

Sefer Yirmiyahu - When Politics & Religion Clash

For Torah in Motion - by Menachem Leibtag

Intro:

As we enter the months of Tamuz & Av, we dedicate the next two months [8 classes] to an in-depth study of the book of Yirmiyahu.

The premise of our study, is that to understand the message of the 'Later Prophets', one must first consider the time period - both from a historic and prophetic perspective.

[Example: DC synagogue archives /1860's]

I. The time period, in the opening lines:

- א** דְּבַרֵי יִרְמְיָהוּ בֶן-חִלְקִיָּהוּ, מִן-הַכֹּהֲנִים אֲשֶׁר בְּעֲנָתוֹת, בְּאֶרֶץ בְּנֵימִן.
- ב** אֲשֶׁר הָיָה דְבַר-יְהוָה אֵלָיו, בְּיָמֵי יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ בֶן-אָמֹן מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, בְּשָׁלֹשׁ-עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה, לְמַלְכוֹ.
- ג** וַיְהִי, בְּיָמֵי יְהוֹיָקִים בֶּן-יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, עַד-תַּם עֲשָׂתֵי עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה, לְצִדְקִיָּהוּ בֶן-יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה--עַד-גְּלוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם, בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַחֲמִישִׁי. {פ}
- 1** The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiyah, of the priests that were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,
- 2** to whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.
- 3** It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

II. the 13th year of Yoshiyahu, what's happening

Sefer Divrei Ha'Yamim II chapter 34

- א** בֶּן-שְׁמוֹנֶה שָׁנִים, יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ בְּמַלְכוֹ; וּשְׁלֹשִׁים וְאַחַת שָׁנָה, מָלַךְ בְּירוּשָׁלַם.
- ב** וַיַּעַשׂ הַיָּשָׁר, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה; וַיֵּלֶךְ, בְּדַרְכֵי דָוִד אָבִיו, וְלֹא-סָר, יָמִין וּשְׂמֹאלוֹ.
- 1** Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign; and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem.
- 2** And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

ג וּבְשִׁמוֹנֵה שָׁנִים לְמָלְכוֹ, וְהוּא עוֹדֵנוּ
נָעַר, הֵחֵל, לְדָרוֹשׁ לֵאלֹהֵי דָוִד אָבִיו;
וּבְשָׁתַיִם עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה, הֵחֵל לְטַהֵר אֶת-
יְהוּדָה וִירוּשָׁלַם, מִן-הַבַּמֹּת וְהָאֲשֵׁרִים,
וְהַפְּסָלִים וְהַמַּסְכּוֹת.

3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the Asherim, and the graven images, and the molten images.

ד וַיִּנְתְּצוּ לְפָנָיו, אֵת מִזְבְּחוֹת הַבַּעַלִּים,
וְהַחֲמָנִים אֲשֶׁר-לְמַעַלָּה מֵעֲלֵיהֶם, גִּדְעָה;
וְהָאֲשֵׁרִים וְהַפְּסָלִים וְהַמַּסְכּוֹת, שָׁבַר
וְהִדֵּק, וַיִּזְרַק עַל-פְּנֵי הַקְּבָרִים, הַזֹּבְחִים
לָהֶם.

4 And they broke down the altars of the Baalim in his presence; and the sun-images, that were on high above them, he hewed down; and the Asherim, and the graven images, and the molten images, he broke in pieces, and made dust of them, and strewed it upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them.

ה וַעֲצָמוֹת, כֹּהֲנִים, שָׂרָף, עַל-מִזְבְּחוֹתֵיהֶם
(מִמִּזְבְּחוֹתָם); וַיִּטַּהֵר אֶת-יְהוּדָה, וְאֶת-יְרוּשָׁלַם.

5 And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and purged Judah and Jerusalem.

ו וּבְעָרֵי מְנַשֶּׁה וְאֶפְרַיִם וְשִׁמְעוֹן, וְעַד-
נַפְתָּלִי, בָּחַר בַּתִּיהֶם (בְּחַרְבֵּיתֵיהֶם), סָבִיב.

