, Pangs as of a woman in childbirth.

44 "Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the floodplain of the Jordan Against the dwelling place of the strong; But I will make them suddenly run away from her. And who is a chosen man that I may appoint over her? For who is like Me? Who will arraign Me? And who is that shepherd Who will withstand Me?"

45 Therefore hear the counsel of the Lord that He has taken against Babylon, And His purposes that He has proposed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out; Surely He will make their dwelling place desolate with them.

46 At the noise of the taking of Babylon The earth trembles, And the cry is heard among the nations. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Judgment on Babylon and Babylonia

- ✧ The word that Yahweh (the Lord) spoke against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.

"Declare among the nations, Proclaim, and set up a standard; Proclaim — do not conceal it — Say, 'Babylon is taken, Bel is shamed. Merodach is broken in pieces; Her idols are humiliated, Her images are broken in pieces.'

For **out of the north** a nation comes up against her, Which shall make her land desolate, And no one shall dwell therein. They shall move, they shall depart, Both man and beast. [[Jeremiah 50:1-3](#)]

- ✧ Yahweh had used Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon calling him "My servant" to execute His wrath on all the pagan nations around Israel at the time He punished Judah for their idolatry. [[Jeremiah 25:9, 27:6, 43:10](#)]
- ✧ Because of his great victory over the pagan nations Yahweh delivered into his hand, the king of Babylon became extremely prideful as seen in the book of Daniel.
- ✧ Because of their pride and arrogance and their own idolatry, Yahweh is now declaring judgment against the Babylonians as Yahweh again uses other pagan nations to work out His purpose against Babylon.
- ✧ This judgment demonstrated the uselessness of the gods of Babylon just as the plagues of Yahweh demonstrated the uselessness of the gods of Egypt when Yahweh delivered Israel from the Egyptian bondage. [[Exodus 12:12](#)]
- ✧ Again the invading force is coming from the North.

Focus on Israel

- ✧ "In those days and in that time," says Yahweh (the Lord), "The children of Israel shall come, They and the children of Judah together; With continual weeping they shall come, And seek Yahweh Eloheym (the Lord their God).
They shall ask the way to Zion, With their faces toward it, saying, 'Come and let us join ourselves to Yahweh (the Lord) In a perpetual covenant That will not be forgotten.'

"My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray; They have turned them away on the mountains. They have gone from mountain to hill; They have forgotten their resting place.

All who found them have devoured them; And their adversaries said, 'We have not offended, Because they have sinned against Yahweh (the Lord), the habitation of justice, Yahweh (the Lord), the hope of their fathers.'

"Move from the midst of Babylon, Go out of the land of the Chaldeans; And be like the rams before the flocks. [[Jeremiah 50:4-8](#)]

- ✧ As in most of the prophecies against Israel and Judah, Yahweh looks forward to the time when Israel and Judah will be regathered together as one people. A small re-gathering after the Babylonian captivity, and the greater re-gathering for the Kingdom age at the time of the end when the people will truly have a heart for Yahweh and His Word.
- ✧ At that time they will seek Yahweh with all their hearts.
- ✧ Under the leadership of false shepherds, the people of Israel and Judah have been like lost sheep as they were turned from Yahweh their source of rest, to serve pagan idolatry on every mountain, hill and high place. [[Jeremiah 2:1-37, 5:31, 6:13, 8:10, 23:11, 32:32](#)]
- ✧ All the people who destroyed Israel and Judah were free of guilt in their own conscience declaring they had not offended anyone because it was judgment against the people of Yahweh who had sinned against their God. [[Jeremiah 40:1-3, 50:7, 2 Kings 18:24-25](#)]
- ✧ Yahweh is faithful to call His people out of the path of destruction when He is about to bring judgment against a nation. [[Jeremiah 50:8, Revelation 18:4](#)]
- ✧ For behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon An assembly of great nations from the north country, And they shall array themselves against her; From there she shall be captured. Their arrows shall be like those of an expert warrior; None shall return in vain. And Chaldea shall become plunder; All who plunder her shall be satisfied," says Yahweh (the Lord).

"Because you were glad, because you rejoiced, You destroyers of My heritage, Because you

have grown fat like a heifer threshing grain, And you bellow like bulls,
Your mother shall be deeply ashamed; She who bore you shall be ashamed. Behold, the least of the nations shall be a wilderness, A dry land and a desert.

