

The Story Chapter 17

The Kingdom's Fall
All's Lost – All's Found

Who is most at fault

- The People
- The leaders
- How can we as believers keep from being led astray?

Mattaniah – King Zedekiah

- Puppet king – controlled by Babylon
- Had promised loyalty to Nebuchadnezzar
- Rejected God
- Defiled temple
- Dual Prophecy – Ezekiel & Jeremiah
 - Jer – Zed carried to Babylon
 - Eze – Would not see Babylon
- When captured
 - Sons killed before his eyes
 - Eyes put out
 - Carried to Babylon
 - Last and worst king of Judah

2 Chronicles 36. 15-16

¹⁵ The Lord, the God of their ancestors, sent word to them through his messengers again and again, because he had pity on his people and on his dwelling place. ¹⁶ But they mocked God's messengers, despised his words and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of the Lord was aroused against his people and there was no remedy."

What eventually happened to Manasseh?

- What was the cause?

Manasseh

- Was 12 when he became king
- Ruled in Jerusalem for 55 years
- Shed so much innocent blood in Jerusalem
- Did more evil than any other king

Isaiah's Predictions

- Jehoiakim
 - Don't put trust in Egyptians
 - Jerusalem would be overthrown – Jeh - captive
- Jehoichin
 - Temple desecrated – looted
 - Became captive
- Zedekiah
 - Surrender to Babylon – live
 - Or suffer famine or sword

The Results

- Jerusalem razed to ground
- People exiled to Babylon
- Temple burned 470 yrs after built
- Gold, silver & treasures of temple → Babylon
- Holy vessels dedicated to Babylonian gods
- David's line
 - 21 kings
 - Reigned 514 yrs
 - After Saul ruled 20

More Results

- Approx 850 yrs after Moses/Mt. Sinai
- Approx 125 yrs after Israel exiled
- Nation holding the Promised Land – Exiled

Something Else – Something More Was Needed

- Hebrews 7. 18-19
"18 The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless 19 (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God."
- Hebrews 8. 7
"7 For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another."

Q – 9 2 Corinthians 3. 7-10

"That old system of law etched in stone led to death, yet it began with such glory that the people of Israel could not bear to look at Moses' face. Shouldn't we expect far greater glory when the Holy Spirit is giving life? If the old covenant, which brings condemnation, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new covenant, which makes us right with God! In fact, that first glory was not glorious at all compared with the overwhelming glory of the new covenant."

Matthew 26. 26-28

"26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." 27 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

Jeremiah 31. 31-34

"The day will come," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife," says the Lord. "But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day," says the Lord. "I will put my laws in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their family, saying, 'You should know the Lord.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will already know me," says the Lord. "And I will forgive their wickedness and will never again remember their sins."

Ezekiel 36. 24-27

"For I will gather you up from all the nations and bring you home again to your land. 'Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart with new and right desires, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony heart of sin and give you a new, obedient heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so you will obey my laws and do whatever I command.'"

The Old Covenant

- Law brought awareness of sin
- Carved on tablets of stone
- Time-sensitive, limited atonement
- Spiritual High Priest
- Externally based
- A response of fear
- Falseover looks back to bitterness/slavery
- Letter of the law kills
- Stopped/particwork

The New Covenant

- New brought freedom from sin
- Written with the Spirit on human hearts
- Eternal judging of sin
- Timeless, perfect High Priest
- Internally based—matter of the heart
- A response of gratitude
- Falseover looks back & forward
- Spirit gives life
- Turnkey/assemble

3-Fold Purpose of the Law

- Regulatory – to teach Israel to be Holy
- Revelatory – Reveals sin and a Holy God
- Preparatory – Demonstrates need for a Savior

The New Covenant is not dependant upon the Old Covenant

It is dependant upon what God did in

God showed Ezekiel He could breathe new life into old bones

Jesus the Christ