



Grades 4–5 • Unit 11 • Lesson 106

God Judges Judah

2 Chronicles 36:11–14, 36:17–20; Jeremiah 38:6–13, 39:11–12

See if you remember the details of the lesson from 2 Chronicles 36:11–23. The bold purple words below are incorrect. Cross out the wrong word and then write the correct word from the word bank above it. Use your Bible if you need help.



Name _____

In 588 BC the Chaldeans conquered Judah while **Hezekiah** was king in Jerusalem. Another name for the Chaldeans is **Israelites**. God showed compassion by sending his **angels** to warn the people to repent of their sin and worship him alone. For **thousands** of years, God warned the people of Judah through his prophets. The prophet **Micah** told the people that Babylon would return and defeat Jerusalem. But the king did not **run** to Jeremiah. He did **good** in the sight in the Lord. The **farmers** and people of Judah were unfaithful to the Lord. They **protected** the messengers of God. Finally, the **mercy** of God rose against the people. The Babylonians **slapped** the people without mercy. They took the **stones** from the temple of God and burned the temple and the palaces. Judah was completely **victorious**. Those left alive were taken away to Assyria as captives. The **compassion** of the Lord had come.

BABYLONIANS, DESTROYED, EVIL, HUNDREDS, JEREMIAH, JUDGMENT, KILLED, LISTEN, MOCKED, PRIESTS, PROPHETS, TREASURES, WRATH, ZEDEKIAH



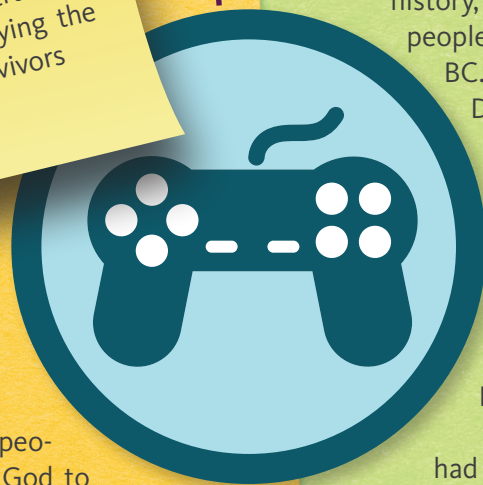
Answers: 1) Zedekiah, 2) Babylonians, 3) prophets, 4) hundreds, 5) Jeremiah, 6) listen, 7) evil, 8) priests, 9) mocked, 10) wrath, 11) killed, 12) treasures, 13) destroyed, 14) judgment



Read the verse aloud three times then try to say it without looking.

Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you.
For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him. Isaiah 30:18

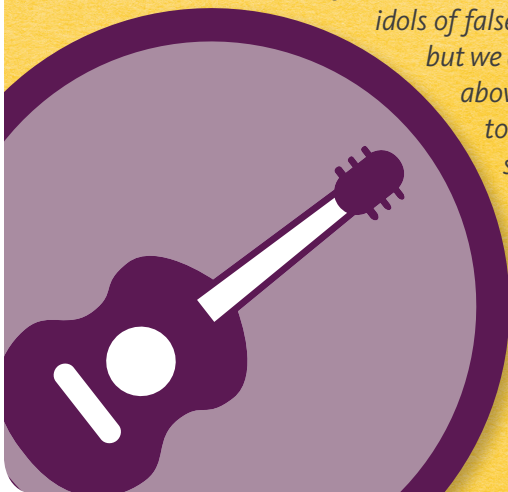
- What You Heard** *In the Word*
- God used the nation of Babylon to conquer and punish Judah because the people would not listen to God's prophets and their warnings to turn back to God.
 - The Babylonians brought total destruction to Judah: killing the people, destroying the temple of God, and taking the survivors to Babylon as captives.



OutWord *For Family Discussion*

Suppose your friend can't believe the people of Judah would ever turn away from God to worship false gods. After all, God had done so much for them. **What could you tell him?**

Well, the people of Judah started out by worshipping God alone. But soon, they thought the people from other nations were doing the right thing, so they turned away from God and began to worship the false gods of the people around them. It really isn't that unbelievable. We don't worship idols of false gods like they did back then, but we do put other things in our lives above God. We have to be careful to put God first above things like sports, friends, clothes, music, or entertainment. Anything in our lives that we love more than God is disobedience to God's command to worship him alone.



HomeWord *For Parents*

After looking at the calls of the prophets for Israel and Judah to repent, we can have no doubt that God hates sin. As we walk through biblical history, we see God's judgment on Israel—the people were wiped out by the Assyrians in 721 BC. Now we look to the fall of Judah in 588 BC.

Despite numerous warnings from prophets over many centuries, the kings and people of Judah continued to worship false gods, with the exception of a few good kings who temporarily revived true worship of God. Through the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah, God had finally fixed a day of judgment for Judah. Babylon, the lion from the north (Jeremiah 4:5–8), was about to attack and carry away the rest of the Jewish nation. Babylon's king at this time was Nebuchadnezzar, the one God chose to bring his judgment on Judah.

The people had mocked God, his warnings, and his messengers. They had despised his words and scoffed at his prophets. Thus, the wrath of the Lord came against them. The Babylonians, also called the Chaldeans, came into Judah. They killed the young men and had no compassion on the women, aged, or the weak. All the treasures from the house of God were taken to Babylon. The Babylonians burned the house of God, burned the palaces, destroyed all the precious possessions, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem. And those citizens of Judah who were not killed during this rampage were moved far away to Babylon as captives (2 Chronicles 36:14–21).

Even in this judgment, God showed mercy by sparing the prophet Jeremiah and the servant who rescued the prophet from the cistern (Jeremiah 39:11–18). Just as Jesus would mourn over the stubbornness of the Israelites (Matthew 23:37–39), Jeremiah mourned over the stubbornness of the people, but he continued to faithfully proclaim God's word throughout his life.

