

UJEREMIYA

1 La ngamazwi kaJeremiya indodana kaHilikhiya, omunye wabaphristi base-Anathothi elizweni lakoBhenjamini. ² Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kuye ngomnyaka wetshumi lantathu ekubuseni kukaJosiya indodana ka-Amoni inkosi yakoJuda, ³ njalo ekubuseni kukaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwaze kwaba yinyanga yesihlanu emnyakeni wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, ngesikhathi sokuthunjwa kwabantu baseJerusalema.

Ubizo LukaJeremiya

⁴ Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kimi lisithi,

⁵ "Ngingakakubumbi esiswini ngakwazi,

ungakazalwa ngakukhetha
ngakubeka ukuba ngumphrofethi
ezizweni."

⁶ Mina ngathi, "Awu Jehova Somandla; ukukhuluma angikwazi, ngoba ngingumntwana nje."

⁷ Kodwa uJehova wathi kimi, "Ungaze wathi, 'Ngingumntwana nje.' Kumele uye kubo bonke engikuthuma kubo njalo utsho loba kuyini engikulaya khona.

⁸ Ungabesabi, ngoba mina ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga," kutsho uJehova.

⁹ UJehova waseselula isandla sakhe wathinta umlomo wami wathi kimi,

"Khatesi, sengifake amazwi ami emlonyeni wakho. ¹⁰ Khangela, lamhla ngikubeka phezu kwezizwe lemibuso ukuba usiphune udilize, ubhubhise njalo uchithe; ukuba wakhe njalo uhlanye." "

¹¹ Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kimi lathi, "Kuyini okubonayo, Jeremiya?"

Ngaphendula ngathi, "Ngibona ugatsha lwesihlahla se-alimondi."

¹² UJehova wasesithi kimi, "Ubone kuhle, ngoba ngilindele ukubona ukuthi ilizwi lami ligcwalisekile."

¹³ Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kimi futhi: "Kuyini okubonayo?" Mina ngaphendula ngathi, "Ngibona imbiza ebilayo, ithambeke ifulathele inyakatho."

¹⁴ UJehova wasesithi kimi, "Incithakalo evela enyakatho izakwehliselwa phezu kwabo bonke abahlala elizweni. ¹⁵ Sekuseduze ukuba ngibize bonke abantu bemibuso yasenyakatho," kutsho uJehova.

"Amakhosi abo azakuza amise izihlalo zawo zobukhosi emasangweni aseJerusalema; bazakumelana lemiduli yalo yonke eligombolozeyo kanye lamadolobho wonke akoJuda.

¹⁶ Ngizamemezela ukwahlulela kwami ebantwini bami ngenxa yobubi babo bokungidela, betshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha, langokukhonza lokho okwenziwa ngezandla zabo.

¹⁷ "Wena zilungiselele! Sukuma ubatshela lokho engizakulaya khona. Ungathuthumeliswa yibo hlezi ngikwenze uthuthumele phambi kwabo.

¹⁸ Lamhla sengikwenze waba lidolobho elivikelweyo, insika yensimbi lomduli wethusi ukuba umelane lelizwe lonke - umelane lamakhosi akoJuda, izikhulu zakhona, abaphristi bakhona kanye labantu bakhona. ¹⁹ Bazakulwa lawe, kodwa kabayikukwehlula, ngoba ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga, " kutsho uJehova.

U-Israyeli Udela UNkulunkulu

2 Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kimi lisithi,
²"Hamba umemezele iJerusalema lisizwa uthi:
 " 'Ngiyakukhumbula ukuzinikela kwasebutsheni bakho, ukungithanda kwakho njengomlobokazi ungilandela enkangala, phakathi kwelizwe elingahlanyelwanga.
³U-Israyeli wayengcwele kuJehova, eyizithelo zakuqala zesivuno sakhe, bonke abamtshwabdelayo baba lecala, behlelwa yincithakalo,' "
 kutsho uJehova.
⁴Zwana ilizwi likaJehova, we ndlu kaJakhobe, lani lonke sendo lwendlu ka-Israyeli.
⁵UJehova uthi:
 "Yibubi bani okhokho benu ababubona kimi, baze bedukele khatshana kangaka lami? Balandela izithombe eziyize, labo ngokwabo baba yize.
⁶Kababuzanga ukuthi, Ungaphi uJehova, owasikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe wasikhokhela emagangeni alugwadule phakathi kwelizwe lezinkangala lezindonga, ilizwe lokoma lobumnyama, ilizwe elingahanjwa muntu lelingelamuntu ohlala kulo?'
⁷Ngaliletha elizweni elivundileyo ukuba lidle izithelo zalo lezilimo ezinhle. Kodwa lina lafika langcolisa ilizwe

