

# THE WORD THAT CANNOT BE DESTROYED

Jeremiah 36:1-32; John 1:1, 2.

LESSON 124 -- Primary Course

MEMORY VERSE: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

## BIBLE TEXTS

### Jeremiah 36:1-32;

1 ¶ And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day.

3 It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.

5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I am shut up; I cannot go into the house of the LORD:

6 Therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD'S house upon the fasting day: and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities.

7 It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will return every one from his evil way: for great is the anger and the fury that the LORD hath pronounced against this people.

8 And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the LORD in the LORD'S house.

9 ¶ And it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the LORD to all the people in Jerusalem, and to all the people that came from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem.

10 Then read Baruch in the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD'S house, in the ears of all the people.

11 When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the words of the LORD,

12 Then he went down into the king's house, into the scribe's chamber: and, lo, all the princes sat there, even Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.

13 Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

14 Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, unto Baruch, saying, Take in thine hand the roll wherein thou hast read in the ears of the people, and come. So Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand, and came unto them.

15 And they said unto him, Sit down now, and read it in our ears. So Baruch read it in their ears.

16 Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they were afraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.

17 And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, How didst thou write all these words at his mouth?

18 Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book.

19 Then said the princes unto Baruch, Go, hide thee, thou and Jeremiah; and let no man know where ye be.

20 ¶ And they went in to the king into the court, but they laid up the roll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the ears of the king.

21 So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll: and he took it out of Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes which stood beside the king.

22 Now the king sat in the winterhouse in the ninth month: and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him.

23 And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and

cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.

24 Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words.

25 Nevertheless Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made intercession to the king that he would not burn the roll: but he would not hear them.

26 But the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of Hammelech, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet: but the LORD hid them.

27 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,

28 Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned.

29 And thou shalt say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, Thus saith the LORD; Thou hast burned this roll, saying, Why hast thou written therein, saying, The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from thence man and beast?

30 Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.

31 And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they hearkened not.

32 Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire: and there were added besides unto them many like words.

## **John 1:1, 2.**

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

## **NOTES**

### **The Holy Bible**

Most children like to look at books that have pretty pictures in them. Some books tell animal stories. Many books are not true but only make-believe. The stories you find in some of them are not about real people.

There is one Book that has been read and is loved by more people than any other book. God gave this Book to the people a very long time ago. The boys and girls whose names are given there truly lived long ago. We know that this Book is true, because God told the good men – the prophets – what to write, and God always tells the truth. Every word in that Book is good. Do you know the name of it? It is God's Holy Word – the Bible. More Bibles are printed today than any other book. Children too small to read it for themselves enjoy hearing the stories told them from the Bible. When they grow old enough to read for themselves, they find many good things that teach them how to live as Jesus wants them to live.

### **Not to Be Destroyed**

We learned in another lesson that a long time ago God gave Moses ten commandments, which were written upon two stones. Moses read them to the people. One day after the people had worshiped an idol the stones on which the commandments were written were broken. But God told Moses to cut two pieces of stone like the first. God said that He would write upon them the words that had been on the first stones. God did not want those words broken or lost. That was many years before the rest of the Bible was written. Later God told Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, and others to write about Jesus.

Do we remember the story of the little boy named Josiah who began to be the king of Judah when he was only eight years old? It was during the time that he was king that some men found a Book which had been lost for many years. This Book was their Bible and God's Holy Word. Many of the holy things in the Temple had been destroyed, but God kept the Bible hidden away, and did not let wicked kings destroy that Holy Book. God's Word will never be destroyed. He takes good care of His Word because He knows people need to have it.

## Jeremiah the Prophet

The people did not always have books, paper and ink as we have today. Sometimes they wrote on sheepskins; sometimes they used scrolls, or rolls, to write upon. They rolled up both ends, and as they read the roll, they unrolled one end of it, and rolled up the other end. Sometimes they wrote on sheets and rolled one over the other. No doubt they made their ink from the juices of plants or nuts.

One day when Josiah's son was the king, God told a prophet named Jeremiah to take a roll, and write a message to the people. Jeremiah called for a man, who took some ink and wrote down all the words, which Jeremiah told him to write.

When the king heard that Jeremiah had written some words in a Book, he asked for a man to read them to him. It was a cold day in the month of December. There sat the king in his comfortable chair before the fire, which burned on the hearth. He listened as the man read three or four pages from the Book, or roll. The words that Jeremiah had written told of the sins of the people and that the people needed to repent and be saved. It no doubt made the wicked king angry, so he took out his penknife and cut out those leaves and cast them into the open fireplace. What a terrible thing to do – this wicked king was destroying parts of this Book! Some men standing there asked the king not to burn the pages, but the king kept right on cutting out the pages. He threw them into the fire and burned them until the whole roll was burned.

God was not at all pleased with the king for burning the roll. He did not want these words to be lost. He told Jeremiah to take another roll and write the same words again. So they took another roll and wrote again the same words that had been burned, and also added more than had been written before. God said He would punish the wicked king for burning the roll, and He did, too.

## God's Word in the Heart

Are we always careful how we treat the Bible? Let us remember that it is God's Word and we should treat it with care and respect. We should never tear out any of the pages, as the naughty king did. Some parents teach their children never to throw the Bible to the floor or even place anything on the Bible.

The Bible is a good Book from which a mother may read to her children. Children who learn lessons from the Bible at a young age will often keep these truths in their heart and never forget them. A young minister testifies that his mother always read Bible stories to him and his brother when they were very young. Often at bedtime the younger brother would fall asleep while the mother read, but this boy listened as long as his mother read from the Word of God. The stories of David, Samuel, and many other Bible stories he kept in his heart through the years. Later he was saved, and today he works for Jesus every day.