6 And so did he in the cities of Manasseh and Ephraim and Simeon, even unto Naphtali, with their axes round about.

ז וַיִּנְתְּץ אֶת-הַמִּזְבְּחוֹת, וְאֶת-הָאֲשֵׁרִים
וְהַפְּסָלִים כִּפְתַת לְהִדֵּק, וְכָל-הַחֲמָנִים גִּדְעָה,
בְּכָל-אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיָּשָׁב, לִירוּשָׁלַם. {פ}

7 And he broke down the altars, and beat the Asherim and the graven images into powder, and hewed down all the sun-images throughout all the land of Israel, and returned to Jerusalem. {P}

ח וּבְשָׁנַת שְׁמוֹנֵה עֶשְׂרֵה לְמָלְכוֹ, לְטַהֵר
הָאָרֶץ וְהַבַּיִת--שָׁלַח אֶת-שָׁפָן בֶּן-אֶצְלִיָּהוּ
וְאֶת-מַעֲשִׂיָּהוּ שֶׁר-הָעִיר, וְאֶת יוֹאָח בֶּן-יֹאחָז
הַמְּזַכֵּיר, לְחַזֵּק, אֶת-בַּיִת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ.

8 Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD his God.

That's when they find the Sefer Torah !

But first, must read Melachim Bet chapter 21

**The story of Menashe & decree of destruction
& the parallel story in DH chapter 33**

**Next we will summarize -/ first: identify -churban Bayit I
And then discuss the 'sin-wave' [see attached pdf]**

III. The end of the First Temple Period/ Melachim Bet chap. 21

- א** בן-שְׁתַּיִם עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה, מִנְּשָׂה בְּמַלְכוֹ, וְחַמְּשִׁים וְחֲמֵשׁ שָׁנָה, מָלַךְ בִּירוּשָׁלַם; וְשֵׁם אִמּוֹ, חֶפְצִי-בָהּ.
- 1** Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign; and he reigned five and fifty years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hephzi-bah.
- ב** וַיַּעַשׂ הָרַע, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה--כְּתוֹעֵבֹת, הַגּוֹיִם, אֲשֶׁר הוֹרִישׁ יְהוָה, מִפְּנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.
- 2** And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the nations, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.
- ג** וַיִּשָּׁב, וַיְבִן אֶת-הַבָּמוֹת, אֲשֶׁר אָבֹד, חִזְקִיָּהוּ אָבִיו; וַיִּקַּם מִזְבְּחֹת לְבַעַל, וַיַּעַשׂ אֲשֶׁרָה כַּאֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אַחָאָב מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לְכָל-צָבָא הַשָּׁמַיִם, וַיַּעֲבֹד אֹתָם.
- 3** For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made an Asherah, as did Ahab king of Israel, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.
- ד** וַבְּנֵה מִזְבְּחֹת, בְּבַיִת יְהוָה, אֲשֶׁר אָמַר יְהוָה, בִּירוּשָׁלַם אֲשִׁים אֶת-שְׁמִי.
- 4** And he built altars in the house of the LORD, whereof the LORD said: 'In Jerusalem will I put My name.'
- ה** וַיְבִן מִזְבְּחוֹת, לְכָל-צָבָא הַשָּׁמַיִם, בְּשַׁתֵּי, חֲצָרוֹת בַּיִת-יְהוָה.
- 5** And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD.
- ו** וְהַעֲבִיר אֶת-בְּנוֹ, בְּאֵשׁ, וְעוֹנִן וְנֹחַשׁ, וְעָשָׂה אוֹב וַיִּדְּעָנִים: הַרְבָּה, לַעֲשׂוֹת הָרַע בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה--לְהַכְעִיס.
- 6** And he made his son to pass through the fire, and practised soothsaying, and used enchantments, and appointed them that divined by a ghost or a familiar spirit: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him.
- ז** וַיִּשֶׂם, אֶת-פֶּסֶל הָאֲשֶׁרָה אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה-- בְּבַיִת, אֲשֶׁר אָמַר יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד וְאֶל-שְׁלֹמֹה בְּנוֹ, בְּבַיִת הַזֶּה וּבִירוּשָׁלַם אֲשֶׁר בְּחָרְתִּי מִכָּל שְׁבֵטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשִׁים אֶת-שְׁמִי לְעוֹלָם.
- 7** And he set the graven image of Asherah, that he had made, in the house of which the LORD said to David and to Solomon his son: 'In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, will I put My name for ever;
- ח** וְלֹא אֲסִיף, לְהִנָּיד רַגְלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִן-הָאָדָמָה, אֲשֶׁר נָתַתִּי לְאֲבוֹתָם: רַק אִם-יִשְׁמְרוּ לַעֲשׂוֹת, כְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִים, וּלְכָל-הַתּוֹרָה, אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה אֹתָם עֲבָדֵי מֹשֶׁה.
- 8** neither will I cause the feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land which I gave their fathers; if only they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them.'
- ט** וְלֹא, שָׁמְעוּ; וַיִּתְּעַם מִנְּשָׂה, לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-הָרַע, מִן-הַגּוֹיִם, אֲשֶׁר הִשְׁמִיד יְהוָה מִפְּנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.
- 9** But they hearkened not; and Manasseh seduced them to do that which is evil more than did the nations, whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.
- י** וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה בְּיַד-עֲבָדָיו הַנְּבִיאִים, לֵאמֹר.
- 10** And the LORD spoke by His servants the prophets, saying:

