

They Are Not Gods

The Letter of Jeremiah (Baruch 6)

by Don Falkos

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The prophet Jeremiah wrote a letter in the name of the Lord to those who were about to be carried off into exile by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon.

You are facing a long captivity in Babylon. Then I will bring you home in peace.

In Babylon you will see gods made of silver and gold and wood, which people carry around in an attempt to incite fear. These false gods have tongues but cannot speak. They have eyes but cannot see. One holds a sword, another an ax, but none of them can protect themselves. They are not gods; do not fear them.

They don't feel the insects and rodents nibbling away at them. Dust collects on them and bats defecate on them, but they cannot wipe themselves clean. They are not gods; do not fear them.

They can't breathe. They can't walk. When they fall over, they can't get up. They are not gods; do not fear them.

They can't give rewards to the good or mete out punishments to the evil. They can't heal the sick. They can't see to the needs of the widow or the orphan. They are not gods; do not fear them.

They can't put a king into power. They can't make it rain. They can't save themselves from fire or from robbers. They can't issue orders or respond to even the simplest requests. They are not gods; do not fear them.

When you see the people around you worshipping these false gods, remember I am watching over you. I am your God. You are to worship only me.