

¹Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem unto the residue of the elders which were carried away captives, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon;²(After that Jeconiah the king, and the queen, and the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the carpenters, and the smiths, were departed from Jerusalem;)³By the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent unto Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon) saying,⁴Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon;⁵Build ye houses, and dwell in them ; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them;⁶Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished.⁷And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.⁸For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.⁹For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD.¹⁰For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished

¹هَذَا كَلَامُ الرِّسَالَةِ الَّتِي أَرْسَلَهَا إِزْمِيَا النَّبِيُّ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ إِلَى بَقِيَّةِ شُيُخِ السَّبْيِ، وَإِلَى الْكَهَنَةِ وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، وَإِلَى كُلِّ الشَّعْبِ الَّذِينَ سَبَّاهُمْ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ إِلَى بَابِلَ، بَعْدَ خُرُوجِ يَكُنْيَا الْمَلِكِ وَالْمَلِكَةِ وَالْخَصَتَانِ وَزَوْسَاءِ يَهُودَا وَأُورُشَلِيمَ وَالتَّجَارِينِ وَالْحَدَّادِينَ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ،²بِيَدِ أَلْعَاسَةَ بْنِ شَافَانَ وَجَمْرِيَا بْنِ حَلَفِيَّا الَّذِينَ أَرْسَلَهُمَا صِدْقِيَّا مَلِكُ يَهُودَا إِلَى تَبُوحْدَنْصَرِ مَلِكِ بَابِلَ إِلَى بَابِلَ قَائِلًا،³هَكَذَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ لِكُلِّ السَّبْيِ الَّذِي سَبَّيْتُهُ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ إِلَى بَابِلَ،⁴إِنْتُوا بَيْوتًا وَاسْكُنُوا، وَاعْرِشُوا جَنَاتٍ وَكُلُوا ثَمَرَهَا.⁵خُذُوا نِسَاءً وَلِدُوا بَنِينَ وَبَنَاتٍ وَخُذُوا لِبَنَيْكُمْ نِسَاءً وَأَعْطُوا بَنَاتِكُمْ لِبَنَاتِالْفِيلَدَنَ بَنِينَ وَبَنَاتٍ، وَكَثُرُوا هُنَاكَ وَلَا تَقْلُوا. وَاطْلُبُوا سَلَامَ الْمَدِينَةِ الَّتِي سَبَّيْتُمْ إِلَيْهَا وَصَلُوا لِأَجْلِهَا إِلَى الرَّبِّ،⁶لَأَنَّهُ بِسَلَامِهَا يَكُونُ لَكُمْ سَلَامٌ.⁷لَأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، لَا تَعَسَّكُمْ أُنْبِيَاؤُكُمْ الَّذِينَ فِي وَسْطِكُمْ وَعَرَّافُوكُمْ وَلَا تَسْمَعُوا لِأَحْلَامِكُمْ الَّتِي تَحْلُمُونَهَا.⁸لَأَنَّهُمْ إِنَّمَا يَسْتَأْنُونَ لَكُمْ بِاسْمِي بِالْكَذِبِ. أَمَا لَمْ أَرْسَلَهُمْ يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ.⁹لَأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ. إِنِّي عِنْدَ تَمَامِ سَبْعِينَ سَنَةً لِبَابِلَ أَنْعَهْدَكُمْ وَأَقِيمَ لَكُمْ كَلَامِي الصَّالِحَ بِرَدِّكُمْ إِلَى هَذَا الْمَوْضِعِ. لِأَنِّي عَرَفْتُ الْاَفْكَارَ الَّتِي أَنَا مُفْتَكِرٌ بِهَا عَنْكُمْ يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، أَفْكَارَ سَلَامٍ لَا سَرٍّ لَأَعْطِيَكُمْ أَجْرَةً وَرَجَاءً.¹⁰فَتَدْعُونِي وَتَدْعُبُونَ وَتُصَلُّونَ إِلَيَّ فَاسْمَعُ لَكُمْ.¹¹وَتَطْلُبُونِي فَتَجِدُونِي إِذْ تَطْلُبُونِي بِكُلِّ قَلْبِكُمْ. فَأَوْجِدُ لَكُمْ يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، وَأُرِدُّ سَبْيَكُمْ وَأَجْمَعُكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ الْأَمَمِ وَمِنْ كُلِّ الْمَوَاضِعِ الَّتِي طَرَدْتُكُمْ إِلَيْهَا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، وَأُرِدُّكُمْ إِلَى الْمَوْضِعِ الَّذِي سَبَّيْتُكُمْ مِنْهُ.¹²لَأَنَّكُمْ قُلُوبُكُمْ، قَدْ أَقَامَ لَنَا الرَّبُّ أَنْبِيَاءَ فِي بَابِلَ فَهَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِلْمَلِكِ الْجَالِسِ عَلَى كُرْسِيِّ دَاوُدَ، وَلِكُلِّ الشَّعْبِ الْجَالِسِ فِي هَذِهِ الْمَدِينَةِ، إِخْوَتِكُمُ الَّذِينَ لَمْ يَخْرُجُوا مَعَكُمْ فِي السَّبْيِ،¹³هَكَذَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ. هَنَذَا أَرْسَلُ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّيْفَ وَالْجُوعَ وَالْوَبَاءَ، وَأَجْعَلُهُمْ كَبِينَ رَدِيءٍ لَا يُؤْكَلُ مِنَ الرِّدَاءَةِ.¹⁴وَأَجْعَلُهُمْ بِالسَّيْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَالْوَبَاءِ، وَأَجْعَلُهُمْ قَلَفًا لِكُلِّ مَمَالِكِ الْأَرْضِ، جَلَفًا وَدَهْشًا وَصَفِيرًا وَغَارًا فِي جَمِيعِ الْأَمَمِ الَّذِينَ طَرَدْتُهُمْ إِلَيْهِمْ.¹⁵مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنَّهُمْ لَمْ يَسْمَعُوا لِكَلَامِي يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ إِذْ أَرْسَلْتُ إِلَيْهِمْ عِبِيدِي الْأَنْبِيَاءَ مُبَكِّرًا وَمُزْمِلًا وَلَمْ تَسْمَعُوا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ.¹⁶وَأَنْتُمْ قَاسَمُوا كَلِمَةَ الرَّبِّ يَا جَمِيعَ السَّبْيِ الَّذِينَ أَرْسَلْتُهُمْ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ إِلَى