יא יַעַן אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה מְנַשֶּׁה מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה,
הַתְּעַבּוֹת הָאֵלֶּה--הָרַע, מִכָּל אֲשֶׁר-עָשׂוּ
הָאֱמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי; וַיַּחַטֵּא גַם-אֶת-
יְהוּדָה, בְּגִלּוּלָיו. {ס}

11 'Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, that were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols; {S}

יב לָכֵן, כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הֲנִנִּי
מִבֵּיא רָעָה, עַל-יְרוּשָׁלַם וַיְהוּדָה: אֲשֶׁר,
כָּל-שִׁמְעוּ (שִׁמְעָה)--תִּצְלַנָּה, שְׁתֵּי אָזְנוֹ.

12 therefore thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Behold, I bring such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall tingle.

יג וְנָטִיתִי עַל-יְרוּשָׁלַם, אֶת קו שֶׁמְרוֹן,
וְאֶת-מִשְׁקַלֶּת, בַּיַּת אַחָאָב; וּמַחִיתִי אֶת-
יְרוּשָׁלַם כַּאֲשֶׁר-יִמָּחַה אֶת-הַצִּלְחַת, מָחָה,
וְהִפְדִּי, עַל-פָּנֶיהָ.

13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab; and I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down.

יד וְנָטַשְׁתִּי, אֶת שְׂאֵרֵי נַחֲלָתִי, וְנִתְּתִים,
בְּיַד אִיבֵיהֶם; וְהָיוּ לִבְז וְלִמְשָׁסָה, לְכָל-
אִיבֵיהֶם.

14 And I will cast off the remnant of Mine inheritance, and deliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies;

טו יַעַן, אֲשֶׁר עָשׂוּ אֶת-הָרַע בְּעֵינַי, וַיְהִיוּ
מִכְּעֵסִים, אֶתִּי--מִן-הַיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר יָצְאוּ
אֲבוֹתָם מִמִּצְרַיִם, וְעַד, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה.

15 because they have done that which is evil in My sight, and have provoked Me, since the day their fathers came forth out of Egypt, even unto this day.'

טז וְגַם דָּם נָקִי שָׁפַךְ מְנַשֶּׁה, הַרְבֵּה מְאֹד,
עַד אֲשֶׁר-מָלֵא אֶת-יְרוּשָׁלַם, פֶּה לְפֶה--לְבַד
מִחַטָּאתוֹ אֲשֶׁר הִחַטִּיא אֶת-יְהוּדָה, לַעֲשׂוֹת
הָרַע בְּעֵינַי יְהוָה.

16 Moreover Manasseh shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

יז וַיִּתֵּר דְּבָרֵי מְנַשֶּׁה וְכָל-אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה,
וְחַטָּאתוֹ אֲשֶׁר חָטָא: הֲלֹא-הֵם כְּתוּבִים,
עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים--לְמַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה.

17 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

יח וַיִּשְׁכַּב מְנַשֶּׁה עִם-אֲבֹתָיו, וַיִּקָּבֵר בְּגִן-
בֵּיתוֹ בְּגִן-עֶזָא; וַיִּמְלֹךְ אָמוֹן בְּנוֹ,
תַּחֲתָיו. {פ}

18 And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza; and Amon his son reigned in his stead. {P}

יט בֶּן-עֶשְׂרִים וּשְׁתַּיִם שָׁנָה, אָמוֹן בְּמָלְכוֹ,
וּשְׁתַּיִם שָׁנִים, מָלַךְ בִּירוּשָׁלַם; וְשֵׁם אִמּוֹ,
מִשְׁלֵמֶת בַּת-חָרוּץ מִן-יֹטְבָה.

19 Amon was twenty and two years old when he began to reign; and he reigned two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

כ וַיַּעַשׂ הָרַע, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה, כַּאֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה, מִנִּשְׂאָה אָבִיו. 20 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did Manasseh his father.

