

Notes: February 24, 2018

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Shabbat Shalom – Service Begins
2. God Bless America: *Prayer for America and its Leadership*
3. Children's Song: *What You Sow Is What You Reap*
4. Children's Lesson: *Remember The Sabbath*
5. Children's Blessing and Dismissal to Class
6. Welcome, Announcements, and Prayer
7. Matovu
8. Drash – Cynthia Hudson - Wisdom
9. Name of God For the Week: *Elyon – Most High*
10. Liturgy
11. Prayer
12. Worship in Music and Dance
13. Rabbi Stephen's Message: *Jeremiah's Warning – Part 2*
14. Kiddush
15. Oneg: *Prepared by Oneg Team 3*
16. Torah Parsha Study: Terumah - Sh'mot (Exodus) 25:1 – 27:19
17. Next Weeks Parsha: Tetzaveh – Sh'mot 27:20-30:10

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: Jeremiah's Promises – Part 1

Over the last two weeks I talked about four of the 13 warnings to Israel as conveyed by Adonai through Jeremiah. It was quite clear that Adonai was trying to get Israel's attention as it pertains to their transgression. I conveyed Adonai's enormous patience with Israel in that these warning took place over the course of many years. Jeremiah's time as a Prophet to the nation was 40 years. A great deal of that time was spent in urging Israel to t'shuvah, repent and return.

Ultimately, through all these warnings and Israel's ignoring of these warnings, one thing became certain...judgment was coming.

In chapter 28, we read of a prophet by the name of Hananyah and his conflict with Yirmeyahu...

This conflict took place in the fourth year of the reign of Tzidkiyah in 593 b.c.e. Yirmeyahu had been wearing a yoke around his neck in the Temple grounds to communicate the message of Babylonian bondage in chapter 27

**Jer 27:2** "Adonai says this to me: 'Make yourself a yoke of straps and crossbars, and put it on your neck.

and the false prophet Hananyah (Hananiah) confronts and challenges Yirmeyahu at the Temple in front of all the people (v. 1). He proclaims a message contrary to Yirmeyahu's and prophesies that God would restore the Temple vessels, the Davidic king, and all the exiles within two years (vv. 3–4).

**Jer 28:3** Within two years I will restore to this place all the articles from Adonai's house that N'vukhadnetzar king of Bavel removed from this place and carried to Bavel.

**Jer 28:4** Also I will bring back here Y'khanyah the son of Y'hoyakim, king of Y'hudah, along with all those from Y'hudah who were taken captive to Bavel,' says Adonai, 'for I will break the yoke of the king of Bavel.' "

He also tears the yoke from Yirmeyahu's neck and breaks it, proclaiming that God would break the yoke of Bavel within two years (vv. 10–11).

**Jer 28:10** At this point Hananyah the prophet took the crossbar off the prophet Yirmeyahu's neck and broke it.

**Jer 28:11** Then Hananyah, in front of all the people, said, "Thus says Adonai: 'In just this way will I break off the yoke of N'vukhadnetzar king of Bavel from the necks of all the nations within two years.'" The prophet Yirmeyahu left them;

Shortly after this, God commands Yirmeyahu to confront Hananyah, telling him that God would replace the wooden yoke with an iron one and that Hananyah would die that very year (vv. 13, 16–17).

**Jer 28:13** "Go and tell Hananyah that Adonai says, 'You have broken the crossbars of wood, but you will make in their place crossbars of iron.'

**Jer 28:14** For here is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says: "I have put a yoke of iron on the necks of all these nations, so that they can serve N'vukhadnetzar king of Bavel; and they will serve him; and I have given him the wild animals too." "

**Jer 28:15** Then the prophet Yirmeyahu said to Hananyah the prophet, "Listen here, Hananyah! Adonai has not sent you! You are making these people trust in a lie!"

**Jer 28:16** Therefore, here is what Adonai says: 'I am about to send you away from the face of the earth — this year you will die, because you have preached rebellion against Adonai.'

**Jer 28:17** Hananyah the prophet died that same year, in the seventh month.

It is apparent that Yirmeyahu's methods of communication have become more drastic and the response to his message more desperate. A false prophet speaks against Yirmeyahu, ultimately deceiving the people of what is about to really occur with a message that is not from Adonai, yet was spoken in the name of Adonai.

We see this even today, where those entrusted to represent Adonai and shepherd His people, are conveying messages of false hope, messages that are contrary to the Word of Adonai. Messages that are meant to appease the people while lowering the standards set forth by Adonai, followed by Yeshua and transmitted by His talmidim.