## Ashamed of the Bible

A woman said she was brought up in a Christian home by Christian parents. She was taught the Bible and taught to pray. But she decided that when she had a family of her own she would not bring them up as she had been. She turned away from her Christian mother's teaching. She was ashamed of the Bible. She said, "My mother would read her Bible in the living room, and leave it there, and when she wasn't looking I would put it in the bedroom for fear my friends would come in and see the Bible. When our daughters began to grow up and love the things of this world, I began to realize they were doing things I did not approve of. I had neglected to tell them of Jesus, and teach them to pray. One day my husband and I asked God to help us. God heard that prayer and saved our souls. He saved two of our daughters and today they have Christian homes."

## Wonderful Treasure

The children in the Sunday School love to sing about the Bible. Often they hold their Bibles in their hands and lift them toward Heaven as they sing:

**"I have a wonderful treasure,  
The gift of God without measure,  
And so we travel together,  
My Bible and I."**

The Word of God is true, and everything told there will come to pass. Let us never be ashamed of the Bible, but love this "wonderful treasure" with all our heart.

## QUESTIONS

1. Who told Jeremiah to write in the Book? Jeremiah 36:1, 2.
2. What did the king do to the Book? Jeremiah 36:23.
3. What did the Lord tell Jeremiah to do after the pages were burned? Jeremiah 36:28.
4. Did Jeremiah again write the same words? Jeremiah 36:32.
5. Will God's Word ever pass away? Matthew 24:35.

## LESSON RESOURCES

### TITLE

# THE WORD THAT CANNOT BE DESTROYED

Lesson 124

Jeremiah 36:1-32; John 1:1,2

# My Treasure

WATCH & PRAY 40

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SONG

## My Treasure

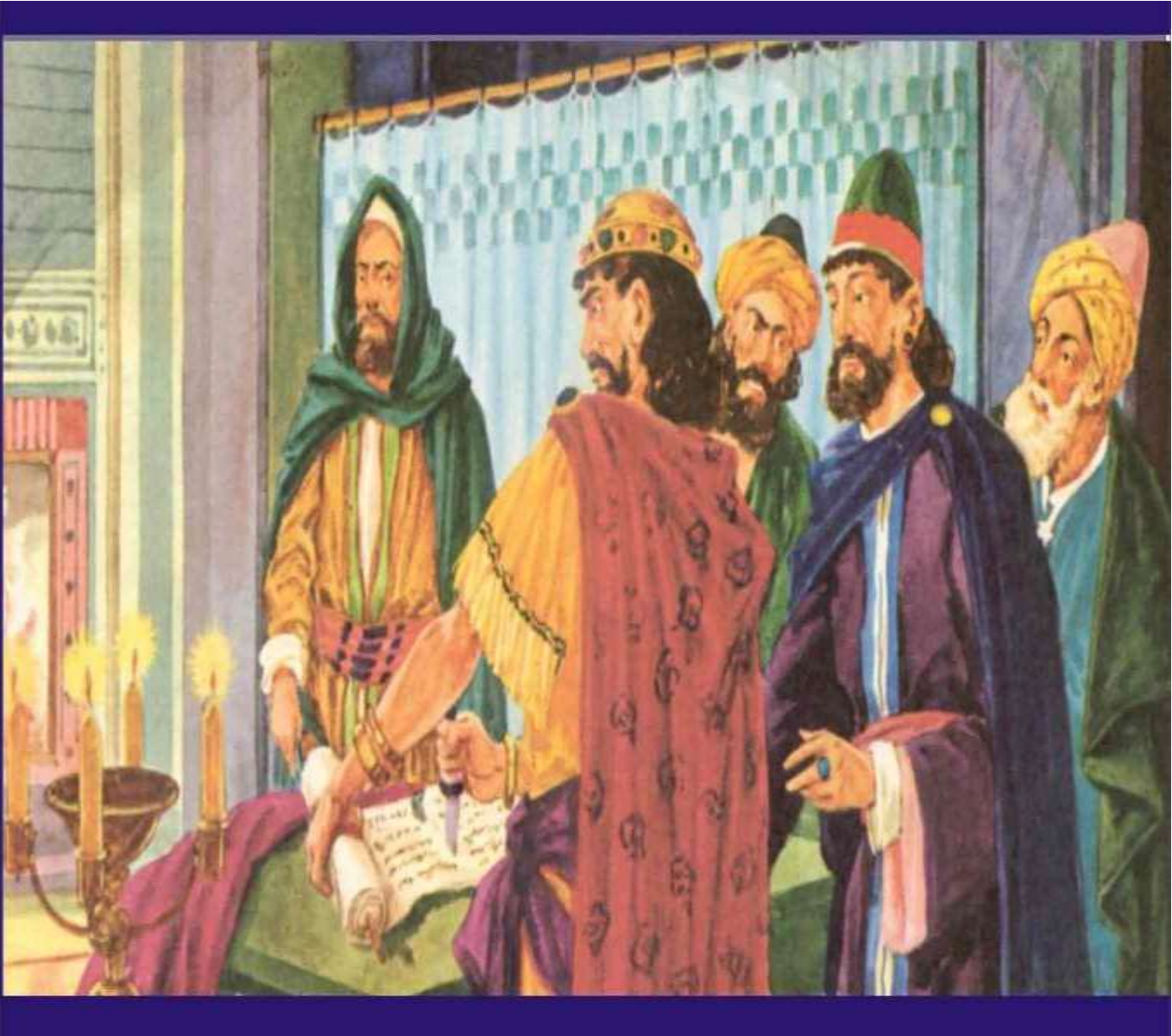
I have a wonderful treasure,  
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PICTURE 1





PICTURE 2



PICTURE 3



PICTURE 4

