

ימי עיון בתנ"ך תשפ"ו

שם השיעור

When Politics & Religion Clash

From Yerovam to Yirmiyahu

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I. Yerovam's Religious Reform for Political reasons

Melachim Alef 12:25-33 & then see 13:1-10 / compare with Shmot 32 & Bamidbar 16

כה ויבן ירבעם את-שָׁכֶם בְּהָר אֶפְרַיִם, וַיֵּשֶׁב בָּהֶ; וַיֵּצֵא מִשָּׁם, וַיִּבֶן אֶת-פְּנוּאֵל. כו וַיֹּאמֶר יִרְבֵּעַם, בְּלִבּוֹ: עֲתָה תָשׁוּב הַמַּמְלָכָה, לְבֵית דָּוִד. כז אִם-יַעֲלֶה הָעָם הַזֶּה, לַעֲשׂוֹת זִבְחִים בְּבֵית-יְהוָה בִּירוּשָׁלַם, וְשָׁב לֵב הָעָם הַזֶּה אֶל-אֲדֹנָיָהם, אֶל-רַחֲבֵעַם מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה; וַהֲרַגְנִי, וְשָׁבוּ אֶל-רַחֲבֵעַם מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה. כח וַיֹּעֶץ הַמֶּלֶךְ--וַיַּעַשׂ, שְׁנֵי עֲגָלֵי זָהָב; וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם, רַב-לָכֶם מַעֲלוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם--הִנֵּה אֶלֶהֶיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר הֶעֱלוּךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם. כט וַיֵּשֶׁם אֶת-הָאֶחָד, בְּבֵית-אֵל; וְאֶת-הָאֶחָד, נָתַן בְּדָן. ל וַיְהִי הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, לְחֹטְאָת; וַיִּלְכוּ הָעָם לִפְנֵי הָאֶחָד, עַד-דָּן. לא וַיַּעַשׂ, אֶת-בֵּית בָּמֹת; וַיַּעַשׂ כְּהֹנִים מִקְצֹת הָעָם, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-הָיוּ מִבְּנֵי לֹוִי. לב וַיַּעַשׂ יִרְבֵּעַם חָג בַּחֲדָשׁ הַשְּׁמִינִי בַחֲמִשָּׁה-עָשָׂר יוֹם לַחֲדָשׁ כָּחָג אֲשֶׁר בִּיהוּדָה, וַיַּעַל עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ--כֵּן עָשָׂה בְּבֵית-אֵל, לְזַבֵּחַ לַעֲגָלִים אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה; וַהֲעִמִּיד בְּבֵית אֵל, אֶת-כְּהֹנֵי הַבָּמֹת אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה. לג וַיַּעַל עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה בְּבֵית-אֵל, בַּחֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בַּחֲדָשׁ הַשְּׁמִינִי--בַּחֲדָשׁ, אֲשֶׁר-בָּדָא מַלְבַּד (מַלְבּוֹ); וַיַּעַשׂ חָג לִבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיַּעַל עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ לְהַקְטִיר.

II. The key events during Yirmiyahu's 40 years of prophecy [18+11+11]

Yoshiyahu – [From Year 13 of his reign untill his death in Year 31] - 18 years

Year 13 - National teshuva begins [based on II DH 34:1-8] / Ashur falls

Year 18 - Renovation of Temple; when they find the 'sefer torah' (II DH 34:8-35:18)

Year 31 - Yoshiyahu's tragic death at Megiddo, fighting Pharaoh Necho (DH 35:19-26)

[Yehoyakim becomes King with support of Pharaoh Necho]

Yehoyakim – leaves God, aligns himself with Egypt, rebels against Bavel – 11 years

Year 4 - Nebuchadnezzar, King of Bavel, begins conquest of Middle East (Yirm 25:1)

Year 8 – rebellion again Bavel, after three years of servitude (II Kings 24:1)

Year 11 -Nebuchadnezzar defeats Jerusalem, [King dies]; 'aristocracy' is exile

Including King Yehoyachin (son of Yehoyakim), after 3 mos. reign (II Kings 24:8-17)

Tzidkiyahu – [appointed by Bavel, on condition of subservience] - 11 years

Year 4 – plans rebellion against Bavel, which begins the next year (Yirm 28:1-5)

Year 11 – Temple & Jerusalem destroyed, People exiled (II Kings chapter 25)

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II. The RELIGIOUS ISSUE

- A. Ritual vs. Social Justice - Yirmiyahu chapter 7 [early reign of Yehoyakim]
'last call' for proper repentance, based on chapter 26 parallel
Other examples: 2:8, 3:21 thru 4:8; 6:13-20
- B. The decree of '70 years' of Bavel - chapter 25
An 'irreversible' decree / turning point in Yirmiyahu's prophecy
- C. Staying in the Land, after the decree / based on 22:1-5; 23:5-8

III. The POLITICAL ISSUE [& the Clash with the 'false prophets']

- A. The decree to accept Babylonian rule / chapter 25:1-13
- B. The 'international coalition' to fight Bavel / chapter 27
- C. Yirmiyahu's yoke/ & hence 'military advice' / based on chapter 21
- D. The 'showdown' with fellow prophet Chananya / chapter 28
- E. Yirmiyahu's troublesome correspondence with Babylonian Exile/ chp. 29
- F. The 'false prophets' fight back 29:24-32; in light of 14:11-18 & 23:14-22

IV. The strange & confusing chronology of Sefer Yirmiyahu [explained!]

- A. **Rebuke of Am Yisrael - chapters 1 thru 20**
chapters 1 - "Nevuat hakdasha" - The navi is appointed!
chapters 2 - 10 / Rebuke/ final warning/ the "megillat sefer"?
2-6 / from time period of Yoshiyahu
7-10 / from time period of Yehoyakim
chapters 11 - 20 / Misc. units of rebuke w/o 'headers'
- B. **Rebuke of the leaders of Am Yisrael - chapters 21 thru 29**
[in this unit, each section has 'dated' header, and is politically charged!]
chapters 21 - join the enemy - order to survive
22→ 23 / rebuke of the Kings - house of David
followed by rebuke of prophets and priests
chapter 24 - / between Bavel & Jerusalem - where is the future?
chapters 25-29 / The decree of 70 years & its implications
- C. **Nevuot of "nechama" [redemption] chapters 30-34**
- D. **'Burning books' - The story that explains the book's framework**
chapter 36 - Yirmiyahu writes the 'megillat sefer' & Yehoyakim burns it
And then told to 're-publish'
- E. **Story of the Destruction - chapters 37 thru 45**
[Similar in style to Sefer Melachim- Prophecies fulfilled]
- F. **Nevuot for the 'other nations' - chapters 46-51**
[the other nations who will be punished via Bavel]
- G. **Epilogue - story of the destruction - chapter 52**