כא וַיֵּלֶךְ, בְּכָל-הַדְרֹךְ אֲשֶׁר-הִלְךְ אָבִיו; וַיַּעֲבֹד, אֶת-הַגְּלִילִים אֲשֶׁר עָבַד אָבִיו, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה, לָהֶם. 21 And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and worshipped them.

כב וַיַּעֲזֹב, אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתָיו; וְלֹא הִלְךְ, בְּדֶרֶךְ יְהוָה. 22 And he forsook the LORD, the God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the LORD.

כג וַיִּקְשְׂרוּ עֲבָדֵי-אָמוֹן, עָלָיו; וַיִּמְיתוּ אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּבֵיתוֹ. 23 And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and put the king to death in his own house.

כד וַיִּזְךְ, עִם-הָאָרֶץ, אֶת כָּל-הַקְּשָׁרִים, עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אָמוֹן; וַיִּמְלִיכוּ עִם-הָאָרֶץ אֶת-יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ בְּנוֹ, תַּחְתָּיו. 24 But the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

כה וַיִּתֵּר דְּבָרֵי אָמוֹן, אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה: הֲלֹא-הֵם כְּתוּבִים, עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים--לְמַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה. 25 Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

כו וַיִּקְבֹּר אֹתוֹ בְּקִבְרָתוֹ, בְּגֶן-עֶזְאָ; וַיִּמְלֹךְ יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ בְּנוֹ, תַּחְתָּיו. {פ} 26 And he was buried in his sepulchre in the garden of Uzza; and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

IV. Finding the Sefer Torah /Year 18, chapter 22

א בֶּן-שְׁמֹנֶה שָׁנָה, יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ בְּמַלְכוֹ, וּשְׁלֹשִׁים וְאַחַת שָׁנָה, מָלַךְ בִּירוּשָׁלַם; וְשֵׁם אִמּוֹ, יְדִידָה בַת-עַדְיָה מִבְּצָקָת. 1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign; and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath.

ב וַיַּעַשׂ הַיָּשָׁר, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה; וַיֵּלֶךְ, בְּכָל-דְרֹךְ דָּוִד אָבִיו, וְלֹא-סָר, יָמָיו וּשְׁמֹאוֹל. {פ} 2 And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left. {P}

ג וַיְהִי, בְּשָׁמְנֵה עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה, לְמָלְךְ, יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ; שָׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-שָׁפָן בֶּן-אַצְלִיָּהוּ בֶן-מִשְׁלָם, הַסֹּפֵר, בֵּית יְהוָה, לֵאמֹר. 3 And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of the LORD, saying.

ד עֲלֶה, אֶל-חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן הַגָּדוֹל, וַיִּתֶּם אֶת-הַכֶּסֶף, הַמּוּבָא בֵּית יְהוָה--אֲשֶׁר אָסְפוּ שְׂמָרֵי הַסֹּף, מֵאֵת הָעָם. 4 'Go up to Hilkiyah the high priest, that he may sum the money which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered of the people;

ח וַיֹּאמֶר חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן הַגָּדוֹל, עַל-שָׁפוֹן הַסֵּפֶר, סֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה מִצָּאתַי, בְּבַיִת יְהוָה; וַיִּתֵּן חִלְקִיָּהוּ אֶת-הַסֵּפֶר אֶל-שָׁפוֹן, וַיִּקְרָאֵהוּ.

8 And Hilkiyah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe: 'I have found the book of the Law in the house of the LORD.' And Hilkiyah delivered the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

ט וַיָּבֵא שָׁפוֹן הַסֵּפֶר, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֵּשֶׁב אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, דָּבָר; וַיֹּאמֶר, הֲתִיכּוּ עִבְדֵיךָ אֶת-הַכֶּסֶף הַנִּמְצָא בְּבַיִת, וַיִּתְּנֵהוּ עַל-יַד עֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה, הַמִּמְקַדִּים בַּיִת יְהוָה.

9 And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought back word unto the king, and said: 'Thy servants have poured out the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of the workmen that have the oversight of the house of the LORD.'

י וַיַּגֵּד שָׁפוֹן הַסֵּפֶר, לַמֶּלֶךְ לֵאמֹר, סֵפֶר נָתַן לִי, חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן; וַיִּקְרָאֵהוּ שָׁפוֹן, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ.

10 And Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying: 'Hilkiyah the priest hath delivered me a book.' And Shaphan read it before the king.

יא וַיְהִי כִשְׁמַע הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶת-דְּבָרֵי סֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה; וַיִּקְרַע, אֶת-בְּגָדָיו.