Because of the wrath of Yahweh (the Lord) She shall not be inhabited, But she shall be wholly desolate. Everyone who goes by Babylon shall be horrified And hiss at all her plagues. [\[Jeremiah 50:9-13\]](#)

- ✧ This is the second mention that the nations who bring Yahweh's judgment against Babylon will come out of the North. [\[Jeremiah 50:3, 9\]](#)
- ✧ The destruction of Babylon will be complete and leave the land a desolation and testimony to the nations of the world.
- ✧ The reason for the fall of Babylon is the fact of their pride and self exaltation over the many peoples Yahweh delivered into their hands because of their idolatry.
- ✧ Because they provoked the Wrath of Yahweh by their pride and arrogance thinking their great accomplishment was by their own power, they will become a source of ridicule among the nations and will be a desolation uninhabited without man or beast and a source of shame for its own people.
- ✧ "Put yourselves in array against Babylon all around, All you who bend the bow; Shoot at her, spare no arrows, For she has sinned against Yahweh (the Lord). Shout against her all around; She has given her hand, Her foundations have fallen, Her walls are thrown down; For it is the vengeance of Yahweh (the Lord). Take vengeance on her. As she has done, so do to her. Cut off the sower from Babylon, And him who handles the sickle at harvest time. For fear of the oppressing sword Everyone shall turn to his own people, And everyone shall flee to his own land. [\[Jeremiah 50:14-16\]](#)
- ✧ Those who destroy Babylon are serving Yahweh in destroying a prideful idolatrous nation just like Babylon was used by Yahweh to destroy other arrogant idolatrous nations including Judah whom Yahweh delivered into their hands because of her sins and idols.
- ✧ In these cases Yahweh executes judgment by human hands.
- ✧ Those Babylon carried away from their lands will return to their lands.
- ✧ "Israel is like scattered sheep; The lions have driven him away. First the king of Assyria devoured him; Now at last this Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has broken his bones." [\[Jeremiah 50:17\]](#)
- ✧ Yahweh's heart is still focused on Israel and the destructive attitude of her captors toward the captive people.

Resulting Judgment on the nations Yahweh used to punish His people

- ✧ Therefore thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt Elohey Yisrael (the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel):

"Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, As I have punished the king of Assyria.

But I will bring back Israel to his home, And he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan; His soul shall be satisfied on Mount Ephraim and Gilead.

In those days and in that time," says Yahweh (the Lord), "The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve. [\[Jeremiah 50:18-20\]](#)

- ✧ The Babylonians will be punished just like the Assyrians were punished who carried away the northern Kingdom of Israel.
- ✧ At the same time Yahweh will restore the faithful of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah whose sins will be pardoned whom Yahweh has preserved.

☆ "Go up against the land of Merathaim (double rebellion), against it, And against the inhabitants of Pekod (visitation). Waste and utterly destroy them," says Yahweh (the Lord), "And do according to all that I have commanded you.

A sound of battle is in the land, And of great destruction.

How the hammer of the whole earth has been cut apart and broken! How Babylon has become a desolation among the nations! I have laid a snare for you;

You have indeed been trapped, O Babylon, And you were not aware; You have been found and also caught, Because you have contended against Yahweh (the Lord).

Yahweh (the Lord) has opened His armory, And has brought out the weapons of His indignation; For this is the work of Adoney Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord God of hosts) In the land of the Chaldeans.

Come against her from the farthest border; Open her storehouses; Cast her up as heaps of ruins, And destroy her utterly; Let nothing of her be left.

Slay all her bulls, Let them go down to the slaughter. Woe to them! For their day has come, the time of their punishment.

The voice of those who flee and escape from the land of Babylon Declares in Zion the vengeance of Yahweh Eloheynu (the Lord our God), The vengeance of His temple. [[Jeremiah 50:21-28](#)]

◇ The nations of the North are called to bring the vengeance of Yahweh against Babylon, for He will deliver Babylon into their hands.

◇ This is the appointed time for the fall of Babylon whose day of punishment has come.

◇ Those returning to Zion report that Yahweh has brought about His vengeance for His Holy Temple.

