

## The Beginning of Captivity

After Jehoahaz was sent to Egypt, Jehoiakim was made king. He was very wicked! Nebuchadnezzar invaded the land and Jehoiakim served him for 3 years. Jehoiakim rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar and was put into bronze shackles. Valuable items were taken from God's temple and taken to Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar also took young men from the king's family to serve him in his palace in Babylon. Among these men were Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Do you remember that Isaiah had told Hezekiah that this very thing would happen?

Jeremiah told the people that they had not listened or obeyed God. God was sending Nebuchadnezzar to punish them! Their punishment would last 70 years. After 70 years, God would let the Medes punish the Babylonians.

God told Jeremiah to give wine to the Rechabites. The Rechabites would not drink it. A family member 250 years ago had told them not to drink wine and they still obeyed him to that day. God told Jeremiah that Judah had not obeyed Him like the Rechabites had obeyed their family member. God blessed the Rechabites because they obeyed their family member.

God told Jeremiah to write down His words in a scroll. A man Baruch wrote for Jeremiah. God hoped the people would hear these words and turn back to Him. Jeremiah could not go to the temple, so he had Baruch read the scroll before the people. The princes of Judah heard these words and became afraid. They said the king needed to hear the words of the scroll. The princes told Jeremiah and Baruch to hide. They also hid the scroll before they went to King Jehoiakim.

They told the king about the scroll and Jehoiakim sent someone for the scroll. It was winter, and there was a fire burning. As the words were read, Jehoiakim had pieces cut off and burned in the fire! The princes tried to get the king not to burn the scroll. Jehoiakim wanted Jeremiah and Baruch arrested, but God had hidden them!

God commanded another scroll to be written. Jehoiakim was told by God that he would have no one to sit on the throne after him. His body would be thrown out into the hot sun and frosty night. Punishment was coming!

**Main Points:**

1. God keeps His promises.
2. God wanted His people to change and gave them chances to turn back to Him.
3. God will punish the wicked.
4. God will protect those who obey Him.

## Lesson 19 Questions: The Beginning of Captivity

1. What did Nebuchadnezzar put on Jehoiakim?

A crown

Bronze shackles

2. What did Nebuchadnezzar take to Babylon?

Temple treasures

Men from the king's family

Animals

3. Who told Hezekiah that these things would happen?

Josiah

Isaiah

4. How long would the punishment last?

2 years

70 years

5. What would the Rechabites not drink?

Water

Wine

6. Who was Jeremiah's helper?

Jehoiakim

Baruch

7. What did the princes tell Baruch and Jeremiah to do when they heard the words of the scroll?

Go to the king

Hide

8. What did Jehoiakim do to the scroll?

Listen to it

Burn it

9. Who hid Baruch and Jeremiah from Jehoiakim?

The princes of Judah

God

10. What would happen to Jehoiakim's body because he didn't obey God?

Bury it

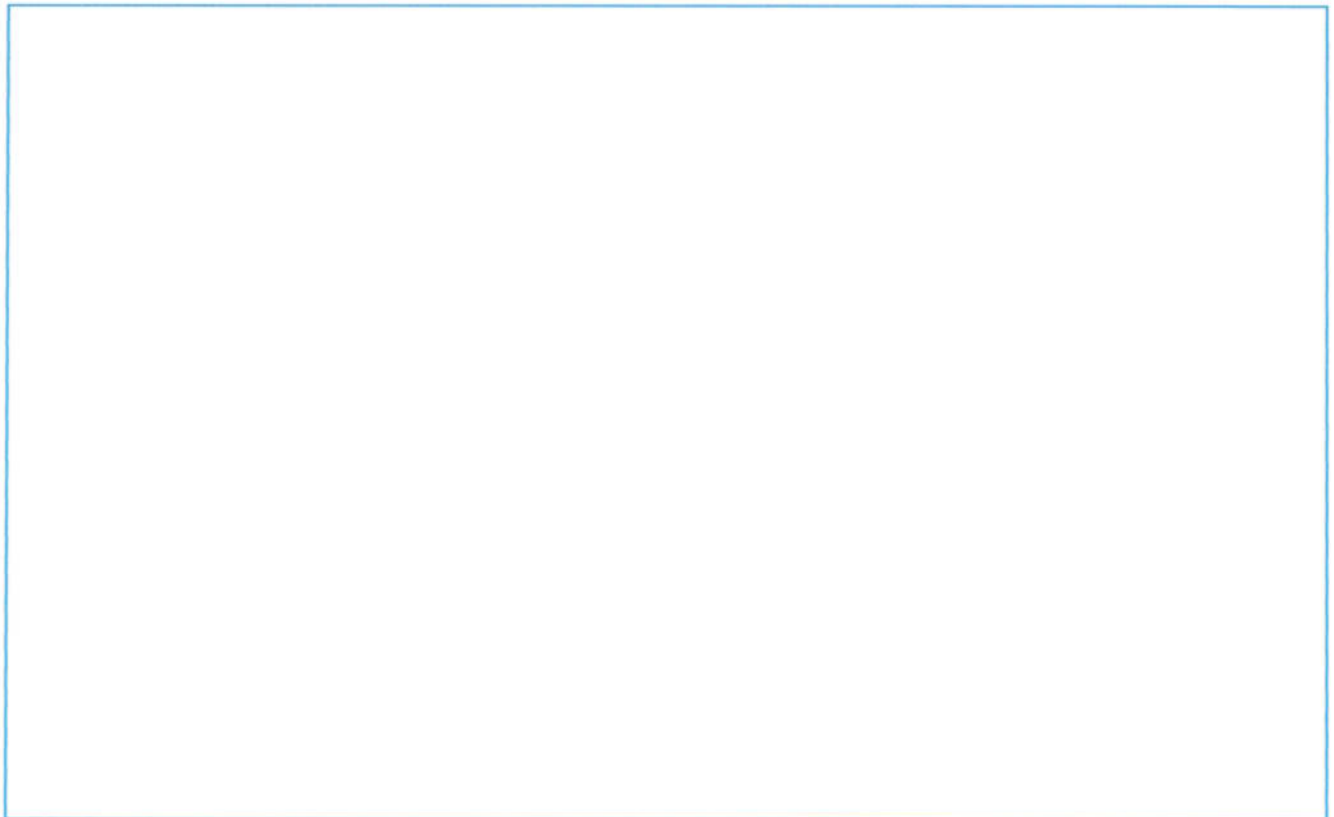
Throw it out

11. Would he have anyone to sit on the throne after him?

Yes

No

Draw a picture of Jehoiakim and the scroll.

A large empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for drawing a picture of Jehoiakim and the scroll.