11 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the book of the Law, that he rent his clothes.

יב וַיִּצַו הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן וְאֶת-אַחִיקָם בֶּן-שָׁפוֹן וְאֶת-עֶכְבֹּר בֶּן-מִיכָיָה וְאֶת-שָׁפוֹן הַסֵּפֶר, וְאֶת עֹשֵׂי עֲבַד-הַמֶּלֶךְ--לֵאמֹר.

12 And the king commanded Hilkiyah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Micaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant, saying:

יג לְכוּ דַרְשׁוּ אֶת-יְהוָה בְּעַדֵי וּבְעַד-הָעָם, וּבְעַד כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, עַל-דְּבָרֵי הַסֵּפֶר הַנִּמְצָא, הַזֶּה: כִּי-גְדוֹלָה חֲמַת יְהוָה, אֲשֶׁר-הִיא נֹצֵתָה בָנוּ, עַל אֲשֶׁר לֹא-שָׁמְעוּ אֲבֹתֵינוּ עַל-דְּבָרֵי הַסֵּפֶר הַזֶּה, לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּכֹל-הַכְּתוּב עֲלֵינוּ.

13 'Go ye, inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found; for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all that which is written concerning us.'

יד וַיֵּלֶךְ חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן וְאַחִיקָם וְעֶכְבֹּר וְשָׁפוֹן וְעֹשֵׂיָהּ, אֶל-חִלְדָּה הַנְּבִיאָה אִשְׁת שָׁלֹם בֶּן-תִּקְוָה בֶּן-חֲרָחַס שֹׁמֵר הַבְּגָדִים, וְהִיא יֹשֶׁבֶת בִּירוּשָׁלַם, בַּמְּשֻׁנָה; וַיְדַבְּרוּ, אֵלֶיהָ.

14 So Hilkiyah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asaiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe--now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the second quarter--and they spoke with her.

טו וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלֵיהֶם, כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: אָמְרוּ לְאִישׁ, אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַח אֶתְכֶם אֵלַי.

15 And she said unto them: 'Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Tell ye the man that sent you unto me:

טז כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, הִנְנִי מְבִיא רָעָה אֶל-הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה וְעַל-יֹשְׁבָיו--אֶת כָּל-דְּבָרֵי הַסֵּפֶר, אֲשֶׁר קָרָא מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל.

16 Thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read;

יז תַּחַת אֲשֶׁר עֲזָבוּנִי, וַיִּקְטְרוּ לֵאלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים, לְמַעַן הַכְּעִיסֵנִי, בְּכֹל מַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵיהֶם; וְנֹצֵתָה חֲמַתִּי בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה, וְלֹא תִכָּבֵּה.

17 because they have forsaken Me, and have offered unto other gods, that they might provoke Me with all the work of their hands; therefore My wrath shall be kindled against this place, and it shall not be quenched.

יח וְאֶל-מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, הִשְׁלַח אֶתְכֶם לְדַרֵּשׁ
אֶת-יְהוָה, כֹּה תֹאמְרוּ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ: כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה
אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְתָּ.

18 But unto the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall ye say to him: Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: As touching the words which thou hast heard,

יט יַעַן רֵךְ-לִבְבְּךָ וַתִּכְנַע מִפְּנֵי יְהוָה, בְּשָׁמַעְךָ
אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתִּי עָלַי-הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה וְעַל-יֹשְׁבָיו
לְהִיּוֹת לְשִׁמָּה וְלִקְלָלָה, וַתִּקְרַע אֶת-בְּגָדֶיךָ,
וַתִּבְכֶּה לִפְנָי; וְגַם אָנֹכִי שָׁמַעְתִּי, נְאֻם-יְהוָה.

19 because thy heart was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before the LORD, when thou heardest what I spoke against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become an astonishment and a curse, and hast rent thy clothes, and wept before Me, I also have heard thee, saith the LORD.

כ לָכֵן הִנְנִי אֹסִפְךָ עַל-אֲבוֹתֶיךָ, וְנֹאסַפְתָּ אֶל-
קְבֻרָתֶיךָ בְּשָׁלוֹם, וְלֹא-תִרְאִינָה עֵינֶיךָ, בְּכָל
הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר-אֲנִי מֵבִיא עָלַי-הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה;
וַיָּשְׁבוּ אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, דָּבָר

20 Therefore, behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace, neither shall thine eyes see all the evil which I will bring upon this place.' And they brought back word unto the king.

