

June's Teaching Theme: The Way of the Exile

讲员 Speaker: Linghui Peter Tian

题目 Topic: The Israelites exiled to Babylon

经文 Scripture: 2 Kings 25:1-21

Monthly Idea: This month's teaching theme is "Exile" and "the Way of the Exile." This theme is closely related to last month's theme of Biblical Justice and will take us 2 months to work through. The human condition is one of exile as we live in homes that are characterized by brokenness and situated in a world of brokenness. "Exile" also becomes a key identity marker for the Christian, as we give our allegiance to another Kingdom - the Kingdom of God.

As "exiles" allegiant to another King and the ethics of that Kingdom, this calls us to be people of consistent love and justice. We are to seek the welfare of our cities but never give allegiance to the nations.

This week we are looking at the final exile of Israel (Judah) to Babylon, an important story in the formation of the Biblical narrative.

Resources:

If you haven't watched either of these videos as a group watch one of them.

Video: [Bible Project Exile](#) [English] (5mins)

* Click "CC" (closed captions) button and then click Settings to set the Chinese subtitles *

Video: ["The Way of the Exile"](#) [English] (5mins)

* Click "CC" (closed captions) button and then click Settings to set the Chinese subtitles *

If your group has watched both of these videos feel free to watch this video on 1&2 Kings to help give context to everything that is happening in the Biblical story. (*Leaders should watch either way in preparation*)

Video: [Bible Project Kings](#) [English] (9mins)

Video: [Bible Project Kings](#) [Mandarin] (9mins)

Video: [Bible Project Kings](#) [Cantonese] (9mins)

Discussion Questions:

- (1) Read 2 Kings 25:1-21 together. What observations do you make and what stands out in the text. Summarize the story.

以色列人被掳的原因是什么？为什么耶和华在何4：6说"我的民因无知识而灭亡"？这对今天的教会会有哪些提醒？

- (2) What are the causes for the captivity of the Israelites? In Hosea 4:6 the Lord said "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge"—why did the Lord make this statement? Any warnings to the church today?

南国犹大经历了几次被掳？我们今天会不会经历被掳，我们的被掳与当年以色列人的被掳有哪些不同，请举例说明？

- (3) How many times did the southern Kingdom Judah experience Babylonian captivity? Can the exile happen today? If so what are the differences between the exile today and the ones Israelites experienced, please provide illustrations

在以色列人被掳的过程中，上帝是不是真的忘记他所拣选的百姓---以色列人，请说明原因？

- (4) Did God really forget His chosen people, the Israelites, during the captivity? Please comment and give your explanation.

四、通过以色列人被掳的经历，对你我今天的生活有什么警戒和启发？

- (5) What are the vigilance and inspiration of our life today through the experience of the Israelites?

Important Notes:

- Divine Wrath in the Bible is not spontaneous volatile anger as is popularly thought, but the Biblical authors use this word to talk about God's justice. Israel had entered into a covenant relationship with God and for centuries had been violating it by turning to other gods, perpetuating injustice, and oppressing the poor. Yes, God is slow to anger but he does eventually get angry at human evil and will bring his JUST anger in the form of punishment. **When evil reaches a point of no return, God allows evil to bring about its own destruction.** In the case of Jerusalem, this involved allowing Babylon to come and destroy the city and take Israel into exile. (Pastor Will)

Sermon Summary (Elder Yin):