lami lenza ilifa lami langakhwabitheki.
⁸Abaphristi kababuzanga ukuthi, 'Ungaphi uJehova?' Labo abaphatha umthetho abangazanga; abakhokheli bangihlamukela. Abaphrofethi baphrofetha ngoBhali balandela izithombe eziyize.
⁹"Ngakho-ke ngilethesa amacala futhi," kutsho uJehova. "Labantwana babantwana benu ngizabethesa amacala.
¹⁰Welani laye ngasemakhunjini aseKhithimi likhangele, thumelani eKhedari lihlolisise kuhle, libone langabe sekwake kwaba lento enjengale:
¹¹Isizwe sake santshintsha onkulunkulu baso na? (Belo bavele kabasibo onkulunkulu.) Kodwa abantu bami bantshintshe Inkazimulo yabo ngenxa yezithombe eziyize.
¹²Mangalani lokhu, lina mazulu, lithuthumele ngokwesaba okukhulu," kutsho uJehova.
¹³"Abantu bami benze izono ezimbili: Bangidelile, mina mthombo wamanzi okuphila, bagebha eyabo imithombo, imithombo evuzayo engagcini manzi.
¹⁴Kambe u-Israyeli yisisebenzi, isigqili ngokuzalwa na? Pho kungani eseyimpango na?
¹⁵Izilwane zibhongile; sezihwabhile kuye. Zilichithile ilizwe lakhe; amadolobho akhe atshisiwe atshiywa engaselamuntu.
¹⁶Njalo, labantu baseMemfisi leThahafanesi baphuce ikhanda lakho.
¹⁷Lokhu kawukwehliselanga phezu kwakho ngokudela uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho lapho

- ekukhokhela endleleni na?
- ¹⁸ Khathesi kungani usiya eGibhithe ukuba unathe amanzi eShihori na? Njalo kungani usiya e-Asiriya ukuba unathe amanzi eYufathe na?
- ¹⁹ Ububi bakho buzakujezisa; ukutshedela kwakho emuva kuzakukhuza. Ngakho cabanga ubone ukuthi kubi njalo kubuhlungu kanjani lapho udela uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho njalo ungelavalo ngami," kutsho uJehova uSomandla.
- ²⁰ "Endulo wephula ijogwe lakho, waquma izibopho zakho; wathi, 'Kangiyikukukhonza!' Lakanye, phezu kwamaqaqa wonke langaphansi kwazo zonke izihlahla eziluhlaza walala phansi njengegwule.
- ²¹ Mina ngangikuhlanyele ulivini elihle elohlobo oluqinileyo loluthembekileyo. Pho kwenzakala njani ukuba ungihendukele ube livini elibolileyo, leganga?
- ²² Lanxa ugeza ngesoda usebenzisa lesepa enengi, ichatha lobubi bakho lilokhu likhona phambi kwami," kutsho uJehova Wobukhosi.
- ²³ "Ungatsho kanjani na uthi, 'Kangingcolanga; kangibalandelanga oBhali?' Khangela ukuthi waziphatha njani esigodini, khumbula osukwenzile. Ulikamela elisikazi elilesiqubu eligijima laphala laphaya,
- ²⁴ ubabhemi weganga ojwayele inkangala, ophembela umoya enkanukweni yakhe – ngubani ongamenqabela ekukhanukeni kwakhe? Abaduna abamxotshayo akusweleki ukuba bazidinise; bazamfumana ngesikhathi sokukhwelwa.
- ²⁵ Ungagijimi izinyawo zakho zize zihlubuke lomphimbo wakho uze wome. Kodwa wena wathi, "Akusizi lutho! Ngiyabathanda onkulunkulu bezizweni, kumele ngibalandele.'
- ²⁶ Njengokuyangeka kwesela nxa selibanjiwe, ngokunjalo indlu kaIsrayeli iyangekile – bona, amakhosi abo lezikhulu zabo, abaphristi babo labaphrofethi babo.
- ²⁷ Bathi esigodweni, 'Wena ungubaba wami,' elitsheni bathi, 'Nguwe owangizalayo.' Bangifulathele, hatshi ngobuso babo nje; kodwa nxa sebehlopheka bathi, 'Woza usihlenge.'"
- ²⁸ Pho bangaphi onkulunkulu elazenzela bona? Kabeze uma bengakuhlenga lapho usuphakathi kokuhlupheka! Ngoba wena Juda ulabonkulunkulu abanengi njengobunengi bamadolobho akho.
- ²⁹ "Kungani lingethesa umlandu? Lonke lingihlamukele," kutsho uJehova.
- ³⁰ "Ukubajezisa kwami abantu bakho kwaba yize; kabakuvumanga ukuqondiswa. Inkemba yakho isibatshwabadele abaphrofethi bakho njengesilwane esiphangayo.
- ³¹ "Wena owalesisizukulwane, khumbula ilizwi likaJehova: "Ngibe ngiyinkangala ku-Israyeli kumbe ilizwe lomnyama omkhulu na? Kungani abantu bami besithi, 'Sikhululekile ukuba sizulazule; kasiyikuza kuwe futhi?'"
- ³² Intombi ingazikhohlwa iziceciso zayo na, lomlobokazi akhohlwe izihlobiso zakhe na?

