

HISTORICAL CONTENT: JEREMIAH 28

People

Zedekiah

- **King of Judah (597-586 B.C.; Evil)**
 - **2 Ki 24:17-25:1-24**
 - **2 Ch 36:10-21**
 - **Je 21:1-10; 34:1-7; 37:1-10; 38:1-28; 39:2-40:12; 52:1-27**
 - **Ez 26:1-21; 32:1-32; 33:21-33**
- Son of King Josiah
- Last king of Judah
- AKA: Mattaniah; Sedecias; Zedechias; Zedekiah; Zidkijah
- Uncle of King Jehoiachin
- Successor of King Jehoiachin
- Reigned 11 years and was carried captive to Babylon

Hananiah

- **False prophet**
- Son of Azur the prophet
- Died for delivering a false prophecy in the name of the Lord which was contrary to the prophecy delivered by Jeremiah concerning Babylon and Judah

Azur (Azzur, Azuriah)

- **Prophet**
- Father of Hananiah (the false prophet)
- AKA: Azor, Azzur, or Azuriah
- From Gibeon

King Nebuchadnezzar II

- **King of Babylon (605–562 BC)**
 - **2 Ki 24:1, 10-17; 25:1-22**
 - **1 Ch 6:15**
 - **2 Ch 36:5-21**
 - **Eze 17:11-14**
- Conquered Jerusalem & the Kingdom of Judah Fell (586 B.C.)
 - Attacked Jerusalem 3 times before conquering it completely
 - i. *601 BC (Exile)*
 - ii. *597 BC (Exile)*
 - iii. *586 BC (Exile)*
- King Jehoiakim became his servant for 3 years before rebelling against him.
- His son, Evil-Merodach, gave King Jeconiah (Jehoiachin) favor by releasing him from prison (2 Ki 25:27-30).
- Same Babylonian King mentioned in the book of Daniel
- The "Babylonian Chronicle" is an ancient inscription narrating the first 11 years of his reign

Jeconiah (Aka: Jehoiachin)

- **King of Judah (598-597 BC; Evil)**
 - **2 Ki 24:6-17**
 - **1 Ch 3:16–17**
 - **2 Ch 36:8–10**
 - **Eze 1:2; 17:11-21**

- **2 Ki 25:27-30**
- **Mt 1:11-12**
- **Es 2:5-7**
- Son of King Jehoiakim
- Nephew of King Zedekiah (597-586 BC; Evil)
- Began to reign at 18 yrs old
- Reigned for only 3 months and 10 days
- Surrendered to King Nebuchadnezzar and was brought to Babylon with the other Jews into exile
- Replaced (by King Nebuchadnezzar) with his brother, Zedekiah (Judah's final king before falling to Babylon completely)
- Ezekiel prophesied while Jeconiah was in exile in Babylon
- Was freed from prison by Evil-Merodach king of Babylon (successor of Nebuchadnezzar II) after 37+ years and given favor above the other imprisoned kings of Judah, eating at the king's table and receiving an allowance as long as he lived.
- Listed in Matthew's genealogy of Christ
- Esther's cousin Mordecai was carried away to Babylon from Jerusalem in the same exile as King Jeconiah.

Others mentioned in this chapter:

- **The Priests**
- **The People**
- **The Captives of Judah**

Places

Gibeon

- Home to the prophet Azur
- "A city of the highland region west of the Jordan River, mentioned in the biblical books of Joshua, 2 Samuel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, 1–2 Chronicles, and Nehemiah. It was the only city in Canaan with which the Israelites made a peace treaty during the conquest, and it is famous for the nearby battle in the valley of Aijalon, when the sun and moon stood still. Later the city was granted to the tribe of Benjamin, served as a temporary site of the tabernacle, had a pool mentioned in the time of war between David and Saul, and was where Solomon received his understanding and discernment." - *T. Michael Kennedy, "Gibeon," ed. John D. Barry et al., The Lexham Bible Dictionary (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016).*