流亡的生活，回归后还是流亡。今天看流亡的原因，和情景和如何真回归

圣经描画流放时的惨景

饥饿，被抓，杀子，挖眼，烧圣殿，被抓离开家园。

为什么神不救，保护子民？现在为什么神不保护我们呢？为什么我们受苦难？

原因，是否上帝真忘子民？从来被掳学习什么？

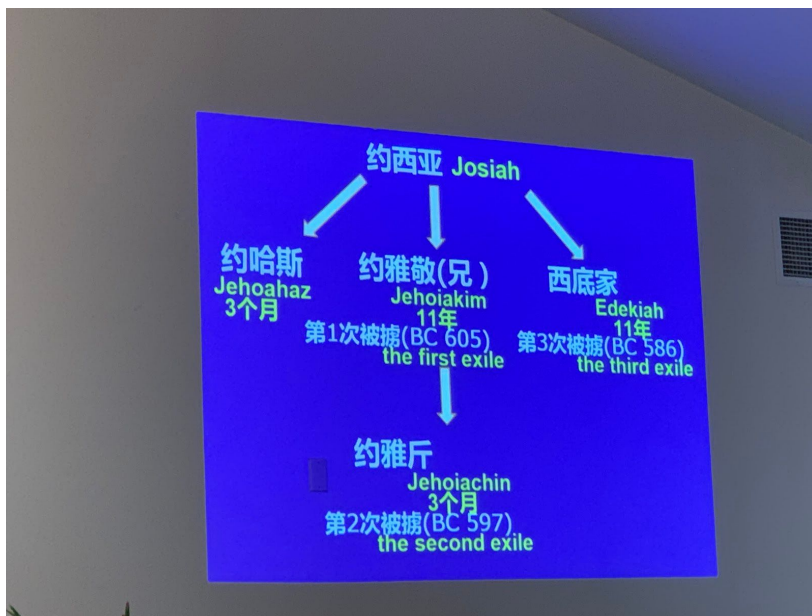
1, 原因，何4:1-2

罪，我的民因无知识而灭亡。如外帮人能理解，但以色列人应该知道。是分别为圣的，给律法来跟着神。

道德律法，民事律法，礼仪律法。象现在我们有圣经和牧师教你知道神。何4:6说无知识？当时有先知君王
祭师，何4:7-8，说祭师失去了他们的责任。祭师说假预言谋利。耶23:32，神责王。



现在，传道人如不说神的话教会受损
 不知道神就不能成长，为牧师祷告
 2，以色列人被掳的情景



约西亚最后1个好王。但做错了一事。埃及攻击Assyria 约西亚战死。死后见上表后代接位。三次被掳。第二次被掳时以西吉被流亡。西底家参加埃及攻击巴比伦，以后被巴比伦所以灭造成第三次被掳是今天圣经所描绘的。这次彻底的圣殿的毁了。
 原因不是神不保护而是我们的罪所造。

3，审判中的恩典

神爱祂的子民。耶31:3，何2:19-20，赛49：14-16，神不忘记。恩典从三个先知，

a，但以理在王的宫中作先知，他们三人坚强了以色列人的信心，不遵守神意受苦，遵主意就能得恩典，建立以色列人对神的信心。但以理的神强大于巴比伦的神，但6:25-26。

b，以西结被掳民中做先知。在被掳民中被呼召。结3:17-17，上帝没有忘记祂的百姓。

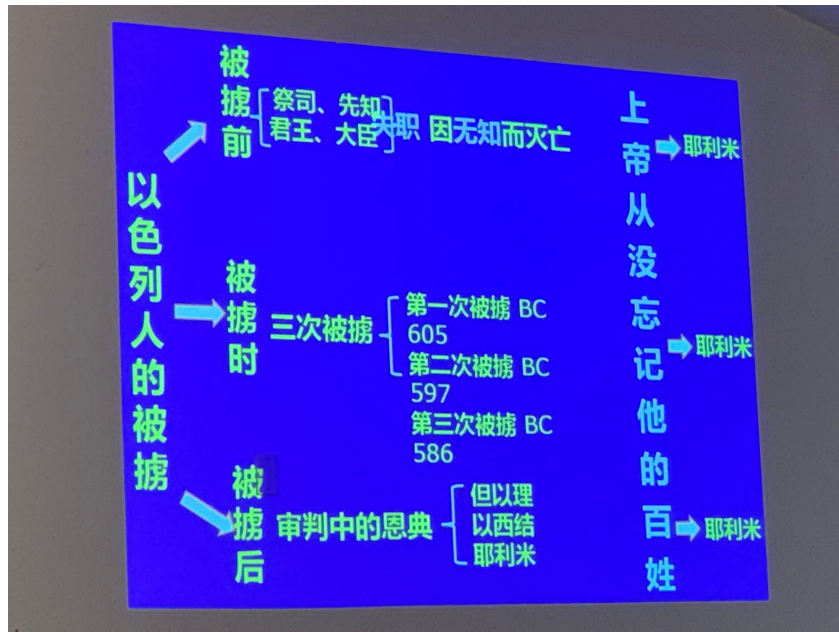
c, 耶利米在亡国前劝百姓停止对抗巴比伦。耶29 : 1, 5, 亡国后, 耶利米和余民同在。耶40 : 2-4, 要他去巴比伦有大好处, 留下来百姓不听且穷, 但先知留下, 神也和耶利米同在。

耶6

耶42:9-11我要保护你们如果你们留下, 他们还是去埃及, 耶利米也去了埃及。

被掳后神没忘记他们, 虽得罪神但上帝给恩典

总结



“我因这些事哭泣，我眼泪汪汪”
This is why I weep and my eyes overflow with tears.

“我眼中流泪，以致失明；我的心肠扰乱，肝胆涂地！都因我众民遭毁灭”
My eyes fail from weeping, I am in torment within;
my heart is poured out on the ground because my people are destroyed,

“我的眼多多流泪，总不止息”
My eyes will flow unceasingly, without relief,

---哀1:16 ; 2:11 ; 3:49/Lam. 1:16 ; 2:11 ; 3:49

耶利米为神的子民的哭泣

苦难不是我神不爱，神永远和你同在。不管我们的处境，神和我们同在。

The Israelites exiled to Babylon

By Peter Tian

2 kings 25:1-21

Main topic of this month is about exile

1st Sunday:

Exile after the garden

The exile in Babylon

The exile life after return

2nd Sunday

The life in the garden of Eden

Today

Focus on the life on the exile in Babylon, the reason and outcome, what can we learn from the history?