Renewing the covenant - year 18 cont'd. - chapter 23

א וַיִּשְׁלַח, הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיֹּאסְפוּ אֵלָיו,
כָּל-זִקְנֵי יְהוּדָה וִירוּשָׁלַם.

1 And the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

ב וַיַּעַל הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּיַּת-יְהוָה וְכָל-אִישׁ
יְהוּדָה וְכָל-יֹשְׁבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם אִתּוֹ,
וְהַכֹּהֲנִים וְהַנְּבִיאִים, וְכָל-הָעָם,
לְמַקְטָן וְעַד-גָּדוֹל; וַיִּקְרָא
בְּאָזְנֵיהֶם, אֶת-כָּל-דְּבָרֵי סֵפֶר
הַבְּרִית, הַנִּמְצָא, בְּבַיַת יְהוָה.

2 And the king went up to the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD.

ג וַיַּעֲמֵד הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל-הָעַמּוּד וַיִּכְרַת
אֶת-הַבְּרִית לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, לְלַכֵּת אַחֲרֵי
יְהוָה וְלִשְׁמֹר מִצְוֹתָיו וְאֶת-עֲדוּתָיו
וְאֶת-חֻקֹּתָיו בְּכָל-לֵב וּבְכָל-נַפְשׁ,
לְהַקִּים אֶת-דְּבָרֵי הַבְּרִית הַזֹּאת,
הַכְּתוּבִים עַל-הַסֵּפֶר הַזֶּה; וַיַּעֲמֵד
כָּל-הָעָם, בַּבְּרִית.

3 And the king stood on the platform, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep His commandments, and His testimonies, and His statutes, with all his heart, and all his soul, to confirm the words of this covenant that were written in this book; and all the people stood to the covenant.

ד וַיִּצַו הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן
הַגָּדוֹל וְאֶת-כֹּהֲנֵי הַמְּשֻׁנָּה, וְאֶת-
שְׁמָרֵי הַסֹּף, לְהוֹצִיא מִהֵיכַל יְהוָה,

4 And the king commanded Hilkiyah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for

את כל-הַכְּלִים הַעֲשׂוּיִם לְבַעַל Baal, and for the Asherah, and for all the host of heaven; and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Beth-el.

...

The Passover ! [Plus...]

כא ויצו המלך, את-כל-הָעַם לֵאמֹר, עֲשׂוּ פֶסַח, לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם-- כַּכְּתוּב, עַל סֵפֶר הַבְּרִית הַזֶּה.

21 And the king commanded all the people, saying: 'Keep the passover unto the LORD your God, as it is written in this book of the covenant.'

כב כי לא נעשה, כַּפֶּסַח הַזֶּה, מִיָּמֵי הַשְּׂפָטִים, אֲשֶׁר שָׁפְטוּ אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְכֹל, יָמֵי מַלְכֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל--וּמַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה.

22 For there was not kept such a passover from the days of the judges that judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

כג כי, אִם-בְּשִׁמְנֵה עֲשָׂרָה שָׁנָה, לְמַלְךְ, יֵאֱשָׁיְהוּ: נַעֲשֶׂה הַפֶּסַח הַזֶּה, לַיהוָה-- בִּירוּשָׁלַם.

23 but in the eighteenth year of king Josiah was this passover kept to the LORD in Jerusalem.

כד וגם את-הָאֲבוֹת וְאֶת-הַיִּדְעֹנִים וְאֶת-הַתְּרָפִים וְאֶת-הַגִּלְלִים וְאֶת כָּל-הַשִּׁקְצִים, אֲשֶׁר נָרְאוּ בְּאֶרֶץ יְהוּדָה וּבִירוּשָׁלַם--בְּעֵר, יֵאֱשָׁיְהוּ: לְמַעַן הִקִּים אֶת-דְּבָרֵי הַתּוֹרָה, הַכְּתוּבִים עַל-הַסֵּפֶר, אֲשֶׁר מָצָא חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן, בְּיַת יְהוָה.

24 Moreover them that divined by a ghost or a familiar spirit, and the teraphim, and the idols, and all the detestable things that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might confirm the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiyah the priest found in the house of the LORD.

כה וְכִמְהוּ לֹא-הָיָה לְפָנָיו מֶלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר-שָׁב אֶל-יְהוָה בְּכָל-לְבָבוֹ וּבְכָל-נַפְשׁוֹ וּבְכָל-מְאֹדוֹ--כָּל, תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה; וְאַחֲרָיו, לֹא-קָם כָּמֹהוּ.

25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him.

