

## Lesson IX.

## THE CAPTIVITY OF JUDAH

August 26, 1917

2 Kings 25 : 1-12. Study 2 Kings 25 : 1-21. \*Scripture Memory Verse, Eph. 6 : 1.

**Golden Text**—As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked.—Ezekiel 33 : 11.



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year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Bab'ylon, came Nebu'zar-ad'an, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Bab'ylon, unto Jeru'salem:

9 And he burnt the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jeru'salem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.

10 And all the army of the Chal'dees, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jeru'salem round about.

11 Now the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Bab'ylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebu'zar-ad'an the captain of the guard carry away.

12 But the captain of the guard left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen.

1 And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Bab'ylon came, he, and all his host, against Jeru'salem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about.

2 And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedeki'ah.

3 And on the ninth day of the fourth month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land.

4 And the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden: (now the Chal'dees were against the city round about;) and the king went the way toward the plain.

5 And the army of the Chal'dees pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jer'icho: and all his army were scattered from him.

6 So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Bab'ylon to Rib'lah; and they gave judgment upon him.

7 And they slew the sons of Zedeki'ah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedeki'ah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Bab'ylon.

8 And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which is the nineteenth

## THE LESSON RETOLD

In our last lesson we learned about good King Josiah and his people standing in God's house, and promising that they would serve God only and keep his laws. It was such a happy story, and we thought the people of Judah would always serve God and keep his laws after that, but, sad to say, they did not.

After good King Josiah died, two of his sons in turn and then a grandson reigned in his place. Then Zedekiah, another son of

Josiah and the last king of Judah, came to the throne. They were bad kings and set such a bad example to their people, that before very long the people of Judah were as bad as ever, and forgot God and his laws and his house, and worshiped idols again. So our story to-day is a very sad one indeed.

A very cruel and wicked king of Babylon, named Nebuchadnezzar, came with a great army of soldiers and camped around Jeru-

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