- Kodwa abantu bami bangikhohliwe,
okwezinsuku ezingeke zibalwe.
- ³³ Yeka ukuhlakanipha kwakho
ekufuneni uthando! Labesifazana
ababi kakhulu bangafunda ezindleleni
zakho.
- ³⁴ Ezigqokweni zakho abantu bathola
igazi lokuphila elabayanga abangela
cala
lanxa ungababambanga befohlela
phakathi. Kodwa kukhokonke lokhu
- ³⁵ Uthi, 'Kangilacala;
kangithukuthelanga.'
Kodwa mina ngizakwahlulela,
ngoba uthi, 'Angonanga.'
- ³⁶ Kungani uqhubeka kangaka,
untshintsha izindlela zakho?
IGibhithe izakuyangisa njengalokhu
owakwenziwa yi-Asiriya.
- ³⁷ Uzasuka kuleyondawo. Izandla zakho
zisekhanda lakho, ngoba uJehova
ubalahlile labo obathembayo;
kabayikukusiza.

- 3** "Indoda ingehlukana lomkayo
ayitshiye endeke kwenye indoda,
kufanele imbuyise futhi na?
Kambe ilizwe kalingeke langcoliswa
kakhulukazi na?
Kodwa wena usuphile njengewule
elilezithandwa ezinengi –
kambe khathesi ungabuyela kimi
na?"
kutsho uJehova.
- ² "Khangela emiqolweni elugwadule
ubone. Kungaphi lapho ongazange
udlwangululwe khona?
Emigwaqweni wahlala ulindele
izithandwa,
wahlala njengomhambuma
enkangala.
Ulingcolisile ilizwe ngobuwule bakho
langobubi bakho.
- ³ Ngalokho imikhizo imisiwe, lezulu

- lentwasa kalinanga. Ikanti wena
ulobugagu bewule, awulahloni.
- ⁴ Kawungibizanga khathesi nje wathi,
'Baba, mngane wami kusukela
ebutsheni bami,
⁵ uzahlala uzondile kokuphela na?
Ulaka lwakho luzaqhubeka kokuphela
na?'
Le yindlela okhuluma ngayo,
kodwa wenza konke okubi
ongakwenza."

U-Israyeli Ongathembekanga

- ⁶ Ekubuseni kwenkosi uJosiya, uJehova
wathi kimi, "Ukubonile yini okwenziwe
ngu-Israyeli ongathembekanga?
Usekhwele phezu kwamaqaqa wonke
aphakemeyo langaphansi kwezihlahla
zonke eziluhlaza wafebela khona.
- ⁷ Ngacabanga ukuthi emva kokuba
esenze konke lokhu uzaphinda eze kimi,
kodwa kabuyanga, lodadewabo
ongathembekanga uJuda wakubona
lokho. ⁸ U-Israyeli ongathembekanga
ngamnika incwadi yakhe yesehlukaniso
ngamxotsha ngenxa yobufebe bakhe
bonke. Kodwa ngabona ukuthi
udadewabo ongathembekanga, uJuda,
kesabanga, laye wasuka wayafeba.
- ⁹ Ngenxa yokuthi ububi buka-Israyeli
babungatsho lutho kuye, wangcolisa
ilizwe wakhonza amatshe lezihlahla.
- ¹⁰ Kukho konke lokhu, udadewabo
ongathembekanga uJuda kabuyelanga
kimi ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke, kodwa
ngokuzenzisa nje kuphela," kutsho
uJehova.
- ¹¹ UJehova wathi kimi, "U-Israyeli
ongathembekanga ungcono kuloJuda
ongelaqiniso. ¹² Hamba, uyememezela
ilizwi leli ngasenyakatho uthi:

- "Phenduka Israyeli ongathembekanga,'
kutsho uJehova,
'Kangisayikukuhwaqela futhi, ngoba

ngilesihawu,'

kutsho uJehova.

'Kangiyikuthukuthela kokuphela.

¹³ Vuma icala lakho nje kuphela –
wahlamukela uJehova uNkulunkulu
wakho,
uhlakazelele umusa wakho
kubonkulunkulu bezizweni
ngaphansi kwezihlahla zonke
eziluhlaza,
njalo kawaze wangilalela,' ” kutsho
uJehova.

¹⁴ “Phendukani, bantu
abangathembekanga,” kutsho uJehova,
“ngoba ngingumyeni wenu.

Ngizalikhetha – oyedwa edolobheni
lababili kusendo – ngililethe eZiyoni.

¹⁵ Lapho-ke ngizalnika abelusi
abathandwa yimi, abazalikhokhela
ngokwazi langokuqedisisa.

¹⁶ Ngalezozinsuku, ubunengi benu
sebande kakhulu elizweni,” kutsho
uJehova, “abantu kabasayikuthi,
‘Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova.’
Kaliyikufika emicabangweni yabo
kumbe likhunjulwe; kaliyikusweleka,
njalo akuyikwenziwa elinye futhi.

¹⁷ Ngalesosikhathi iJerusalema bazalibiza
ngokuthi yisiHlalo Sobukhosi
sikaJehova, njalo izizwe zonke
zizabuthana eJerusalema ukuba
zihloniphe ibizo likaJehova.

Kabasayikulandela inkani yezinhliziyi
zabo ezimbi. ¹⁸ Ngalezozinsuku indlu
kaJuda izahlangana leka-Israyeli, njalo
ndawonye, zivela elizweni
elisenyakatho, zizakuza elizweni
engalinika okhokho benu ukuba libe
yilifa labo.

