

A LETTER FROM JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 29: 1-14

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.

God's sovereign plan is always better for us and others.

1. God Put You in Exile.

Matthew 10:17-18, Jeremiah 29:1-4, ch.50, Psalm 33:14-15, Isaiah 45:7, Jonah 2:3, Romans 13:1-4, Job 38:2-4

Current Series: EXILE

Is it possible your doctrine of God's sovereignty has not matched your speech, attitude and actions in response to what is happening around us? In what ways?

2. God Put You in Exile for THEIR Good.

Jeremiah 29:5-7, 1 Thes 4:11-12, 1 Peter 5:14-17, 1 Tim 2:1-4,

How would you rate your heart toward those who oppose you? What needs to change?

3. God Put You in Exile for YOUR Good.

Jeremiah 33:25-26, Galatians 3:6-7, 29

As Christians face increasing antagonism in the world, how can we encourage each other to seek God with all our heart?

How would you describe the certainty of hope that the birth of Christ brings to us?

Pastor Steve Ham

Church Announcements

- All Church activities will resume in the week of January 10

Special Request

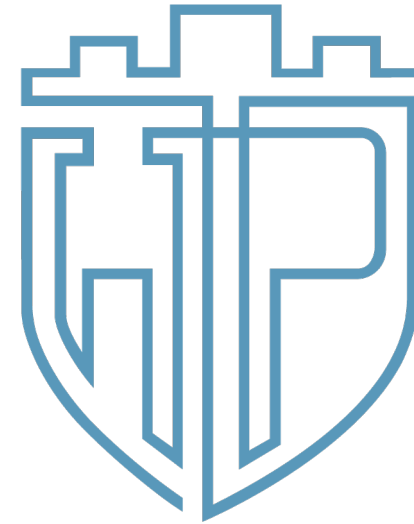
- Charles Hadaway in rehabilitation after more surgery.
- Rillos returning from Zambia.
- Katya Ha in Russian language translation and training

Giving Information

Traditional Giving: A box is located at the rear of the auditorium.

Online Giving: Visit www.HPBaptist.org/give and click the "Give" button to setup an account on Planning Center.

Text Giving: Text your gift amount to 84321 and follow the prompts.



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TO PREACH CHRIST
TO BECOME MORE LIKE
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