False messages, misleading messages that ultimately deceive are more destructive than many will truly realize. What did Hananyah's message convey...

"all is well, all is well, this won't be bad at all" "Two years and Adonai defeat the Babylonians, two years and He will restore us."

Yet, what is the reality, Adonai did not send Hananyah. He did not speak through him.

Hananyah ultimately undercut the message of Adonai as spoken through Yirmeyahu; a message of pending judgment should they not repent of their ways, their idolatry, their unashamed treatment of Adonai.

If only Kefa's second letter was available at this time, opening in this manner:

**2Pe 1:1** From: Shim `on Kefa, a slave and emissary of Yeshua the Messiah To: **Those who, through the righteousness of our God and of our Deliverer Yeshua the Messiah, have been given the same kind of trust as ours:**

Through the righteousness of our God...

**The righteousness of our God** consists in his forbearance, his patience, his restraint in regard to sins committed by His people...slow to anger, rich in grace and truth...

The same kind of trust as ours...

Had they had the same kind of trust of Yirmeyahu, they would have listened to Adonai's message and returned, not needing 13 messages, but one.

Had this letter been around at the time of Yirmeyahu, the people would have been warned against Hananyah...

**2Pe 2:1** But among the people there were also false prophets, just as there will be false teachers among you. Under false pretenses they will introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, and thus bring on themselves swift destruction.

**2Pe 2:2** Many will follow their debaucheries; and because of them, the true Way will be maligned.

Kefa continues the parallel begun in [2Pe 1:20](#) between the time when he was writing and the time of the Prophets.

**2Pe 1:20** First of all, understand this: no prophecy of Scripture is to be interpreted by an individual on his own; **2Pe 1:21** for never has a prophecy come as a result of human willing — on the contrary, people moved by the Ruach HaKodesh spoke a message from God.

Just because one says they are speaking for Adonai, as Hananyah conveyed in 28:2, does not entirely mean they are.

Have you heard the saying - "if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is"

In the case of Hananyah it was.

One must weigh the words spoken.

David Stern conveys the following regarding prophecy...

*A prophecy of Scripture must be interpreted not on the basis of thoughts rooted in a person's old nature, such as those of the false prophets of Chapter 2, but on the basis of what the Holy Spirit makes clear about its meaning, since Yeshua sent the Spirit to guide believers into the truth ([Joh 16:13](#)). But since he sent the Holy Spirit to the believers as a community, be cautious of those who offer "the true word" but avoid subjecting their opinions to the scrutiny of other believers. Much false teaching both in Kefa's day and our own arises from people's developing their own idiosyncratic interpretations, supposedly hearing the Holy Spirit, but without examining other views or admitting that their own could be mistaken. Prophecies are not to be subjected to eisegesis (putting one's own preconceived ideas in), but to exegesis (getting the writer's ideas out). Moreover, the exegete ought not to make interpretation of prophecy a vehicle for self-aggrandizement and self-exaltation, gaining a reputation at the expense of perverting Holy Writ.*

Consider what is in essence Yirmeyahu's response to the message of Hananyah in chapter 29...

Yirmeyahu relates one more conflict with the false prophets who were prophesying among the captives in Bavel. The prophet sends a letter to the captives confirming the message he had spoken to them earlier. God had planned to bless their obedience of submitting to the Babylonian king.

**Jer 29:4** "Here is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says to all those in exile, whom I have caused to be carried off captive from Yerushalayim to Bavel:

**Jer 29:5** 'Build yourselves houses, and live in them. Plant gardens, and eat what they produce.

**Jer 29:6** Choose women to marry, and have sons and daughters. Choose wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage to men, so that they can have sons and daughters — increase your numbers there, don't decrease.

**Jer 29:7** Seek the welfare of the city to which I have caused you to go in exile, and pray to Adonai on its behalf; for your welfare is bound up in its welfare.'

They were to settle in the land, pray for it, and not expect an early return to the land of Isra'el, as the false prophets had been promising.

**Jer 29:8** For this is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says: 'Don't let your prophets who are living among you and your diviners deceive you, and don't pay attention to the dreams you urge them to dream.

**Jer 29:9** For they are prophesying falsely in my name; I have not sent them,' says Adonai.

**Jer 29:10** "For here is what Adonai says: 'After Bavel's seventy years are over, I will remember you and fulfill my good promise to you by bringing you back to this place.