None likes to experience the misery of exile, 1.5 year siege, no food, the king tried to escape, got caught, sons were killed in front of his eyes; burnt the temple and the city. Only left the poorest, exile the rest all
Why?

Isn't Israel the chosen one by God? Where was God? Isn't the holy temple where god met his people, why allowed it to be burnt? Why god didn't spare his people even his name was shamed? Today aren't we the chosen children of god, call him ABBA Father, why suffer?

Did god really forget them ?

1. The reasons of exile

Hos 4:6a described the life of Israelites, lived a same life like the gentiles. 'My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge' for those who know God and his words, not the people who never heard of scriptures, no revelation, no priest's teaching, not chosen among all the people. God not just chosen, but gave them laws—the moral law: how to build relationships with god

The civil law: how to build relationship with others

The ceremonial law: if sins, bring sacrifice, the priests offered the blood of animals, then god forgave, and gave them peace

Today we have the Bible, the HS, teachings at churches— the church should be the least place lack knowledge of God

Three rules of Israel: priest, king, prophet

Priest: mediator between god and people

King: politically rule as the representative of god

Prophets: when priest and king are negligent, correct them, as the mouth of god

Hos 4:7-8 the priests sins against god, lost their responsibility, for own financial gain

Jer 23:32 prophets lied, spoke own minds not the minds of God, lead people astray, reckless lies,

Jer38:4-5 king didn't represent God's will, but listened to his officials who obeyed and trusted the wicked leaders of their neighbor counties, Assyria and Egypt

So, all dereliction of duty

Today the role of the ministers of church, pray for our own ministers, pastors, coworkers, be the faithful leaders, only when they serve faithfully, the church can grow

2. The scene of the exile of the Israelites

Southern Kingdom Judah had three exiles:

Josiah was the last good king, destroyed all idles 2kings 23:25 none Kings before liked him. When pharaoh Neco attacking Assyria, Josiah died

*Jehoahaz 3months, failed by Egypt, gave it to his brother

*Jehoiakm 11years, Babylon defeated Egypt, when he betrayed, first exile 605BC, captured temple, all the gold and silver, Daniel was exiled during this time

*Jehoiachin, his son, 3m, betrayed Babylon, again attacked by Babylon, surrender, BC597, second exile, more than 10,000 leaders and skilled workers, Ezekiel was among the second

*Edekiah, another son of Josiah, 11years, betrayed Babylon, attacked the third time (sieged 1.5 years) we read today, tried to escape, sons killed, holy temple and city burnt, ALL destroyed including Solomon's temple and palace

Sins prevented their prayers be heard, they suffered, the consequences of their sins.

Reasons for suffering: Attacks from satan, tests from god, and consequences of our sins

3. God's grace in judgement

Yes, no doubt God love them, everlasting love, remember his chosen people,

Jer 31:3

Isa 48:14-16

Can a mother forget the baby at her breast? Never, engrave you on the palms of my hand

God's grace present even during judgement:

Look at the work of 3 prophets:

1. Daniel, at the palace of Babylon. with testimony of his 3 friends-strengthen people's faith during exile, not because god was powerless to help them but their own sin, god was still with them despite their disobedience. "Your god is the god of gods, lord of kings" when two kingdoms fight, the battle is also the battle between their gods. Daniel 6:25-36 king Darius a decree "living god endured forever, his dominion never end", the service of Daniel motivated his people to live a holy life, repent from old sinful way

2. Ezekiel: a prophet among the people of exile, called when in Babylon after exile, by the river Kebar, his mission was the watchman of people of Israel, mouth of god to give warning, God didn't forget his people, not just Daniel in palace but among the people

3. Jeremiah among the exiles, even when they were exiled to Egypt

Among the remains, jer7

Encourage to submit to the king of Babylon jer 21:8-10

Wrote letter to the exiled to cease rebellion

Jer29:1,5, to life peacefully in Babylon to get married, have children, pray for the peace of the city,

Decided to stay with the left behind poorest, went to Egypt

Jer40:2-4, 6 he chose to stay instead of going with them for a better treatment to Babylon. If Jeremiah stayed with the remaining, meant God with them

jer 42:9-11 don't be afraid, no fear,

Jer 43:2-3 reject Jeremiah advice, went to Egypt

God's guidance was with them the whole time, solid triangle during the exile time, their ministries telling people God never leave, grace , restore, hope

God still treasure his people

Jeremiah weeping prophet, representing the heart of god

Lam 1:16, 2:11, 3:49

The lord never forget the Israelites, He will never forget you either