Babylon

- "The cultural and political center of Mesopotamia during much of the second and first millennia BC. Located in modern-day Iraq along one branch of the Euphrates River, about 59 miles southwest of Baghdad and 6 miles northeast of Hillah...
- From Genesis to Revelation, Babylon maintains a significant presence as both a historical empire and a symbol of opposition to God and His people...
- There are 287 references to Babylon in the Old Testament and 82 references to its Chaldean inhabitants." - *William R. Osborne, "Babylon," ed. John D. Barry et al., The Lexham Bible Dictionary (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016).*

Judah

- The land allotted to the tribe of Judah as their inheritance.
- The southern kingdom of the divided kingdom of Israel.
- "According to Judges 1:1–18, the people of Judah expelled the majority of the Canaanites and Perizzites from their land. However, they were unable to completely drive out the people in the plains or the Jebusites of Jerusalem (Judg 1:19–21). The Philistines, who lived in western part of Judah, often exerted control over parts of Judah (Judg 15:11)..."

- After Solomon's death, Judah, along with Benjamin, split off from the 10 northern tribes into a separate kingdom (1 Kgs 12:16–24). Judah then became a designation for the southern kingdom as a whole...
- By God's intervention, the people of Judah were spared from exile at the hands of Assyria in the late eighth century BC, but around 586 BC they were conquered and deported by the Babylonians."

- Brandon Ridley, "Judah," ed. John D. Barry et al., *The Lexham Bible Dictionary* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016).

Key Dates / Timelines

911 - 609 B.C. Assyrian Empire | 626 – 539 B.C. Babylonian Empire | 539 – 358 B.C. Persian Empire

- 640 B.C. Josiah becomes King of Judah
- 627 B.C. Jeremiah begins his ministry
- 622 B.C. Discovery of the Book of the Law by King Josiah (Reformation)
- 609 B.C. Pharaoh Neco kills Josiah in battle and set Jehoiakim as King of Judah
- 608 B.C. Jehoiakim becomes King of Judah
- 605 B.C. Battle of Carchemish (Nebuchadnezzar defeats the Egyptians on the Euphrates River)
- 605 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar invades Jerusalem and takes exiles to Babylon (including Daniel and his companions)
- 597 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem and takes King Jeconiah (Jehoiachin) as prisoner
- 597 B.C. Zedekiah becomes King of Judah
- 588 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar begins his final siege of Jerusalem
- 586 B.C. Fall of Jerusalem to Babylon; Judah in exile in Babylon

Key Terms

Yoke

- "The physical yoke used in agriculture, slavery, and the military, became a symbol relating to burden in biblical texts. Both positive and negative aspects of this symbol were used by the biblical writers: A harsh yoke could refer to an oppressive burden of slavery, while an easy yoke could refer to one's burdens being lightened." - Jeremiah K. Garrett, "Yoke," ed. John D. Barry et al., *The Lexham Bible Dictionary* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016).

False Prophet

- The term "false prophet" itself is not in the Old Testament, however there are many references to false prophets throughout.
- A false prophet is a "person who spreads false messages and teachings, claiming to speak God's words..."
- "Punishment for prophesying falsely was severe. False prophets were cast away from God's presence and permanently humiliated [and sentenced to death]..."
- "A false prophet was also one who prophesied on behalf of another god (1 Kings 18:20–39)..."
- "The apostles instructed believers to be diligent in faith and understanding of Christian teachings, in order to discern false prophets when they arise (2 Pet. 1:10; 1:19–2:1; 1 John 4:1)..."
- "The tests of a prophet are: (1) Do their predictions come true (Jer. 28:9)? (2) Does the prophet have a divine commission (Jer. 29:9)? (3) Are the prophecies consistent with Scripture (2 Pet. 1:20–21; Rev. 22:18–19)? (4) Do the people benefit spiritually from the prophet's ministry (Jer. 23:13–14, 32; 1 Pet. 4:11)?"

- Donna R. Ridge, "False Prophet," ed. Chad Brand et al., *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 554.