¹⁹ “Mina ngokwami ngathi,
“ ‘Kade ngingathaba kakhulu
ukuliphatha njengamadodana,
ngilinye ilizwe elifunekayo,
ilifa elihle kakhulu ezizweni zonke.’
Bengicabanga ukuthi lizangibiza

ngokuthi ‘Baba’ njalo lingaphambuki
ekungilandeleni.

²⁰ Kodwa njengowesifazana
ongathembekanga kumkakhe,
ubungathembeka kanjalo kimi
wena ndlu ka-Israyeli,”

kutsho uJehova.

²¹ Ilizwi liyezwakala emiqolweni
elugwadule,
uyikukhala lokuncenga kwabantu
bako-Israyeli,
ngoba izindlela zabo
bazonile bakhohlwa loJehova
uNkulunkulu wabo.

²² “Phendukani, bantu
abangathembekanga; ngizalelapha
ukungathembeki kwenu.”

“Yebo, sizakuza kuwe, ngoba
unguJehova uNkulunkulu wethu.

²³ Impela umsindo wokukhonza
izithombe emaqaqeni lasezintabeni
uyinkohliso; impela kuJehova
uNkulunkulu wethu kulensindiso
ka-Israyeli.

²⁴ Kusukela ebutsheni bethu onkulunkulu
abalihlazo badlile izithelo zamandla
abobaba –
imihlambi yezimvu zabo leyezinkomo
zabo,

amadodana abo lamadodakazi abo.

²⁵ Kasilaleni phansi silenhloni,
siphathwe lihlazo lethu.
Ngoba sonile kuJehova uNkulunkulu
wethu,
thina sonke kanye labokhokho bethu;
kusukela ebutsheni bethu kuze kube
lamhla,
kasimlalelanga uJehova
uNkulunkulu wethu.

4 “Nxa uphenduka, we-Israyeli,
buyela kimi,”

kutsho uJehova.

- “Ungazisusa phambi kwami
izithombe zakho ezenyanyekayo
ungabe usaphambuka futhi,
² njalo uma uzafunga ngobuqotho,
ngokulunga langokuqonda, uthi,
‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uJehova ekhona,
ngakho izizwe uzazibusisa ziziqhenye
ngaye.’”
- ³ Ebantwini bakoJuda labeJerusalema
uJehova uthi,
“Limani izingqatho zenu,
lingahlanyeli emeveni.
- ⁴ Zisokeleni kuJehova,
lisoke izinhliziyu zenu,
lina bantu bakoJuda lani bantu
baseJerusalema,
hlezi ulaka lwami luvuke luvuthe
njengomlilo ngenxa yobubi
elibenzileyo lutshise kungekho muntu
ongalucitsha.

Umonakalo Ovela Enyakatho

- ⁵ “Bikani koJuda limemezele
laseJerusalema lithi:
‘Tshayani icilongo elizweni lonke!’”
Klabalalani lithi:
“Buthanani ndawonye! Kasibalekeleni
emadolobheni avikelweyo!”
- ⁶ Phakamisani uphawu lokuya eZiyoni!
Balekelani ekusileni ngokuphangisa!
Ngoba ngiletha umonakalo ovela
enyakatho,
lencithakalo embi kakhulu.”
- ⁷ Isilwane sesiphumile esikhundleni saso,
umchithi wezizwe usephumile.
Usesukile endaweni yakhe ukuba
achithe ilizwe lenu.
Amadolobho enu azakuba ngamanxiwa
angelamuntu ohlala kuwo.
- ⁸ Ngakho gqokani amasaka,
khalani lilile, ngoba ulaka lukaJehova
olwesabekayo kalususwanga kithi.
- ⁹ UJehova uthi, “Ngalolosuku inkosi
lezikhulu bazaphelelwa lithemba,

abaphristi bazathuthumela, abaphrofethi
bazakwesaba.”

¹⁰ Lapho-ke mina ngathi, “Awu, Jehova
Wobukhosi, ubakhohlisile sibili abantu
laba kanye leJerusalema ngokuthi,
‘Lizakuba lokuthula,’ inkemba yona
isemiphinjeni yethu.

¹¹ Ngalesosikhathi abantu laba
leJerusalema kuzathiwa kubo, “Umoya
otshisayo ovela enkangala emiqolweni
elugwadule uvunguza usiya ebantwini
bami, kodwa kungayisikwela kumbe
ukuhlungula, ¹² umoya olamandla
kakhulu uvela kimi. Khathesi-ke
sengimemezela ukwahlulela kwami
kubo.”

¹³ Khangela! Uyeza njengamayezi,
izinqola zakhe zempi ziza
njengesivunguzane, amabhiza akhe
alesiqubu esedlula esezingqungqulu.
Maye! Sesiphelile!

¹⁴ We Jerusalema, geza ububi
obusenziliziyweni yakho usile.
Koze kube nini ugcine imicabango
emibi na?

¹⁵ Ilizwi elivela koDani liyamemeza,
libika umonakalo ovela emaqaqeni
ako-Efrayimi

¹⁶ Izizwe zitshela lokhu, ukubike
laseJerusalema uthi:
Ibutho elivimbezelayo liyeza livela
elizweni elikhatshana,
limemezela umkhosi wempi
emadolobheni akoJuda.

