

Plans to Give You the Future You Hope For

29 ¹⁻²This is the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to what was left of the elders among the exiles, to the priests and prophets and all the exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken to Babylon from Jerusalem, including King Jehoiachin, the queen mother, the government leaders, and all the skilled laborers and craftsmen.

³The letter was carried by Elasah son of Shaphan and Gemariah son of Hilkiyah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah had sent to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. The letter said:

⁴This is the Message from GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies, Israel's God, to all the exiles I've taken from Jerusalem to Babylon:

⁵"Build houses and make yourselves at home.

"Put in gardens and eat what grows in that country.

⁶"Marry and have children. Encourage your children to marry and have children so that you'll thrive in that country and not waste away.

⁷"Make yourselves at home there and work for the country's welfare.

"Pray for Babylon's well-being. If things go well for Babylon, things will go well for you."