Cross References

Key References:

- **Jeremiah 27:2**, "Thus says the LORD to me: 'Make for yourselves bonds and yokes, and put them on your neck,'"

- **Jeremiah 27:12**, "I also spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, 'Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live!'"
- **Deuteronomy 13:5**, "But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.
- **Deuteronomy 18:20-22**, "But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.' And if you say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?'—when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him."
- **Deuteronomy 28:48**, "therefore you shall serve your enemies, whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you."

Full List:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| • Genesis 7:4 | • 2 Chronicles 36:10–13 | • Lamentations 2:14 |
| • Exodus 32:12 | • Psalms 41:13; 107:16 | • Ezekiel 11:1; 13:2–3, 6, 10, 16, 22–23; 22:28; 33:33 |
| • Leviticus 26:13–39 | • Isaiah 5:5–7; 45:2; 59:13 | • Daniel 1:1–2; 5:18 |
| • Numbers 16:1–7 | • Jeremiah 1:2; 5:31; 6:14; 7:4; 11:5; 14:14; 15:12; 20:6; 22:10, 12, 24–27; 23:17; 24:1; 25:11–12; 26:18; 27:1–3, 6–8, 10–12, 16–22; 29:9, 11–19, 21, 31–32; 32:5; 36:12; 37:13; 39:1; 49:34; 51:59 | • Hosea 7:3 |
| • Deuteronomy 6:15; 13:5; 18:1–22; 28:48 | | • Joel 1:20 |
| • Joshua 9:3; 10:12; 21:17 | | • Amos 1:2 |
| • 1 Kings 1:36; 3:4; 13:34; 14:15; 17:1; 22:11, 17, 28 | | • Micah 3:9–12 |
| • 2 Kings 1:17; 24:10–20; 25:27, 30 | | • Nahum 1:2, 14 |
| | | • Zechariah 6:10; 13:3 |