¹⁷ Balihanqile njengabantu abalinda
insimu,
ngoba langihlamukela, ’ ”
kutsho uJehova.

¹⁸ “Ukuziphatha kwakho lezenzo zakho
kwehlisele lokhu phezu kwakho.
Lesi yisijeziso sakho.
Sibuhlungu kakhulu.
Sihlaba enhliziyweni.”

¹⁹ Maye, ngobuhlungu, ubuhlungu
engibuzwayo.

- Ngiyazitshila ngenxa yobuhlungu.
 Maye, ngokufuthelwa kwenhliziyoyami!
 Inhliziyo yami iyatshaya ngaphakathi kwami,
 angingeke ngithule,
 ngoba ukukhala kwecilongo sengikuzwile;
 umkhosi wempi sengiwuzwile.
- ²⁰ Incithakalo ilandela incithakalo; ilizwe lonke selingamanxiwa. Ngesikhatshana nje amathente ami adiliziwe,
 lamakhethehi ami ngomzuzwana nje.
- ²¹ Koze kube nini ngibona uphawu lwempi ngisizwa lokukhala kwecilongo na?
- ²² “Abantu bami bayiziwula; kabangazi. Bangabantwana abangelangqondo; kabalakho ukuqedisisa. Bahlakaniphele ukwenza okubi; kabakwazi ukwenza okulungileyo.”
- ²³ Ngakhangela umhlaba, wawungelasimo njalo ungelalutho; lasemazulwini, ukukhanya kwawo kwakungasekho.
- ²⁴ Ngakhangela ezintabeni, zazinyikinyeka; lamaqaqa wonke ayezunguzeka.
- ²⁵ Ngakhangela, kwakungelabantu; izinyoni zonke zasezisukile emkhathini.
- ²⁶ Ngakhangela, ilizwe elithelayo laseliyinkangala; amadolobho alo wonke ayesengamanxiwa phambi kukaJehova,
 phambi kolaka lwakhe olwesabekayo.
- ²⁷ UJehova uthi:
 “Ilizwe lonke lizachitheka lanxa ngingayikulitshabalalisa ngokupheleleyo.
- ²⁸ Ngakho umhlaba uzalila iphezulu libe mnyama,

ngoba sengikhulumile njalo angiyikuyekethisa,
 sengenze isinqumo angiyikubuyela emuva.

²⁹ Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wabagadi bamabhiza labemitshoko amadolobho wonke ayabaleka. Abanye bangena ezixukwini;
 abanye bakhwele emadwaleni.

Amadolobho wonke atshiyiwe; akulamuntu ohlala kuwo.

³⁰ Wenzani wena, ohlutshwe kakhulu na? Kungani ugqoka okubomvu gebhu ufaka lezigqoko zegolide na? Kungani ucoma amehlo akho ngomphendulo na? Uzicecisela ize. Izithandwa zakho ziyakweyisa, zifuna ukukubulala.

³¹ Ngizwa ukukhala okunjengo-kowesifazana ohelelwayo, ukububula okufana lozuza umntwana wakhe wakuqala – ukukhala kweNdodakzi yaseZiyoni ikhefuzela, yelule izandla zayo isithi:
 “Maye mina! Amandla ami asephela, ukuphila kwami sekunikelwe kubabulali.”

Kakho Olungileyo

5 “Yehla ukhwele ngemigwaqo yaseJerusalema, ukhangele emaceleni wonke, ucabange, uhlolisise wonke amageceke ayo. Uma ungathola umuntu oyedwa nje oqhuba ngobuqotho efuna iqiniso, ngizalithethelela idolobho leli.

² Lanxa nje besithi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uJehova ekhona, bajinge befunga amanga.’”

³ Awu Jehova, amehlo akho kawadingi qiniso na?
 Wabatshaya, kodwa kabezwanga

buhlungu; wabahlifiza, kodwa bala ukuqondiswa.

Benza ubuso babo baba lukhuni kulamatshe, bala ukuphenduka.

⁴Ngacabanga ngathi, “Laba ngabayanga nje; bayizithutha, ngoba indlela kaJehova kabayazi, imilayo kaNkulunkulu wabo.

⁵Ngakho-ke ngizakuya kubakhokheli ngikhulume labo; ngeqiniso indlela kaJehova bayayazi, imilayo kaNkulunkulu wabo.”

Kodwa nganhliziyo nye labo balephula ijogwe baqamula lezibopho.

⁶Ngakho isilwane esivela ehlathini sizabahlasela, lempisi evela enkangala ibadlwengule, ingwe izabacathamela eduze lamadolobho abo ukudabudabula loba ngubani ophumayo, ngoba iziphambeko zabo zinkulu, lokuhlehlela kwabo emuva kunengi.

⁷Ngingalithethelela ngenxa yani na?

Abantwana benu bangidelile, bafunga ngabonkulunkulu abangasibonkulunkulu, ngabanika konke abakuswelayo, kodwa bona bafeba baminyana ezindlini zamawule.

⁸Bangamabiza amaduna asuthayo, agcwele inkanuko, omunye lomunye ekhalela umfazi wenye indoda.

⁹Ngingabajezisi kulokhu na?”

kutsho uJehova.
“Ngingaphindiseli esizweni esinjengalesi na?”

