

Cup of Destruction

Jeremiah 25

Jeremiah 46 - 51

by Don Falkos

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Jeremiah said to the people of Judah, "For twenty years I and many other prophets have proclaimed the Lord's message to you, but you have not listened. The message has always been the same: 'Give up your evil ways. Turn back to the Lord your God. And you will continue to live in this land that I, the Lord, gave to your ancestors. But if you continue to ignore me and worship idols, you will suffer the consequences of your actions.' "

Jeremiah took the Lord's message to all the surrounding nations. To Egypt he said, "Babylon's armies will come against you with axes like an uncountable hoard of woodsmen chopping down trees."

He warned Philistia, "You will hear a tremendous storm approaching – the pounding hoofs of Babylon's stallions."

To Moab the prophet said, "Run for your lives. You have no hope of survival."

Jeremiah issued the Lord's warnings to Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Hazor, Elam – all the nations surrounding Judah, "All will drink from the same cup of destruction. You will stagger, go mad, fall, and rise no more."

And so the Lord would allow the evil Babylonian Empire to mete out justice on Judah and its neighbors. But Babylon would not escape unscathed.

Jeremiah said to the people of Judah, "The Lord says: The time has arrived. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon will conquer you and all your neighbors. He will devastate the land, and you will become slaves in Babylon for seventy years. After that time, Babylon will be conquered, its cities destroyed. Its people will be scattered far and wide and will themselves suffer enslavement."