

¹ Now 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;) ³ By the hand of Elasar the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent unto Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon) saying, ⁴ Thus 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; ⁵ Build ye houses, and dwell in them ; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; ⁶ Take 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. ⁷ And 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. ⁸ For 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. ⁹ For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD. ¹⁰ For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished

هَذَا كَلَامُ الرَّسُولِيَّةِ الَّتِي أَرْسَلَهَا إِزْمِيَا النَّبِيُّ مِنْ أُورُشَلَيمَ إِلَى بَقِيَّةِ شُيُوخِ السَّبَبِيِّ، وَإِلَى الْكَهْنَةِ وَالْأَسِيَاءِ، قَالَ إِلَى كُلِّ الْمُشْعَبِ الَّذِينَ سَتَاهُمْ بِتُوْجُدِنَصَرٍ مِنْ أُورُشَلَيمَ إِلَى تَابِلٍ، بَعْدَ حُرُوجٍ يَكُنْيَا الْمُلْكَ وَالْمُلْكَةَ وَالْخُصْبَانَ وَرُؤْسَاءِ يَهُودَا وَأُورُشَلَيمَ وَالنَّجَارِينَ وَالْحَدَادِينَ مِنْ اللَّدِينِ أَرْسَلَهُمَا صِدْقَيَا مَلِكُ يَهُودَا إِلَى بِتُوْجُدِنَصَرِ مَلِكِ تَابِلٍ إِلَى تَابِلٍ قَائِلًا، هَكَذَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ لِكُلِّ السَّبَبِيِّ الَّذِي سَبَيَّتُهُ مِنْ أُورُشَلَيمَ إِلَى تَابِلٍ. إِسْنَوا بِيُوتَهُ وَاسْكُنُوا، وَاغْرِسُوا جَنَّاتٍ وَكُلُّوا نَمَرَهَا. ⁶ حَدُّوا بَسَاءً وَلَدُوا بَيْنَ وَبَنَاتٍ وَخُدُوا لِتَبَيْكُمْ بَسَاءً وَأَغْطُوا بَنَاتَكُمْ لِرَجَالٍ فَيَلِدُنَّ بَيْنَ وَبَنَاتٍ، وَاكْتُرُوا هُنَاكَ وَلَا تَفْلُوْنَ. ⁷ وَاطْلُبُوا سَلَامَ الْمَدِيْنَةِ الَّتِي سَبَيَّتُكُمْ إِلَيْهَا وَصَلُّوا لِأَلْهَلِهَا إِلَى الرَّبِّ، لَأَنَّهُ بِسَلَامِهَا يَكُونُ لَكُمْ سَلَامٌ. ⁸ هَكَذَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، لَا تَغْشَكُمْ أَبْيَاوِكُمُ الَّذِينَ فِي وَسْطِكُمْ وَعَرَافُوكُمْ وَلَا تَسْمَعُوا لِأَخْلَامِكُمُ الَّتِي تَتَحَلَّفُوْتُهَا. ⁹ لَا تَهُمْ إِنْقَاصَيَّاتُونَ لَكُمْ بِاْسْمِي بِالْكَذْبِ. أَنَا لَمْ أَرْسِلْهُمْ بِقَوْلِ الرَّبِّ. ¹⁰ لَأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ. إِنِّي عِنْدَ تَمَامِ سَبْعِينَ سَنَةً لِتَابِلٍ أَعْهَدْتُكُمْ وَأَقِيمْتُكُمْ لَكُمْ كَلَامِي الصَّالِحِ بِرَدْكُمْ إِلَى هَذَا الْمَوْضِعِ. لَأَنِّي عَرَفْتُ الْأَفْكَارَ الَّتِي أَنَا مُفْتَكِرٌ بِهَا عَنْكُمْ يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، أَفْكَارٌ سَلَامٌ لَا شَرٌ لِأَنْطَلِيَّكُمْ آخِرَةً وَرَجَاءً. ¹² فَنَذَعُونَي وَنَدْهُونَ وَنَصَلُونَ إِلَيَّ فَأَسْمَعُ لَكُمْ. ¹³ وَطَلُبُوْتِي فَنَجِدُوْتِي إِذْ تَطْلُبُونَي يُكْلِّ قَلْبِكُمْ. ¹⁴ فَأَوْجُدُ لَكُمْ بِقَوْلِ الرَّبِّ، وَأَرْدُ سَبِيْكُمْ وَأَجْعَمُكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ الْأَمْمَ وَمِنْ كُلِّ الْمَوْاضِعِ الَّتِي طَرَدْتُكُمْ إِلَيْهَا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، وَأَرْدُكُمْ إِلَى الْمَوْضِعِ الَّذِي سَبَيَّتُكُمْ وِهَنْ. ¹⁵ لَا تُكْنِمْ قُلُّنِمْ، قَدْ أَقَمْتُ لَنَا الرَّبُّ أَبْيَاءَ فِي تَابِلٍ ¹⁶ فَهَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِلْمَلِكِ الْجَالِسِ عَلَى كُرْسِيِّ دَاؤَدَ، وَلِكُلِّ الْمُشْعَبِ الْجَالِسِ فِي هَذِهِ الْمَدِيْنَةِ، إِخْوَتُكُمُ الَّذِينَ لَمْ يَخْرُجُوا مَعَكُمْ فِي السَّبَبِيِّ، هَكَذَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ. هَنَّذَا أَرْسِلْ عَلَيْهِمِ السَّيْفَ وَالْجُوعَ وَالْوَبَاءِ، وَأَجْعَلْهُمْ كَتِنِ رَدِيعَ لَا يُؤْكَلُ مِنْ الرَّزَادَةِ. ¹⁸ وَالْحَقْهُمْ بِالسَّيْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَالْوَبَاءِ، وَأَجْعَلْهُمْ قَلَقاً لِكُلِّ مَمَالِكِ الْأَرْضِ، حِلْفَاً وَدَهْشاً وَصَفِيرَاً وَعَارَاً فِي جَمِيعِ الْأَمْمِ الَّذِينَ طَرَدْتُهُمْ إِلَيْهِمْ مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنْهُمْ لَمْ يَسْمَعُوا لِكَلَامِي يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ إِذْ أَرْسَلْتُ إِلَيْهِمْ عَيْدِي الْأَسِيَاءَ مُنْكِرًا وَمُرْسِلًا وَلَمْ تَسْمَعُوا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ. ²⁰ وَأَنَّمِمْ فَأَسْمَعُوا كَلِمةَ الرَّبِّ يَا جَمِيعَ السَّبَبِيِّ الَّذِينَ أَرْسَلْتُهُمْ مِنْ أُورُشَلَيمَ 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. هَكَدَا قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ عَنْ أَحَادِيثِ بْنِ فُؤَلَّا، وَعَنْ صِدْقَيَا بْنِ مَعْسِيَّا، الَّذِينَ يَتَبَاهَانَ لَكُمْ يَاسْمِي بِالْكَذِيبِ. هَنَدَا أَذْفَعْتُهُمَا لِيَدِ تُوْخَدُصَّرَ مَلِكِ بَابِلَ فَيَقْتُلُهُمَا أَمَامَ عَيْوِنِكُمْ. وَتُوْخَدُ مِنْهُمَا لَعْنَةً لِكُلِّ سَبْبِي يَهُودَا الَّذِينَ فِي بَابِلَ، فَيَقُولُ، يَجْعَلُكَ الرَّبُّ مِثْلَ صِدْقَيَا وَمِثْلَ أَحَادِيثِ الَّذِينَ قَلَّا هُمْ مِلِكُ بَابِلِ بِالشَّارِ. مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنْهُمَا عَمِلاً قَيْحاً فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ، وَرَبِّيَا بِنَسَاءَ أَصْحَابِهِمَا، وَتَكَلَّمَا يَاسْمِي كَلَامًا كَادِيًّا لَمْ أَوْصَهُمَا بِهِ، وَأَنَا الْغَارِفُ وَالشَّاهِدُ يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ. وَقُلْ لِسَمْعَيَا الْحَلَامِيِّ، هَكَدَا تَكَلَّمَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنَّكَ أَرْسَلْتَ رَسَائِلَ يَاسْمِكَ إِلَى كُلِّ الشَّعْبِ الَّذِي فِي أُورُشَلَيمَ، وَإِلَى صَفَّيَا بْنِ مَعْسِيَّا الْكَاهِنِ، وَإِلَى كُلِّ الْكَاهِنَةِ قَائِلًا،²⁶ قَدْ حَعَلَكَ الرَّبُّ كَاهِنًا عِوْضًا عَنْ يَهُوَيَادَاعِ الْكَاهِنِ لِتَكُونُوا وُكَلَاءَ فِي بَيْتِ الرَّبِّ لِكُلِّ رَجُلٍ مَحْتُونٍ وَمَتَّبِعٍ فَنَدَقَعْهُ إِلَى الْمَقْطَرَةِ وَالْقَعْدَوْدِ. وَالآنَ لِمَادَا لَمْ تَرْجُزْ إِزْمِيَا الْعَشَّاشُوَيِّيَّ الْمُتَبَّشِّيَّ لَكُمْ²⁷ لَأَنَّهُ لِذَلِكَ أَرْسَلَ إِلَيْنَا إِلَى بَابِلَ قَائِلًا إِنَّهَا مُسْتَطِيَّةُ. ابْنُوا بَيْوَنَاتَ وَاسْكُنُوا جَنَّاتَ وَكُلُّوا نَمَرَهَا.²⁹ فَقَرَأَ صَفَّيَا الْكَاهِنُ هَذِهِ الرِّسَالَةَ فِي أَذْيَنِ إِزْمِيَا السَّبِيِّ. ثُمَّ صَارَ كَلَامُ الرَّبِّ إِلَى إِزْمِيَا، أَرْسَلَ إِلَى كُلِّ السَّبِيِّ قَائِلًا، هَكَدَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِسَمْعَيَا الْحَلَامِيِّ، مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنْ سَمْعَيَا قَدْ شَبَّأَ لَكُمْ وَأَنَا لَمْ أَرْسِلَهُ، وَجَعَلْكُمْ شَكُلُونَ عَلَى الْكَذِيبِ. لِذَلِكَ هَكَدَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ. هَنَدَا أَعَاقِبُ سَمْعَيَا الْحَلَامِيَّ وَنَسْلَهُ. لَا يَكُونُ لَهُ إِنْسَانٌ يَجْلِسُ فِي وَسْطِ هَذَا الشَّعْبِ، وَلَا يَرَى الْحَيْرَ الَّذِي سَأَصْنَعُ لِشَعْبِي يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، لَأَنَّهُ تَكَلَّمَ بِعَصْيَانٍ 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,³¹Send to all them of the captivity, saying, 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:³²Therefore 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.