¹⁰“Ngenani lidabule phakathi kwezivini zalo lizidlwengule, kodwa lingazitshabalalisi ngokupheleleyo. Phundlani izingatsha zalo, ngoba abantu laba kabasibo bakaJehova.

¹¹Indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda kazithembekanga impela kimi,” kutsho uJehova.

¹²Baqambe amanga ngoJehova bathi, “Kasoze enze lutho! Akulabubi obuzasehlela; kasiyikubona impi loba indlala.

¹³Abaphrofethi bangumoya nje, lelizwi kalikho kubo; ngakho abakutshoyo kakwenziwe kubo.”

¹⁴Ngakho-ke uJehova uNkulunkulu uSomandla uthi: “Njengoba abantu sebekhulume amazwi la, ngizakwenza amazwi ami emlonyeni wakho abe ngumlilo abantu laba babe zinkuni oziqothulayo.”

¹⁵UJehova uthi, “Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, ngizaletha isizwe esivela khatshana ukuba sikuhlasele – isizwe esidala esiqinileyo, isizwe ulimi lwaso ongalwaziyo, lenkulumo yaso ongayizwayo.

¹⁶Imixhaka yaso ifana lengcwaba elivulekileyo; bonke bangamabutho alamandla.

¹⁷Bazatshwabadela amabele enu lokudla kwenu, batshwabadele amadodana enu kanye lamadodakazi enu; bazatshwabadela izimvu zenu kanye lezinkomo zenu, bazatshwabadela amavini enu kanye lemikhiwa yenu.

Amadolobho avikelweyo eliwathembileyo bazawachitha ngenkamba.

¹⁸“Ikanti langalezozinsuku,” kutsho uJehova, “angiyikuliqeda du. ¹⁹Lapho abantu bebuza besithi, ‘Kungani uJehova uNkulunkulu wethu enze konke lokhu kithi? Batshele uthi, ‘Njengoba lingilahlele lakhonza onkulunkulu bezizweni elizweni lenu, ngokunjalo khathesi lizasebenzela abezizweni elizweni elingayisilo lenu.’

²⁰“Memezela lokhu endlini kaJakhobe njalo ukubike lakoJuda uthi:

- ²¹ Zwanini lokhu, lina zithutha zabantu
abangelangqondo,
abalamehlo kodwa kababoni,
abalezindlebe kodwa kabezwa:
- ²² Akumelanga lingesabe na?” kutsho
uJehova.
“Kaliyikuthuthumela phambi kwami
na?
Ngenza itshebetshebe laba
ngumngcele wolwandle umkhawulo
wanini lanini olungeke luweqe.
Amagagasi angavinqoza, kodwa
awangeke edlule,
angahlokoma, kodwa awangeke
aweqe.
- ²³ Kodwa abantu laba balezinhliziyiyo
ezilukhuni ezihlamukayo;
baphambukile, balahleka.
- ²⁴ Kabatsho ezinhliziyweni zabo ukuthi,
‘Kasimesabeni uJehova uNkulunkulu
wethu, onisa izulu ngesikhathi salo
ekwindla lentwasa, osithembisa
amaviki amiselwe ukuvuna.’
- ²⁵ Ukona kwenu kukuvimbele lokhu;
izonzo zenu zilemuka okuhle.
- ²⁶ “Phakathi kwabantu bami kulabantu
ababi abacathama njengabantu
abathiya izinyoni,
lanjengalabo abathiya imijibila
yokubamba abantu.
- ²⁷ Njengezitsha ezigwele izinyoni,
izindlu zabo zigwele inkohliso;
sebenothile njalo sebelamandla
sebezimukile njalo babancwaba.
- ²⁸ Izenzo zabo ezimbi kazilamkhawulo;
izintandane kabazikhulumeli ukuba
zinqobe,
amalungelo abayanga kabawavikeli.
- ²⁹ Akumelanga ngibajezisele lokhu na?”
kutsho uJehova.
“Akumelanga ngiphindisele esizweni
esinjengalesi na?”
- ³⁰ Into eyesabekayo leyethusayo
isiyenzakele kulelizwe:
- ³¹ Abaphrofethi baphrofetha amanga,
abaphristi babusa ngamandla abo,

labantu bami bakuthanda kunjalo.
Kodwa lizakwenzani ekucineni?

