

JEREMIAH BUYS A FIELD (Jeremiah 32)

Parts: Narrators,
 Jeremiah,
 Zedekiah,
 Hanameel,
 Witnesses in Court

Jeremiah *(to Zedekiah)*:

“Thus says Yehowah: ‘Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it; and Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape from the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him face to face, and see him eye to eye; then he shall lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there he shall be until I visit him,’ says Yehowah; ‘though you fight with the Chaldeans, you shall not succeed’ ”

Zedekiah:

"Why do you prophesy these words? *(to his men)* Lock him up!"

Narrator:

Then the word that came to Jeremiah from Yehowah in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. For then the king of Babylon's army besieged Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah's house.

Jeremiah *(locked in a room)*:

"The word of Yehowah came to me, saying, `Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you, saying, “Buy my field which is in Anathoth, for the right of redemption is yours to buy it.” ’ “

Hanameel:

“Please buy my field that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin; for the right of inheritance is yours, and the redemption yours; buy it for yourself.”

Narrator:

Then I knew that this was the word of Yehowah. So I bought the field from Hanameel, the son of my uncle who was in Anathoth, and weighed out to him the money - seventeen shekels of silver. And I signed the deed and sealed it, took witnesses, and weighed the money in the balances.

So I took the purchase deed, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open; and I gave the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, son of Mahseiah, in the presence of Hanameel my uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses who signed the purchase deed, before all the Jews who sat in the court of the prison. Then I charged Baruch before them:

Jeremiah (*Witnesses and Hanameel leave, Jeremiah is by himself*):

"Thus says Yehowah, the God of Israel: 'Take these deeds, both this purchase deed which is sealed and this deed which is open, and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may last many days. For thus says Yehowah, the God of Israel: "Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land." ' "

Narrator:

Now when I had delivered the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to Yehowah.

Jeremiah

"Ah Yehowah! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You. ...Look, the siege mounds! They have come to the city to take it; and the city has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans who fight against it, because of the sword and famine and pestilence. What You have spoken has happened; there You see it! And You have said to me, O Yehowah, 'Buy the field for money, and take witnesses?! - yet the city has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans!' "

Narrator:

Then the word of Yehowah came to Jeremiah, saying, "Behold, I am Yehowah, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me? Therefore thus says Yehowah: 'Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it. ...Behold, I will gather them out of all countries where I have driven them in My anger, in My fury, and in great wrath; I will bring them back to this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely. And fields will be bought in this land of which you say, "It is desolate, without man or beast; it has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans." Men will buy fields for money, sign deeds and seal them, and take witnesses, in the land of Benjamin, in the places around Jerusalem, in the cities of Judah, in the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the lowland, and in the cities of the South; for I will cause their captives to return!' says Yehowah."

(The End)