

Oxford Baptist Church – Pastor Robin W. Pifer

January 29, 2017 - The Story Series

Chapter 17 – The Kingdoms' Fall

Read "The Story" Chapter 17 (2Kings 21 – 25; 2 Chron 32-36; Jeremiah, Habakkuk, Ezekiel)

The Lord has called you to a godly life's purpose.

The Last Kings of Judah....

He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord – 1) Hezekiah (29years); (4) Josiah (31 years)

He did evil in the eyes of the Lord – (2) Manasseh (55 years); (3) Amon (2years); (5) Jehoahaz – 3 months; (6) Jehoiakim – 11 months; (7) Jehoiachin – 3 months; (8) Zedekiah – 11 years.

Prophet Jeremiah reminds us about our Heart. Jer. 17:9-10, 14

Prophet Habakkuk reminds us that God is Holy. Hab. 1:13 (2Peter 3:8-13)

Prophet Jeremiah reminds us that God loves us. Jer. 31:3

Prophet Ezekiel reminds us that God changes hearts. Ezek. 11:19; 36:26-36

The Lord has called you to a godly life's purpose. Jer. 1:5-10; 29:10-13; Eph 2:8-10

God's Vision or Plan for your life is better than your plan.

- ***I formed you; I knew you.***
- ***I set you apart.***
- ***I appointed you.***
- ***Avoid a selfish lifestyle. Judges 21:25***

God's purpose for your life is accomplished by his power and your obedience to his Word. Jer. 1:12; John 14:15; Eph 3:20-21

God's presence overcomes your fear with words of faith.

Jer. 1:9-11; Psalm 27

What excuses are you holding on to that are taking away God's vision or plan for your life? Today God is calling you to stop making excuses and fulfill his purpose for your life. What excuse(s) are you making that is stopping the blessing and purpose of God in your life? Name it.

_____ . Confess it. Listen and obey the Word of the Lord.



THE STORY
For Life Groups

1. Why did all this disaster come on the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah?
2. What are the warnings that come to us as a result of the last Kings of Judah?
3. The messages of the prophets to Judah are strong. Take time to review the reminders of these prophets.
4. Jeremiah was known as the "weeping prophet" who was deeply burdened by the sin of God's people. How does this relate to us today?
5. God has a purpose for each of our lives. How does God's encounter with Jeremiah impact you through the message today?
6. How does God's power and obedience to his word accomplish his purpose for your life?
7. Why is fear such a hindrance in our lives to living with the purpose of God? What drives away fear? 1John 4:18
8. What happened to King Manasseh? What do you think led him to change his ways?
9. Review Isaiah's prophecy made over one hundred years before Nebuchadnezzar's attacks (p. 225-226). Compare Isaiah's predictions with the events during the reigns of Kings Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah.
10. What did God promise He would do for Israel in spite of their great sin, their Babylonian exile, and their hearts of stone (p. 245-246)? What does this teach you about God's heart for His chosen nation?