



The  
Heart  
Behind

Jeremiah  
29:11

# Jeremiah 29:11

For I know what I have planned for you,' says the Lord. 'I have plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope.'



# Context Determines Meaning

- Who wrote the book?
  - Jeremiah
- To Whom was it written?
  - Exiles in Babylon
- What is the timeframe?
  - 627BC - shortly after 586BC (40 years)
- Why was it written?
  - Jeremiah 29 - To encourage and give advice
- What is the historical context?
  - Bad

# Historical Context

- 605 b.c. Nebuchadnezzar's Babylonian army defeated the Assyrians. Judah was forced to send hostages to Babylon. - *First wave of exiles to Babylon (see Daniel)*
- 601 b.c., Nebuchadnezzar attempted to invade Egypt, but was defeated. Jehoiakim of Judah now allied his nation with Egypt



# Historical Context Continued

- 598 b.c. Nebuchadnezzar returned, determined to discipline the fickle Palestinian states. Jerusalem surrendered in 597 b.c. - *Second wave of exiles to Babylon (10,000 more exiles)*
- 586 b.c. Israel aligns itself with the new Pharaoh of Egypt and rebels. Babylon razes Jerusalem to the ground along with Solomon's Temple - *Third wave of exiles to Babylon*

# Textual Context

## The Whole Book

1.) You Broke the Covenant! Repent!

- Jeremiah 1-29

2.) No Repentance? Then Judgment!

- Jeremiah 34-52

3.) Hope and Future Restoration!

- Jeremiah 30-33

## Immediate Context

Jeremiah arrested for prophecies against Jerusalem (Ch. 26)

He rebukes the false Prophet Hananiah (Ch 27-28)

Jeremiah writes a letter to the exiles (Ch 29:4-23)



# Jeremiah 29:4-11

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# Textual Context Summary

- Who: 29:4
  - 29:4 “The Lord God of Israel who rules over all says to all those he sent into exile to Babylon from Jerusalem”
- Advice: 29:5-7
  - Build houses, settle down, plant crops, get married, have your kids get married, be at peace with the city of your exile
- Warning: 29:8-9
  - Do not listen to the false prophets who say your exile will end soon. They only say what you want them to say. Here is why they are wrong... v10



# Jeremiah 29:10

For the Lord says, 'Only when the seventy years of Babylonian rule are over will I again take up consideration for you. Then I will fulfill my gracious promise to you and restore you to your homeland.'

# Jeremiah 29:11

For I know what I have planned for you,' says the Lord. 'I have plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope.



## Parallel Passage from Daniel 9

Daniel 9:24-27 - Daniel is praying and an angel of the Lord appears to him and gives him prophecy that elaborates on Jeremiah 29. It points forward not only to God rescuing Israel out of Babylon but to King Jesus rescuing humanity out of sin! The promise of Jeremiah 29:11 finds it's completion in the atoning work of Jesus Christ!