Parallel Passages

- **2 Ch 36:14 || Je 28:1, 17**

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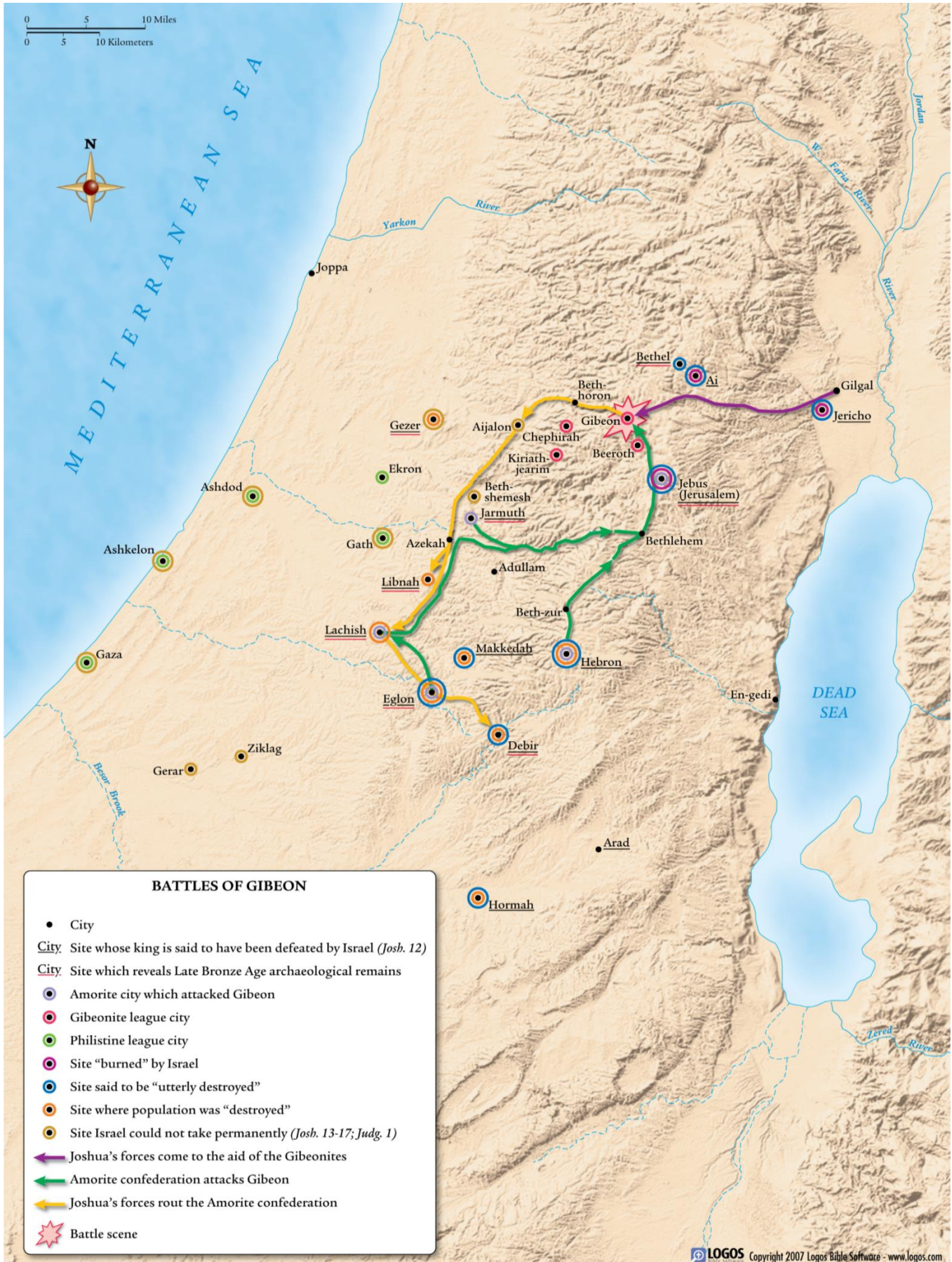
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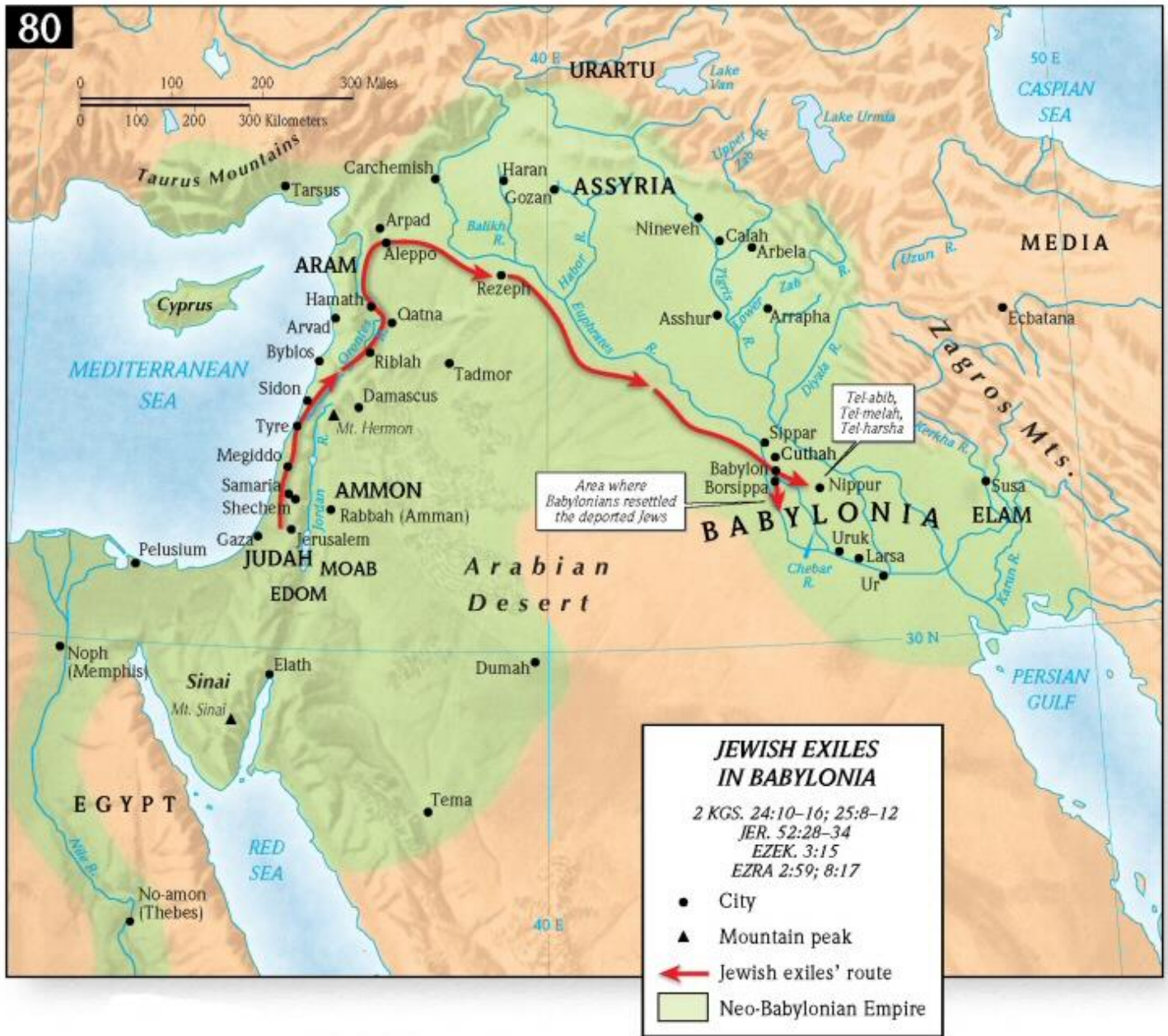
