

Conditional Blessing

Daniel: End Time Example for a Post Christian Culture

Jeremiah 29

(Jer 29:10-14) God always wants to Bless His people

(Jer 29:4-7) 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all who were carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon: 'Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit. 'Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters—that you may be increased there, and not diminished. 'And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace.

Conditional Blessing: Peace (intent), Prayer, Connection

Daniel's Attitude: Honor, Respect, Prayer - Trials, Favor

(Jer 29:8-9, 15-32) False Prophets - deceptive regarding length of captivity
want to kill Jeremiah for prophesying against Jerusalem (Jer 26:11)
prophecy 2 year return (Jer 28:2-4)

Unconditional Blessing: regardless of Spiritual Condition

Cause of Captivity (Deut 28)

focus on Promise while ignoring Conditions influences Prophetic

Religious Leader's Attitude: Separation - Death

"taught rebellion against the Lord" (Jer 29:32)

Three Spiritual Condition Issues revealed through four Hebrew young men

Culture - Food (Dan 1)

respectfully invited testing

affected Babylonian culture

God made them excel in skill, knowledge, wisdom, understanding (Influence)

Participate in Post Christian Culture without Compromising the Culture of Heaven

Worship (Idolatry) - Fiery Furnace (Dan 3)

respectfully willing to die (Mt 16:24-25 condition of blessing)

Nebuchadnezzar - "Blessed be their God Who delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God!" (Dan 3:28)

affected Babylonian worship - illegal to speak against God

promoted (Influence)

Refuse to be Intimidated out of Worship or into Idolatry

Foreshadowing: mark of beast is about worship (Rev 13:15-17) - (Rev 12:11)