☆ "Call together the archers against Babylon. All you who bend the bow, encamp against it all around; Let none of them escape. Repay her according to her work; According to all she has done, do to her; For she has been proud against Yahweh (the Lord), Against the Qadowsh Yisrael (Holy One of Israel).

Therefore her young men shall fall in the streets, And all her men of war shall be cut off in that day," says Yahweh (the Lord).

"Behold, I am against you, O most haughty one!" says Adoney Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord God of hosts); "For your day has come, The time that I will punish you.

The most proud shall stumble and fall, And no one will raise him up; I will kindle a fire in his cities, And it will devour all around him." [[Jeremiah 50:29-32](#)]

◇ Instructions for the invaders and reason for her punishment.

◇ Repay Babylon according to all she has done and for her pride against Yahweh and His people.

☆ Thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts):

"The children of Israel were oppressed, Along with the children of Judah; All who took them captive have held them fast; They have refused to let them go.

Their Redeemer is strong; Yahweh Tsebaovt (The Lord of hosts) is His name. He will thoroughly plead their case, That He may give rest to the land, And disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon. [[Jeremiah 50:33-34](#)]

- ✧ This is the time for Yahweh to take vengeance for His oppressed people, the children of Israel and Judah.
- ✧ Yahweh Tsebaovt is strong and will thoroughly plead their case and give rest to His land as He troubles their captors.
- ✧ Again God reveals His Name to be Yahweh Tsebaovt.
- ✧ "A sword is against the Chaldeans," says Yahweh (the Lord), "Against the inhabitants of Babylon, And against her princes and her wise men.
A sword is against the soothsayers, and they will be fools. A sword is against her mighty men, and they will be dismayed.
A sword is against their horses, Against their chariots, And against all the mixed peoples who are in her midst; And they will become like women. A sword is against her treasures, and they will be robbed.
A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is the land of carved images, And they are insane with their idols.

"Therefore the wild desert beasts shall dwell there with the jackals, And the ostriches shall dwell in it. It shall be inhabited no more forever, Nor shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation. [[Jeremiah 50:35-40](#)]

As Elohiym (God) overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah And their neighbors," says Yahweh (the Lord), "So no one shall reside there, Nor son of man dwell in it. [[Jeremiah 50:35-42](#)]

- ✧ Yahweh calls for the sword against the Chaldeans, the inhabitants of Babylon, her princes, her soothsayers who are fools, her mighty men, their horses and chariots, the mixed people in her midst, and her treasures which will be robbed, and her waters will be dried up.
- ✧ Because they are insane with their idols which fill the land.
- ✧ Babylon is given to the wild beasts and ostriches, as it is uninhabited by man from generation to generation.
- ✧ The desolation of Babylon will be uninhabited like the land of Sodom and Gomorrah which Yahweh overthrew in the days of Lot.
- ✧ "Behold, a people shall come from the north, And a great nation and many kings Shall be raised up from the ends of the earth.
They shall hold the bow and the lance; They are cruel and shall not show mercy. Their voice shall roar like the sea; They shall ride on horses, Set in array, like a man for the battle, Against you, O daughter of Babylon.

"The king of Babylon has heard the report about them, And his hands grow feeble; Anguish has taken hold of him, Pangs as of a woman in childbirth.

"Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the floodplain of the Jordan Against the dwelling place of the strong; But I will make them suddenly run away from her. And who is a chosen man that I may appoint over her? For who is like Me? Who will arraign Me? And who is that shepherd Who will withstand Me?" [[Jeremiah 50:41-44](#)]

- ✧ The king of Babylon has heard the report of the coming invasion from the North and is terrified.
- ✧ The invaders are cruel and will show no mercy.
- ✧ Yahweh will deliver Babylon into the hands of the invaders as He has purposed, and no one can turn the punishment against Babylon around. There is no one like Yahweh who can stand withstand Him.

✧ Therefore hear the counsel of Yahweh (the Lord) that He has taken against Babylon, And His purposes that He has proposed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out; Surely He will make their dwelling place desolate with them.

At the noise of the taking of Babylon The earth trembles, And the cry is heard among the nations. [[Jeremiah 50:45-46](#)]

✧ Yahweh's purpose against Babylon will stand.

✧ The earth will tremble at her fall.