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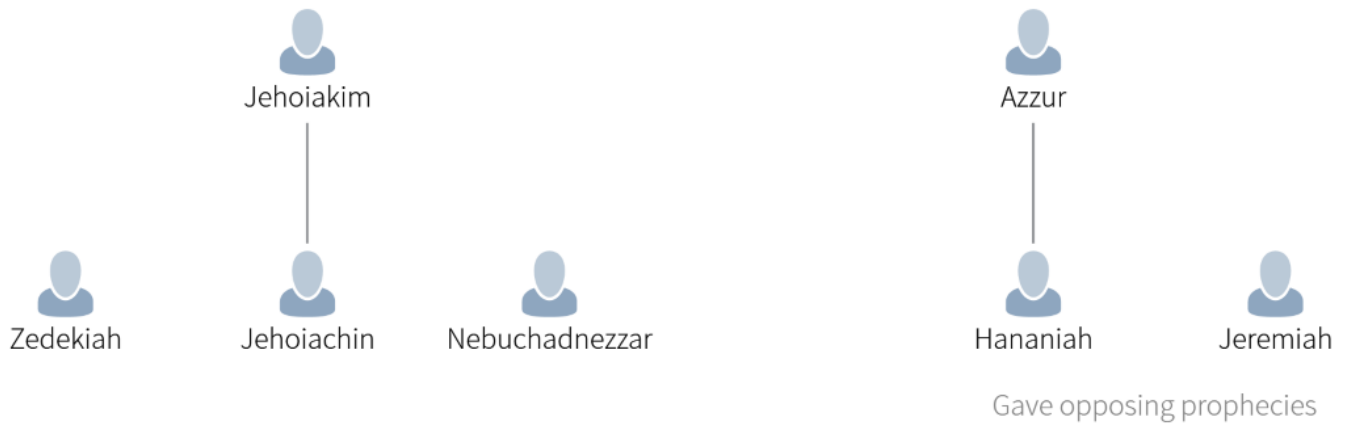
5. Seal of Hananiah Son of Azariah (Azur, Azzur)

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