



immanuel

“City” (Jeremiah 29:1-14)

Immanuel:
God with us
for his glory,
for the world,
for this city,
and for you!

¹ These are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders of the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. ² This was after King Jeconiah and the queen mother, the eunuchs, the officials of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen, and the metal workers had departed from Jerusalem. ³ The letter was sent by the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. It said: 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. ⁸ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your

prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream,
⁹ for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, declares the LORD.

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. (Jeremiah 29:1-14)

Introduction

- Jeremiah was the son of Hilkiah, a Levitical priest who lived in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin (Jeremiah 1:1). His family lived in the southern kingdom of Judah during the twilight years of the nation (Jeremiah 1:2).
- The LORD _____ Jeremiah before he was formed in the womb. He also _____ him for service and _____ him to be a prophet before he was born (Jeremiah 1:4-5).
- Jeremiah was sent to proclaim a message of doom, death, and destruction. No one liked his _____, and no one liked _____.

Jeremiah's Letter to the Exiles in Babylon

- God is _____ over both the times and places we live (Jeremiah 29:4-6 ... Acts 17:26).
- God calls his people to seek the _____ of the place they live (Jeremiah 29:7 ... Matthew 5:13-16).
- God expects his people to be on guard against the lies of _____ (Jeremiah 29:8-9 ... Matthew 7:15).
- God perfectly knows the future _____ he has for his people (Jeremiah 29:10-14 ... Psalm 139:16).

Application

- Make _____, and _____ God (Proverbs 16:9).
- Grow in _____ (Exodus 20:17, Philippians 4:11, 1 Timothy 6:6).
- Seek the _____ of the city where God has sent you (Jeremiah 29:7).