at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.¹² Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.¹³ And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.¹⁴ And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.¹⁵ Because ye have said, The LORD hath raised us up prophets in Babylon;¹⁶ Know that thus saith the LORD of the king that sitteth upon the throne of David, and of all the people that dwelleth in this city, and of your brethren that are not gone forth with you into captivity;¹⁷ Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will send upon them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like vile figs, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil.¹⁸ And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and an hissing, and a reproach, among all the nations whither I have driven them:¹⁹ Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the LORD, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them

بَابِلَ.²¹ هَكَذَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ عَنْ أَحَابَ بْنِ
فُولَايَا، وَعَنْ صِدْقِيَا بْنِ مَعَسِيَا، الَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعَانِ لَكُمْ
بِاسْمِي بِالْكَذِبِ. هَتْنَدَا أَدْفَعُهُمَا لِيَدِ تَبُوحَدْتَصَّرَ مَلِكُ بَابِلَ
فَيَقْبُلُهُمَا أَمَامَ عُيُونِكُمْ.²² وَتُؤَخَذُ مِنْهُمَا لَعْنَةُ لِكُلِّ سَنِي
بَهُودَا الَّذِينَ فِي بَابِلَ، قَبْقَالُ، يَجْعَلُكَ الرَّبُّ مِنْ صِدْقِيَا
وَمِنْ أَحَابَ الَّذِينَ فَلَاهُمَا مَلِكُ بَابِلَ بِالنَّارِ.²³ مِنْ أَجْلِ
أَنَّهُمَا عَمِلَا قَبِيحًا فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ، وَزَيْنَا بِنِسَاءِ أَصْحَابِهِمَا،
وَتَكَلَّمَا بِاسْمِي كَلَامًا كَاذِبًا لَمْ أُوصِيهِمَا بِهِ، وَأَنَا الْعَارِفُ
وَالشَّاهِدُ يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ.²⁴ وَقُلْ لِسَمْعِيَا النَّحْلَامِيِّ، هَكَذَا
تَكَلَّمَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنَّكَ أَرْسَلْتَ
رِسَائِلَ بِاسْمِكَ إِلَى كُلِّ الشَّعْبِ الَّذِي فِي أَوْشَلِيمَ،
وَالِى صَفْقِيَا بْنِ مَعَسِيَا الْكَاهِنِ، وَإِلَى كُلِّ الْكَهَنَةِ
قَائِلًا،²⁶ قَدْ جَعَلَكَ الرَّبُّ كَاهِنًا عَوَضًا عَنْ يَهُوِيَادَاعَ الْكَاهِنِ
لِتَكُونُوا وَكُلَّاءَ فِي بَيْتِ الرَّبِّ لِكُلِّ رَجُلٍ مَجْنُونٍ وَمُتَّبِعِي
فَتَدْفَعُهُ إِلَى الْمِطْطَرَةِ وَالْقُبُورِ.²⁷ وَالْآنَ لِمَاذَا لَمْ تَرْجُرْ
إِزْمِيَا الْعَنَانُوثِي الْمُتَّبِعِي لَكُمْ. لِأَنَّهُ لِيَذَلِكَ أَرْسَلَ إِلَيْنَا إِلَى
بَابِلَ قَائِلًا إِنَّهَا مُسْتَطِيلَةٌ. ابْنُوا بُيُوتًا وَاسْكُنُوا وَاعْرِسُوا
جَنَابَ وَكُلُوا تَمَرَهَا.²⁹ فَقَرَأَ صَفْقِيَا الْكَاهِنُ هَذِهِ الرِّسَالَةَ
فِي أُذُنِي إِزْمِيَا النَّبِيِّ.³⁰ ثُمَّ صَارَ كَلَامُ الرَّبِّ إِلَيَّ
إِزْمِيَا، أَرْسِلْ إِلَى كُلِّ السَّنِيِّ قَائِلًا، هَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ
لِسَمْعِيَا النَّحْلَامِيِّ، مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنَّ سَمْعِيَا قَدْ تَبَّأَ لَكُمْ وَأَنَا
لَمْ أَرْسِلُهُ، وَجَعَلَكُمْ تَتَكَلَّمُونَ عَلَى الْكَذِبِ.³² لِيَذَلِكَ هَكَذَا
قَالَ الرَّبُّ. هَتْنَدَا أَعَاقِبُ سَمْعِيَا النَّحْلَامِيِّ وَتَسْلُهُ. لَا
يَكُونُ لَهُ إِنْسَانٌ يَجْلِسُ فِي وَسْطِ هَذَا الشَّعْبِ، وَلَا يَرَى
الْخَيْرَ الَّذِي سَأَصْنَعُهُ لِسَعْيِي يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، لِأَنَّهُ تَكَلَّمَ
بِعِصْيَانٍ عَلَى الرَّبِّ.

; but ye would not hear, saith the LORD.²⁰ Hear ye therefore the word of the LORD, all ye of the captivity, whom I have sent from Jerusalem to Babylon:²¹ Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, of Ahab the son of Kolaiah, and of Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah, which prophesy a lie unto you in my name; Behold, I will deliver them into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall slay them before your eyes;²² And of them shall be taken up a curse by all the captivity of Judah which are in Babylon, saying, The LORD make thee like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire;²³ Because they have committed villany in Israel, and have committed adultery with their neighbours' wives, and have spoken lying words in my name, which I have not commanded them; even I know, and am a witness, saith the LORD.²⁴ Thus shalt thou also speak to Shemaiah the Nehelamite, saying,²⁵ Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, Because thou hast sent letters in thy name unto all the people that are at Jerusalem, and to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all the priests, saying,²⁶ The LORD hath made thee priest in the stead of Jehoiada the priest, that ye should be officers in the house of the LORD, for every man that is mad, and maketh himself a prophet, that thou shouldest put him in prison, and in the stocks.²⁷ Now therefore why hast thou not reproved Jeremiah of Anathoth, which maketh himself a prophet to you?²⁸ For therefore he sent unto us in Babylon, saying, This captivity is long: build ye

houses, and dwell in them ; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them.²⁹ And Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the ears of Jeremiah the prophet.³⁰ Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,³¹ Send to all them of the captivity, Thus saith the LORD concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite; Because that Shemaiah hath prophesied unto you, and I sent him not, and he caused you to trust in a lie:³² Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite, and his seed: he shall not have a man to dwell among this people; neither shall he behold the good that I will do for my people, saith the LORD; because he hath taught rebellion against the LORD.