IJerusalema Livinjezelwe

- 6** “Balekani ukuze liphephe, bantu
bakoBhenjamini! Balekani
eJerusalema!
Tshayani icilongo eThekowa!
Phakamisani uphawu phezu
kweBethi Hakheremi.
Ngoba umonakalo uyabonakala
ngasenyakatho, kanye lencithakalo
eyesabekayo.
- ² Indodakazi yaseZiyoni enhle kangaka
lebucayi ngizayibhubhisa.
- ³ Abelusi lemihlambi yabo bazakuza
bamelane layo;
bazamisa amathente abo eyihanqile,
lowo lalowo elinde indawo yakhe.”
- ⁴ “Lungelani ukulwa layo! Vukani,
kasihlaseleni emini! Kodwa, habe,
ukukhanya sekufiphala, lamathunzi
okuhlwa asesiba made.
- ⁵ Ngakho vukani, kasihlaseleni ebusuku
sidilize izinqaba zayo!”
- ⁶ UJehova uSomandla uthi: “Gamulani
izihlahla liziwise lakhe imiduli
yokuvimbezela iJerusalema.
Idolobho leli kumele lijeziswe;
ligcwele ukucindezela.
- ⁷ Njengomthombo ugobhoza amanzi
awo,
ngokunjalo lalo ligobhoza ububi balo.
Udlakela lokubhubhisa kuyezwakala
phakathi kwalo;
umkhuhlane walo lamanxeba ngihlezi
ngikukhangele.
- ⁸ Xwayiseka, weJerusalema, hlezi
ngikutshiye,
lelizwe lakho ngilichithe,
kungabi lomuntu ohlala kulo.”
- ⁹ UJehova uSomandla uthi:
“Kababuthe izinsalela zako-Israyeli

- ngokupheleleyo njengevini;
dlulisa isandla sakho phezu
kwezingatsha futhi,
njengomuntu ovuna amavini.”
- ¹⁰Ngubani engingakhuluma laye
ngimxwayise na?
Ngubani ozangilalela na?
Izindlebe zabo zivalekile ngakho
bangeke bezwe.
Ilizwi likaJehova liyisinengiso kubo.
Kabafumani ntokozi kulo.
- ¹¹Kodwa mina ngiyafuthelana ngolaka
lukaJehova,
ngingeke ngibe ngisalugodla
ngaphakathi.
- ¹²“Lwehlisele phezu kwabantwana
emgwaqweni laphezu kwamajaha
abuthene ndawonye;
bobabili indoda lomkayo luzabehlela,
kanye labadala, labo abakhulelwa
yiminyaka.
- ¹³Izindlu zabo zizanikwa abanye,
konke lamasimu abo kanye labafazi
babo,
lapho ngiselula isandla sami
ngimelana labo abahlala elizweni,”
kutsho uJehova.
- ¹⁴“Kusukela kwabancane kusiya
kwabakhulu,
bonke bayizihwaba ezifuna inzuzo;
banjalo labaphrofethi kanye
labaphristi,
bonke benza inkohliso.
- ¹⁵Babopha inxeba labantu bami
kungathi kalilibi kakhulu.
Bathi, “Ukuthula, ukuthula.”
khona ukuthula kungekho.
- ¹⁶Bayayangeka na ngokuziphatha kwabo
okwenyanyekayo? Hatshi, bavele
kabalazo izinhloni lokuyangeka
kabakwazi.
Ngakho bazawela phakathi
kwabawileyo;
bazakwehliselwa phansi lapho
sengibajezisa,” kutsho uJehova
- ¹⁷UJehova uthi:
“Manini emahlanganweni emigwaqo
likhangele;
libuze izindledlana ezindala,
libuze lapho okulendlela enhle khona,
lihambe ngayo,
lizathola ukuphumula
kwemiphefumulo yenu.
Kodwa lina lithe, ‘Kasiyikuhamba
ngayo.’”
- ¹⁸Ngalibekela abantu bokulinda ngathi,
‘Lalelani ukukhala kwecilongo!’
Kodwa lina lathi, ‘Kasiyikulalela’
- ¹⁹Ngakho zwanini, lina zizwe,
khangalani, lina bafakazi,
libone okuzakwenzakala kubo.
- ²⁰Zwana, wena mhlaba: ngiletha
umonakalo phezu kwabantu
laba, izithelo zamaqhinga abo,
ngoba kabawalalelanga amazwi ami
njalo bawalile lomthetho wami.
- ²¹Ngilani lempepha yaseSheba
loba imfe evela elizweni elikude na?
Iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa
kayamukeleki;
imihlatshelo yenu kayingithokozisi.”
- ²²UJehova uthi:
“Ngizabeka izivimbelo phambi
kwalababantu. Oyise lamadodana
bazakhubeka kuzo;
omakhelwane labangane
bazabhubha.”
- ²³UJehova uthi:
“Khangalani, ibutho liyeza
livelya elizweni lasenyakatho;
isizwe esikhulu siyanyakaziswa
sivela emikhawulweni yomhlaba.
- ²⁴Bahlome ngamadandili
langemikhonto;
balesihluku kabalaso isihawu.
Bezwakala njengokuhlokoma
kolwandle lapho begade amabhiza
abo;
beza njengabantu abalungele impi
ukuba bakuhlasele,

- wena Ndodakazi yaseZiyoni.”
- ²⁴ Sesizwe imibiko ngabo,
njalo izandla zethu kazilamandla.
Usizi lusiphethe, ubuhlungu obufana
lobowesifazana ehelelwa.
- ²⁵ Lingayi phandle egangeni,
loba lihambe emigwaqweni,
ngoba isitha silenkamba,
njalo silencithakalo emaceleni
wonke.
- ²⁶ Awu bantu bami, gqokani amasaka,
lizibhuqe emlotheni;
khalani lilile kabuhlungu
njengokwendodana eyiyo yodwa,
ngoba masinyane nje umchithi uzafika
kithi.
- ²⁷ “Ngikwenze umhloli wezinsimbi
labantu bami babayilitshe elixubene
lensimbi ukuba ukhangele ubone ube
usuhlola izindlela zabo.
- ²⁸ Bonke bangabahlamuki abalukhuni,
abahamba behleba.
Balithusi lensimbi;
Bonke benza ukuxhwala.
- ²⁹ Imvutho ivutha okwesabekayo
ukususa umnusu ngokutshisa komlilo
kodwa ukucenga kuqhubeka kuyize;
ababi kabakhutshwanga.
- ³⁰ Kuthiwa bayisiliva esilahliweyo,
ngoba uJehova usebalahlile.”