כו אך לא-שָׁב יְהוָה, מִחֲרוֹן אַפּוֹ הַגָּדוֹל, אֲשֶׁר-חָרָה אַפּוֹ, בִּיהוּדָה--עַל, כָּל-הַכְּעִסִּים, אֲשֶׁר הִכְעִיסוּ, מִנִּשְׂאָה.

26 Notwithstanding the LORD turned not from the fierceness of His great wrath, wherewith His anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations wherewith Manasseh had provoked Him.

כז וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, גַּם אֶת-יְהוּדָה אֲסִיר מֵעַל פָּנָי, כְּאֲשֶׁר חִסְרֹתִי, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וּמֵאֲסוּתַי אֶת-הָעִיר הַזֹּאת אֲשֶׁר-בְּחִרְתִּי, אֶת-

27 And the LORD said: 'I will remove Judah also out of My sight, as I have removed Israel, and I will cast off this city which I have chosen, even Jerusalem, and the house of which I said: My name shall be there.'

יְרוּשָׁלַם, וְאֶת-הַבַּיִת, אֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתִּי יְהִי שְׁמִי שָׁם.

כח וַיֵּתֶר דְּבָרֵי יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ, וְכָל-אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה: הֲלֹא-הֵם כְּתוּבִים, עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים--לְמַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה.

כט בְּיָמָיו עָלָה פְּרֹעָה נֹכַח מֶלֶךְ-מִצְרַיִם, עַל-מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר--עַל-נְהֹר-פָּרַת; וַיִּלָּךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ, לִקְרָאתוֹ, וַיִּמִּיתֵהוּ בְּמִגְדוֹ, כְּרֹאתוֹ אֹתוֹ.

ל וַיִּרְכְּבֵהוּ עַבְדָּיו מֵת, מִמִּגְדוֹ, וַיִּבְאֵהוּ יְרוּשָׁלַם, וַיִּקְבְּרֵהוּ בְּקִבְרָתוֹ; וַיִּקַּח עִם-הָאָרֶץ, אֶת-יְהוֹאָחָז בֶּן-יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ, וַיִּמְשְׁחוּ אֹתוֹ וַיַּמְלִיכוּ אֹתוֹ, תַּחַת אָבִיו. {פ}

לא בֶּן-עֶשְׂרִים וְשָׁלֹשׁ שָׁנָה, יְהוֹאָחָז בְּמָלְכוֹ, וְשָׁלֹשָׁה חֳדָשִׁים, מָלַךְ בִּירוּשָׁלַם; וְשֵׁם אִמּוֹ חַמּוּטַל בַּת-יִרְמְיָהוּ מִלִּבְנָה.

לב וַיַּעַשׂ הָרַע, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה, כְּכָל אֲשֶׁר-עָשׂוּ, אֲבֹתָיו.

לג וַיֹּאסְרֵהוּ פְּרֹעָה נֹכַח בְּרַבְלָה בְּאֶרֶץ חַמַּת, בַּמֶּלֶךְ (מִמֶּלֶךְ) בִּירוּשָׁלַם; וַיִּתֵּן-עֲנֹשׁ, עַל-הָאָרֶץ, מֵאָה כֶּסֶף-כֶּסֶף, וְכֶסֶף זָהָב.

לד וַיִּמְלֹךְ פְּרֹעָה נֹכַח אֶת-אֱלִיאִיקִים בֶּן-יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ, תַּחַת יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ אָבִיו, וַיִּסַּב אֶת-שְׁמוֹ, יְהוֹיָקִים; וְאֶת-יְהוֹאָחָז לָקַח, וַיִּבְאֵ מִצְרַיִם וַיָּמָת שָׁם.

לה וְהַכֶּסֶף וְהַזָּהָב, נָתַן יְהוֹיָקִים לְפְרֹעָה--אֶדְ הָעָרִיד אֶת-הָאָרֶץ, לָתֵת אֶת-הַכֶּסֶף עַל-פִּי פְּרֹעָה: אִישׁ כְּעֶרְכוֹ, נָגַשׂ אֶת-הַכֶּסֶף וְאֶת-הַזָּהָב אֶת-עַם הָאָרֶץ, לָתֵת, לְפְרֹעָה נֹכַח. {ס}

28 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

29 In his days Pharaoh-nechoh king of Egypt went up against the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates; and king Josiah went against him; and he slew him at Megiddo, when he had seen him.

30 And his servants carried him in a chariot dead from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own sepulchre. And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead. {P}

31 Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

32 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

33 And Pharaoh-nechoh put him in bands at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a fine of a hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold.

