

# A Message To The Exiles

10/15/2023 – JEREMIAH 29:10-14

EMMANUEL CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# Three Things To Know

- ▶ The exile moves according to God's timing not theirs
- ▶ The exile does not change God's destination for them
- ▶ The exile's ending is marked by them going after God

# Jeremiah 29:10-14 (ESV)



10 “For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.

11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

14 I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.



The Exile Moves  
According To God's  
Timing Not Theirs

# The End of Exile Announced

21 thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels that are left in the house of the Lord, in the house of the king of Judah, and in Jerusalem:

22 They shall be carried to Babylon and remain there until the day when I visit them, declares the Lord. Then I will bring them back and restore them to this place

# Fake News

28 In that same year, at the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fifth month of the fourth year, Hananiah the son of Azzur, the prophet from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the Lord, in the presence of the priests and all the people, saying,

2 “Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.

3 **Within two years** I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the Lord's house, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon.

4 I will also bring back to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and all the exiles from Judah who went to Babylon, declares the Lord, for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.”

# How To Go About Waiting



4 “Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:

5 Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce.

6 Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease.

7 But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Shalom

שָׁלוֹם





The Exile Does Not  
Change God's  
Destination For Them

# Jeremiah 29:11



ESV - 11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

NIV - 11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

# What is Entropy and Why is it Important? -MO

Here's a simple analogy that explains entropy in simple terms.

Picture yourself building a sandcastle on a beach. After several hours, your hard work has paid off. You've managed to scoop up millions of scattered grains of sand and mold them into a beautiful structure. You stand up, dust yourself off and walk away from the well-built sandcastle. You make plans to see your sandcastle again the next day. Now picture this: overnight there's a violent thunderstorm, and the rain, wind and waves wash over the sand on the beach. The next day you walk back to the beach to marvel at your sandcastle, but you're shocked to see that half of your once beautiful sandcastle has been destroyed.

This is an analogous experience of entropy.

The sandcastle represents order and structure in your life, and the thunderstorm represents external natural forces that create disorder, which destroys the sandcastle. In more scientific terms, according to The Second Law of Thermodynamics—one of the most fundamental laws of nature—entropy (a measure of disorder) in the universe is steadily increasing. In layman's terms, things in our life will naturally lose order overtime, if left to their own devices.



The Exile's Ending Is  
Marked By Them Going  
After God

# The Beginning of the End of Exile



12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

14 I will be found by you, declares the Lord,

# Conclusion

# A Home Where We Belong



John 14:1-3

1 “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.