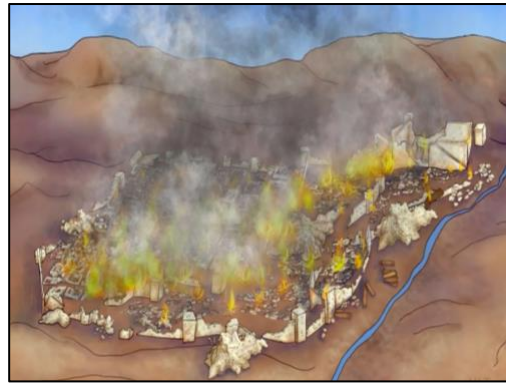
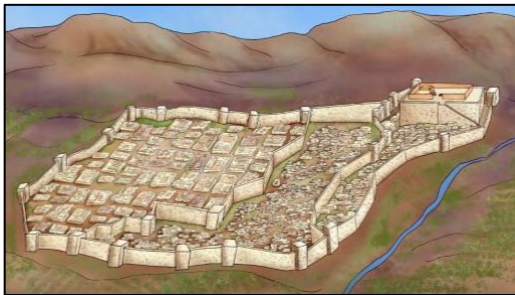


Video:
<https://biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Nebuchadnezzar-Tears-Down-Gods-City>



Video:
<https://biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Go-d-Holy-Box-Is-Missing-But-A-Better-Throne-Is-Coming>

Lesson #7: JERUSALEM IS DESTROYED (2nd Kings 24-25) (Jeremiah 3:16-17; Psalm 99:1)



The Bible says that God’s City, Jerusalem, was a special city with very strong walls surrounding it. These walls protected the city from its enemies.

King Nebuchadnezzar was the king of the powerful nation of Babylon. They were fierce enemies of Judah. Sometimes Nebuchadnezzar would surround the city with his army so that no one (and no food) could get in or out. That’s how he forced control over Jerusalem and captured some of the people.



King Nebuchadnezzar took away Judah’s strongest and smartest noble boys. He wanted all those people to come work as slaves for him in Babylon. He even took King Zedekiah, the last king, as prisoner. Nebuchadnezzar took the people’s things and even the gold items from the Temple.





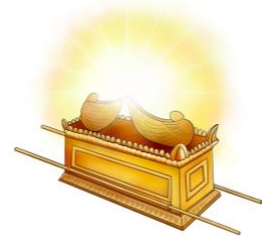
King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon destroyed the entire city, just like God's prophets had said would happen.

The Babylonians destroyed God's Temple, God's House. They smashed it to the ground. There was nothing left.



God allowed this to happen as punishment for the sins of the people of Judah. But remember, God also promised that good things would come again one day. One day God would bring His People home again and they would build a new House for God!

It was a sad time. Jerusalem, God's City, was mostly empty and ruined. And God's Holy Box, the Ark of the Covenant was gone. When the Ark had been in its place in the Temple, safe behind the big, thick curtain, God had said, "I will meet you there, and I will be above the lid, right between the wings of the two angels on top."



This made God's Holy Box very special. So, without God's Covenant Box, how would God come and be with them? But listen to what God had to say about it through Jeremiah: The Lord said, "Once your land is filled with people again (and it will be!), you aren't going to wish anymore for the 'good old days' when you had My Holy Box with you."



God had a wonderful plan! Jeremiah said, "You won't need to make another Covenant Box. Do you want to know why? Because when the time comes, God's whole City will be known as 'The Throne of the Lord.' And all the nations will come there to honor Yahweh."

Just as God's prophets said, Jesus and the Holy Spirit would make new Glory Days brighter, and brighter! Now we don't God to say, "I will come to earth and live among you on the Covenant Box. Jesus is God! Jesus came down to earth to be God among us!

PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY
Color the Picture of the People of Judah Being Captured



UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

Jerusalem is Destroyed - Fill in the blanks

- Again and Again, the people of _____ left God and worshiped false _____.
 - But God still loved His people and tried to help them. He sent many _____ to warn them to turn back to God.
 - But they didn't _____.
 - What was their consequence (punishment)?
-
-

- Who was the king that destroyed Jerusalem? _____

- Your parents love you. So, they warn you when you do something that is harmful. If you don't obey, are there consequences? How is this like God's love for His people?



Mapwork



- **Circle** the name of the Southern Kingdom of God's people.
- **Draw a box** around the name of the nation that captured God's people.
- **Draw a big arrow** showing the trip that the captives were forced to take.