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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. هَتَدَا أَدْفَعُهُمَا لِيَدِ تَبُوحَدْتَصَّرَ مَلِكُ بَابِلَ
فَيَقْبِضَهُمَا أَمَامَ عُيُونِكُمْ.²² وَتُؤَخَذُ مِنْهُمَا لَعْنَةُ لِكُلِّ سَنِي
بَهُودَا الَّذِينَ فِي بَابِلَ، قَبِيلًا، 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 أُوصِهِمَا 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 أُورُشَلِيمَ،
وَالِى صَفْتِيَا 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 الْمِقْطَرَةِ وَالْقِيُودِ.²⁷ وَالْآنَ لِمَاذَا لَمْ تَرْجُرْ
إِزْمِيَا الْعَتَانُوثِيَّ الْمُتَّبِعِي لَكُمْ. لِأَنَّهُ لِيَذَلِكَ أَرْسَلَ إِلَيْنَا إِلَى
بَابِلَ قَائِلًا إِنَّهَا مُسْتَطِيلَةٌ. ابْنُوا بُيُوتًا وَاسْكُنُوا وَاعْرِسُوا
جَنَابَ وَكُلُوا تَمَرَهَا.²⁹ فَقَرَأَ صَفْتِيَا 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. هَتَدَا أَعَاقِبُ سَمْعِيَا النَّحْلَامِيِّ وَتَسْلُهُ. لَا
يَكُونُ لَهُ إِنْسَانٌ يَجْلِسُ فِي وَسْطِ هَذَا الشَّعْبِ، وَلَا يَرَى
الْخَيْرَ الَّذِي سَأَصْنَعُهُ لِسَعْيِي يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، لِأَنَّهُ تَكَلَّمَ
بِعَصْبَانٍ 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.