**Jer 29:11** For I know what plans I have in mind for you,' says Adonai, 'plans for well-being, not for bad things; so that you can have hope and a future.

**Jer 29:12** When you call to me and pray to me, I will listen to you.

**Jer 29:13** When you seek me, you will find me, provided you seek for me wholeheartedly;

**Jer 29:14** and I will let you find me,' says Adonai. 'Then I will reverse your exile. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have driven you,' says Adonai, 'and bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.'

The message of Hananyah sounds wonderful and is pleasing to the ears, yet Yirmeyahu's message is rather eye opening yet not without hope.

You would obviously want to hear the message that is less harsh. It is human nature.

Yet, conviction of our transgressions leading to t'shuvhah, leading to restoration is against human nature or should I say the sin nature that we acquired, and has been handed down from generation to generation ever since.

In contrast to the favor the captives were experiencing in Bavel, Yirmeyahu confirms that those who remain in Y'hudah by resisting the Babylonians would experience a severe judgment (vv. 16–20).

**Jer 29:16** But here is what Adonai says about the king occupying David's throne and about all the people living in this city, your kinsmen who did not go into exile with you —

**Jer 29:17** thus says Adonai-Tzva'ot: 'I will attack them with sword, famine and plague; I will make them like bad figs, so bad they are inedible.

**Jer 29:18** I will pursue them with sword, famine and plague and make them an object of horror to all the kingdoms of the earth; and they will bring on themselves cursing, astonishment, ridicule and reproach among all the nations where I have driven them;

**Jer 29:19** because they have not paid attention to my words,' says Adonai, 'which I sent to them through my servants the prophets. I sent them frequently, but you refused to listen,' says Adonai.

**Jer 29:20** "So pay attention now to the word of Adonai, all of you in exile, whom I sent away from Yerushalayim to Bavel.

Yirmeyahu lists Ach'av, Tzidkiyahu, and Sh'ma'yah as the ringleaders among the false prophets in Bavel.

Israel, here are your false prophets.

**Jer 29:21** Here is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says about Ach'av the son of Kolayah and Tzidkiyahu the son of Ma`aseiyah, who prophesy lies to you in my name: 'I will hand them over to N'vukhadretzar king of Bavel, and he will put them to death before your eyes.

If only Kefa's warning was there, it could have prevented Israel's judgment and caused them to turn back to Adonai.

Wait...it was there...

**Deu 13:1** (13:2) "If a prophet or someone who gets messages while dreaming arises among you and he gives you a sign or wonder,

**Deu 13:2** (13:3) and the sign or wonder comes about as he predicted when he said, 'Let's follow other gods, which you have not known; and let us serve them,'

**Deu 13:3** (13:4) you are not to listen to what that prophet or dreamer says. For Adonai your God is testing you, in order to find out whether you really do love Adonai your God with all your heart and being.

**Deu 13:4** (13:5) You are to follow Adonai your God, fear him, obey his mitzvot, listen to what he says, serve him and cling to him;

**Deu 13:5** (13:61) and that prophet or dreamer is to be put to death; because he urged rebellion against Adonai your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from a life of slavery; in order to seduce you away from the path Adonai your God ordered you to follow. This is how you are to rid your community of this wickedness.

Those already in Babylon were obedient, yet those who still remained in Yerushalayim were in rebellion. Hence, Hananyah's outcome...

**Jer 28:15** Then the prophet Yirmeyahu said to Hananyah the prophet, "Listen here, Hananyah! Adonai has not sent you! You are making these people trust in a lie!"

**Jer 28:16** Therefore, here is what Adonai says: 'I am about to send you away from the face of the earth — this year you will die, because you have preached rebellion against Adonai.' "

**Jer 28:17** Hananyah the prophet died that same year, in the seventh month.

Which brings me to the conclusion of the parable Yeshua conveys about El'azar and the rich man, whereby the advice is to listen to Moshe and the Prophets.

**Luk 16:29** But Avraham said, 'They have Moshe and the Prophets; they should listen to them.'

**Luk 16:30** However, he said, 'No, father Avraham, they need more. If someone from the dead goes to them, they'll repent!'

**Luk 16:31** But he replied, 'If they won't listen to Moshe and the Prophets, they won't be convinced even if someone rises from the dead! '"

This is a New Covenant answer to an eternal outcome.

Yet not everything is too good to be true...for instance the Gospel