

# JEREMIAH 29:1, 4-14 - EXILE

X the King Sunday

End of Pentecost/  
Start of Advent

0's Kingdom

Letter to Exiles in Babylon - 587 BC

JER. says - Prepare for about 70 years of EXILE

JER. writes letter b/c other prophets say Babylonian Captivity will be short, temporary

EXILE today - More people than anytime in history

UN - 2015 - 60m

- 1 in 22 in EXILE
- 38.2m - int. disp.
- 19.5m - refugee
- 1.8m - asylum

MAINE Songlian refugee

## Experience of DISLOCATION

If you have someone who is a  
• refugee  
• Native American  
• Black

• Hard to understand as White Americans

• WEIRD  
• White, Educated, Intellectual  
• Rich, Democratic

We can gain a faint glimmer of what exile might be like if we think about...

ASK

We can also think about times when you felt like a stranger in a strange land

Personal reflection on appearance, going gray, police i. authority

Possible EXAMPLES for people

- Political party has left me, not me it
- Family conflicts
- New job, no friends

looking for access for understanding: listening

How do the EXILED survive, resist, maintain sense of integrity

JER. You're going to be there for a while

DISLOCATION EXILE can last a long time

THRIVE

Thriving under Empire as a people in exile may be most effective resistance of all

vs 5 "build houses" "harvest gardens"

what THRIVING looks like

vs 6 "marry: have children"

vs 7 make the success of the city your success

The Jews in Captivity can do this bc they know ~

God's Kingdom does not function at all like an earthly EMPIRE

vs 11-13 God's presence - vs 11 = All y' All

Thriving: presence are key qualities of God's Kingdom

WHAT INTERFERES w/ the Thriving of the dislocated?

vs 8

- Propagandists
- Agit Prop (DEFINE THIS)

Who are the agents of

Agit Prop / PROPHETS of DECEPTION?

- Your FB News Feed
- Fox news
- MSNBC
- Our President

We are all under the influence of AGIT PROP

I don't know, I am sure you don't, either

They are lying to you. WHY?

VS  
"I did not send them" Says the Lord

JAMES BORKE

"We need to realize we have no idea what is going on. What we think is going on is very different from what is actually happening"

WHAT TO DO?

Now that I have made you identify w/ the EXILED & DISLOCATED

JESUS

shows us what thriving is like -

• MUSTARD SEED  
MK 4:30-32

• GARDENER & FIG TREE  
LK 13:6-9

This week, we are looking for small ways to help others THRIVE & FLOURISH

Last week, w/ ISAIAH, seek small ways to free people from their burdens

O.T.

• ADAM & EVE CLOTHED  
GEN 3:21

• LEVITICUS  
not rules, but how to THRIVE in community

Bottom-up-Community-  
Small things together

How RCC helps others thrive -

- CIRCLE SUPPERS
- THANKS GIVING BASKETS
- AIO
- Fellowship - GAME DAY, LUNCHEONS, SCRAPBOOKING
- OPENING Church to Art: Community

## PROPHETIC CONSCIOUSNESS

- AMOS - God's righteousness  
: justice reaches through history to be raised up  
: called out when not present
- ISAIAH - The light of God : X is brought into darkness w/ Joy, FREEDOM  
: PEACE
- JER - G's Kingdom is present when the people THRIVE, even under oppression

The Empires : governments of the Earth come : go, but G's presence is always needed : always available

↳ Esp for those who are exiled, dislocated, separated

↳ The work of the PROPHET is to call out INJUSTICE, speak LIGHT into DARKNESS, : help the people THRIVE

AMEN