

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 118: JUDAH IS LED INTO CAPTIVITY
2 KINGS 25:1-21

So King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (they were also called Chaldeans) and all his army came to fight against Jerusalem. This happened on when a King named Zedekiah had been king for 9 years, on the 10th day of the tenth month. Nebuchadnezzar put his army around Jerusalem to stop people from going in and out of the city. Then he built a wall of dirt around the city. His army stayed around Jerusalem until Zedekiah's eleventh year as king of Judah. Since nobody could go in or out of the city, there was a great famine because nobody had any food. The famine was getting worse and worse in Jerusalem. By the 9th day of the fourth month, there was no more food for the common people in the city. Nebuchadnezzar's army finally broke through the city wall. That night King Zedekiah and all his soldiers ran away. They used the secret gate that went through the double walls. It was by the king's garden. The enemy soldiers were all around the city, but Zedekiah and his men escaped on the road to the desert. The Babylonian army chased King Zedekiah and caught him near Jericho. All of Zedekiah's soldiers left him and ran away. The Babylonians took King Zedekiah to the king of Babylon at Riblah. The Babylonians decided to punish Zedekiah. They killed Zedekiah's sons in front of him. Then they put out Zedekiah's eyes. They put chains on him and took him to Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar had been king of Babylon for nineteen years, and he came to Jerusalem on the 7th day of the fifth month of that year. The captain of Nebuchadnezzar's best soldiers was Nebuzaradan. Nebuzaradan burned the LORD'S Temple, the king's palace, and all the houses in Jerusalem. He destroyed even the largest houses. Then the Babylonian army that was with Nebuzaradan pulled down the walls around Jerusalem. Nebuzaradan captured all the people who were still left in the city. He took all the people as prisoners, even those who had tried to surrender. He let only the poorest of the common people stay there. He let them stay so that they could take care of the grapes and other crops. The Babylonian soldiers broke into pieces all the bronze things in the LORD'S Temple. They broke the bronze columns, the bronze carts, and the large bronze tank that were in the LORD'S Temple. Then they took all of that bronze to Babylon. The Babylonians also took the pots, the shovels, the tools for trimming the lamps, the spoons, and all the bronze dishes that were used in the Temple. Nebuzaradan took all the firepans and bowls. He took all the things made of gold just for the gold.

And he took everything made of silver for the silver. So Nebuzaradan took the large bronze tank and the 2 bronze columns. (Each column was about 31 feet tall! The capitals (which are the square tops on the columns) were over 5 feet tall! They were made from bronze and had a design like a net and pomegranates. Both columns had the same kind of design.) He also took the carts that Solomon made for the LORD'S Temple. The bronze from these things was too heavy to be weighed. From the Temple, Nebuzaradan took Seraiah the high priest, Zephaniah the second priest, and the three men who guarded the entrance. From the city Nebuzaradan took one official who was in charge of the army and five of the king's advisors who were still in the city. He took one secretary of the commander of the army who was in charge of counting the common people and choosing some of them to be soldiers and 60 people who just happened to be in the city. Then Nebuzaradan took all these people to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the area of Hamath. The king of Babylon killed them there at Riblah. And the people of Judah were led away as prisoners from their land.

118. JUDAH IS LED INTO CAPTIVITY
(2 KINGS 25:1-21)



“Thus Judah was carried away captive from its own land.”
2 KINGS 25:21

118. JUDAH IS LED INTO CAPTIVITY

2 KINGS 25:1-21

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thus Judah was carried away captive from its own land." 2 KINGS 25:21

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came and camped around Jerusalem. TRUE or FALSE
2. There was a famine in the city because nobody could go in or out to get food. TRUE or FALSE
3. King Zedekiah ran away from King Nebuchadnezzar's soldiers and got away. TRUE or FALSE
4. Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came into Jerusalem and built the house of the LORD. TRUE or FALSE
5. All the army of the Babylonians who were with the captain of the guard broke down the walls all around Jerusalem. TRUE or FALSE

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. Did Nebuzaradan capture all the people in Jerusalem, even those who tried to surrender?
2. What did Nebuzaradan and the army do with all the things inside the LORD's temple? Did they break the big columns, and take all the bronze, gold and silver items back to Babylon?
3. Who did Nebuzaradan leave in Jerusalem? Was it only the poorest people?
4. Why did they leave only the poorest people there? Was it to take care of the grape vineyards and the fields?
5. What did they do to king Zedekiah? Did they kill his sons in front of him?
6. What else did they do to king Zedekiah? Did they put out his eyes, and then put chains on him & take him away to Babylon?

PRAYER Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to serve the Lord with all of their heart, mind, soul, and strength and to never turn away from Him. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.

Lesson 118

TRY TO RUN AND ESCAPE FROM KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S SOLDIERS