34 And Pharaoh-nechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the room of Josiah his father, and changed his name to Jehoiakim; but he took Jehoahaz away; and he came to Egypt, and died there.

35 And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; but he taxed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh; he exacted the silver and the gold of the people of the land, of every one according to his taxation, to give it unto Pharaoh-nechoh. {S}

לו בן-עשרים וחמש שנה, יהויקים במלכו, ואחת עשרה שנה, מלך בירושלם; ושם אמו, זבדה (זבודה) בת-פדיה מן-רומה.

36 Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Zebudah the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

לז ויעש הרע, בעיני יהוה, ככל אשר-עשו, אבתיו.

37 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

Version in Divrei ha'Yamim II chapter 25

יט בשמונה עשרה שנה, למלכות יאשיהו-- נעשה, הפסח הזה.

19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this passover kept.

כ אחרי כל-זאת, אשר הכין יאשיהו את-הבית, עלה נכו מלך-מצרים להלחם בכרכמיש, על-פרת; ויצא לקראתו, יאשיהו.

20 After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Neco king of Egypt went up to fight against Carchemish by the Euphrates; and Josiah went out against him.

כא וישלח אליו מלאכים לאמר מה-לי ולך מלך יהודה, לא-עליך אתה היום כי אל-בית מלחמתי, ואלהים, אמר לבהלני: חדל-לך מאלהים אשר-עמי, ואל-ישחיתך.

21 But he sent ambassadors to him, saying: 'What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war; and God hath given command to speed me; forbear thee from meddling with God, who is with me, that He destroy thee not.'

כב ולא-הסב יאשיהו פניו ממנו, כי להלחם-בו התחפש, ולא שמע אל-דברי נכו, מפני אלהים; ויבא, להלחם בבקעת מגדו.

22 Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and hearkened not unto the words of Neco, from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo.

כג וירו, הירי, למלך, יאשיהו; ויאמר המלך לעבדיו העבירוני, כי החליתי מאד.

23 And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said to his servants: 'Have me away; for I am sore wounded.'

כד ויעבירהו עבדיו מן-המרכבה, וירכיבהו על רכב המשנה אשר-לו, ויוליכהו ירושלם, וימת ויקבר בקברות אבתיו; וכל-יהודה, וירושלם, מתאבלים, על-יאשיהו. {פ}

24 So his servants took him out of the chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had, and brought him to Jerusalem; and he died, and was buried in the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah. {P}

כה ויקונן ירמיהו, על-יאשיהו, ויאמרו כל-השירים והשורות בקינותיהם על-יאשיהו עד-היום, ויתנום לחק על-ישראל; והנם כתובים, על-הקינות.

25 And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah; and all the singing men and singing women spoke of Josiah in their lamentations, unto this day; and they made them an ordinance in Israel; and, behold, they are written in the lamentations.

כּוּ וַיֵּתֶר דְּבָרַי יֵאֱשָׁיָהוּ, וַחֲסָדָיו--כַּכְּתוּב, בְּתוֹרַת יְהוָה.

26 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and his good deeds, according to that which is written in the Law of the LORD,

כּז וּדְבָרָיו, הָרֵאשִׁימִים וְהָאַחֲרֵימִים--הֵנָּה כְּתוּבִים, עַל-סֵפֶר מַלְכֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל וְיְהוּדָה.

27 and his acts, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

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A review - time-line of:

The Forty Years of Yirmiyahu's prophecies [18+11+11]

A- 18 w/Yoshiyahu – [From Year 13 of his reign until his death in Year 31]

Year 13 - National teshuva begins [based on II DH 34:1-8] / Ashur falls

Year 18 - Renovation of Temple; when they find the 'sefer torah'

Year 31 - Yoshiyahu's tragic death at Megiddo, fighting Pharaoh Necho

[Yehoyakim becomes King with support of Pharaoh Necho]

B- 11 w/Yehoyakim – leaves God, aligns himself with Egypt, rebels against Bavel

Year 4 - Nebuchadnezzar, King of Bavel, begins conquest of Middle East

Year 8 – rebellion again Bavel, after three years of servitude

Year 11 -Nebuchadnezzar defeats Jerusalem, King dies,; 'aristocracy ' is exile

Including King Yehoyachin (son of Yehoyakim), after 3 mos. reign

C- 11 w/Tzidkiyahu – [appointed by Bavel, on condition of subservience]

Year 4 – plans rebellion against Bavel, which begins the next year

Year 11 – Temple & Jerusalem destroyed, People exiled