

## Jeremiah 29:1-10 “Make it count”

Now these *are* the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the remainder of the elders who were carried away captive—to the priests, the prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon. <sup>2</sup> (This happened after Jeconiah<sup>[a]</sup> the king, the queen mother, the <sup>[b]</sup>eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem.) <sup>3</sup> *The letter was sent* by the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon, to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, saying,

### - **Context**

- This letter was to instruct and encourage
- You are going to be here a while “make it count”

<sup>4</sup> 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: - In the midst of confusion and disappointments

- As soon as things go bad or get hard we start questioning and doubting
- Remember God called you guys in Babylon – Get involved
- Babylon was a hostile environment / Mexico City / Vegas

### 1. **Be involved where you are**

- a. God expects a life of impact where you are

- **2 Peter 1:2-3** Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue

<sup>5</sup> Build houses and dwell *in them*; plant gardens and eat their fruit. – establish yourself

### 2. **Edify well**

- a. The place that you call home / dwell be present / invest and see its fruits
- b. Mexico City needs strong houses and strong churches / Vegas needs strong houses and strong churches
  - i. This is the place where the kingdom of God can freely be manifested
  - ii. Heading into our third year
    1. Edify well, be present, invest with patience (we want to be fruitful – give)

- **Proverbs 24:3-4** Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.
- **Psalms 46:10** Be still, and know that I *am* God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!
- **Galatians 6:9** And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

<sup>6</sup>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.

### **3. Multiply yourself**

- a. Think generational / Think about adding / Think about multiplying
- b. Make it count not just for you but for the ones who are and are to come
- c. Be committed / Life involvement /

- **2 Timothy 2:2** And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

<sup>7</sup>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. – You are in a hostile environment do not revolt or instigate but seek the peace

- Make peace / seek it / prayer and intercession:
  - The most loving thing we can do for a hostile environment is to intercede on their behalf
  - Pray – Act / Pray – Act: let our righteousness speak against injustice

### **4. Seek the peace**

- a. Pray and act
  - i. Mexico City
  - ii. Seek the peace and pray

<sup>8</sup>For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst deceive you, nor listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed. <sup>9</sup>For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them, says the Lord.

### **5. Be careful with yourself**

- a. The carnal man wants to hear and see what he wants to hear and see
- b. The spiritual man wants to hear and see what God speaks and sees