

Nebuchadnezzar

3395b AM, 4105 JP, 609 BC

768. In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim, Jeremiah foretold that Zedekiah would be king of Judah, and that Nebuchadnezzar would be king of Babylon and would conquer his neighbouring countries. {#Jer 27:1-11}

3397b AM, 4107 JP, 607 BC

769. The governor of Coelosyria and Phoenicia revolted against Nabopolassar king of Babylon. After Carchemish was taken, Nabopolassar sent a large army against the governor under the command of his son Nebuchadnezzar (whom he first made viceroy in the kingdom). This took place toward the end of the third and the beginning of the fourth year of Jehoiakim, king of Judah. {#Da 1:1 Jer 25:1}.

770. When Nebuchadnezzar was made viceroy in the kingdom, God revealed several things to Jeremiah. Firstly, the Egyptians would be defeated at the Euphrates River, then later in their own country, and then Nebuchadnezzar would make himself master of Egypt. {#Jer 46:1-28} The first came to pass almost immediately. Pharaohnecho's forces at Carchemish were cut off by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim. {#Jer 46:2} The second happened after the taking of Tyre in the twenty-seventh year of the captivity of Jeconiah. {#Eze 29:17-19}

771. In the fourth year of Jehoiakim, which was the first of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, the prophet Jeremiah reproved the Jews for not obeying the word of the Lord. He had proclaimed this word from the thirteenth year of king Josiah right up to that present fourth year of Jehoiakim, that is for twenty-three years in all. Throughout that time they had remained stubborn and disobedient, both to his admonitions and to those of all the other prophets whom the Lord had sent. [E83] Again he told them of the coming of Nebuchadnezzar against them and of their forthcoming captivity in Babylon, which was to last seventy years. He stated that Judah and the other nations would have to serve the king of Babylon.

3398a AM, 4107 JP, 607 BC

774. When Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came to Judah, the Rechabites, or the descendants of Jonadab, the son of Rechab, {#2Ki 10:15} left their tents and came into Jerusalem, for fear of the army of the Chaldeans and Syrians. They had lived in tents in accordance with the ruling of their forefather Jonadab. {#Jer 35:8-11} Since material in this chapter of Jeremiah is written in the present tense, we gather that the time of the Rechabites refusing to drink wine occurred when the city was besieged by Nebuchadnezzar. {#Da 1:1}

775. God gave Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, with part of the furnishings of the house of the Lord. {#Da 1:2} This was in the ninth month called Chisleu, as may be gathered from the anniversary of the fast which was kept as a tradition of the Jews in remembrance of this calamity. {#Zec 7:3,5 8:19} It was kept in this month. {#Jer 36:9}

776. Nebuchadnezzar chained Jehoiakim to carry him away to Babylon. {#2Ch 36:6} Later, upon his submission and promises of subjection, he let him stay in his own house, where he lived as his servant for three years. {#2Ki 24:1} It was from the time of this event, when the king and people of the Jews were carried off into bondage by Nebuchadnezzar, that the seventy years of the captivity of Babylon which was foretold by the prophet Jeremiah began. {#Jer 25:11 29:10}