Ukholo Lwamanga Luyize

7 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya

livela kuJehova lisithi:

- ² “Mana esangweni lendlu kaJehova
umemezele ilizwi leli ukhonapho uthi:
Zwanini ilizwi likaJehova, lonke lina
bantu bakoJuda abangena ngala
amasango ukuzakhonza uJehova.
³ UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-
Israyeli uthi: Lungisani izindlela zenu
lezenzo zenu, ukuze ngilivumele ukuba
lihlale kule indawo. ⁴ Lingathembi
amazwi akhohlisayo lithi, “Leli
lithempeli likaJehova, ithempeli

likaJehova, ithempeli likaJehova!”

⁵ Lingalungisa izindlela zenu lezenzo
zenu sibili liphathane ngokulunga, ⁶ uma
lingancindezeli owezizweni, izintandane
loba umfelokazi njalo lingachithi gazi
elingelacala kule indawo, njalo uma
lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu
okuzalilimaza, ⁷ ngizalivumela ukuba
lihlale kule indawo, elizweni engalinika
okhokho benu ukuba libe ngelabo kuze
kube nini lanini. ⁸ Kodwa khangelani,
lina lithemba amazwi akhohlisayo
angasizi lutho.

⁹ “Kambe lizantshontsha njalo libulale,
lifebe, lifunge amanga, litshisele uBhali
impepha njalo lilandele abanye
onkulunkulu elingakaze libazi,
¹⁰ beselisizakuma phambi kwami
kuyonale indlu, eleBizo lami, lithi,
“Sivikelekile” – livikeleka ukuba lenze
zonke lezizinto ezenyanyekayo na?

¹¹ Indlu le, eleBizo lami, seyaba lubhalu
lwabaphangi na? Kodwa kade
ngikhangele! kutsho uJehova.

¹² “Hambani khathesi endaweni yami
eShilo lapho engenza khona kuqala
indawo yokuhlala iBizo lami, libone
engakwenza kuyo ngenxa yobubi
babantu bami bako-Israyeli. ¹³ UJehova
uthi, kwathi lapho lisenza lezizinto, mina
ngakhuluma lani futhifuthi, kodwa
kalingilalelanga; ngalibiza, kalaze
lasabela. ¹⁴ Ngakho-ke, lokho
engakwenza eShilo khathesi
ngizakwenza kule indlu eleBizo lami,
ithempeli elilithembileyo, indawo
engalinika yona lina kanye labokhokho
benu. ¹⁵ Ngizalixotsha phambi kwami,
njengalokho engakwenza abafowenu
bonke, abantu bako-Efrayimi.

¹⁶ “Ngakho abantu laba
ungabakhulekeli loba ubakhulumele
kumbe ubenzele isicelo; ungangincengi
ngoba angiyikukulalela. ¹⁷ Abakwenzayo

emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema kawukuboni na? ¹⁸ Abantwana batheza inkuni, oyise babasa imililo, labesifazana baxova inhlama benzele iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini isinkwa. Bathelala abanye onkulunkulu iminikelo yokunathwayo ukuba bangithukuthelise. ¹⁹ Kodwa yimi abangithukuthelisayo na? kutsho uJehova. Kabazilimazi bona ngokwabo na, okulihlazo kubo?

²⁰ “ ‘Ngakho uJehova Wobukhosi uthi: Ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami kuzakwehliselwa kule indawo, phezu kwabantu lasezinyamazani, phezu kwezihlahla zeganga laphezu kwezithelo zomhlabathi; njalo kuzakutsha kungacitsheki.

²¹ UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Qhubekani, fakani iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa kweminye imihlatshelo yenu lidle inyama lina ngokwenu! ²² Ngoba ekukhupheni kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe ngikhuluma labo, angizange ngibanike imilayo nje kuphela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, ²³ kodwa ngabanika umlayo lo othi: Ngilalelani, njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wenu lina libe ngabantu bami. Hambani ngezindlela zonke engililaye zona, ukuze kulilungele. ²⁴ Kodwa kabazange balalele kumbe banake; esikhundleni salokho, bona balandela inkani yentando yezinhliziyi zabo ezimbi. Baya emuva hatshi phambili. ²⁵ Kusukela ngesikhathi okhokho benu besuka eGibhithe kuze kube khathesi, usuku ngosuku, njalonjalo ngalithumela izinceku zami abaphrofethi. ²⁶ Kodwa kabangilalelanga kumbe banake. Babelezintamo ezilukhuni njalo benza ububi obudlula obabokhokho babo.’

²⁷ Lapho ubatshela konke lokhu, kabayikukulalela; lalapho ubabiza, kabayikusabela. ²⁸ Ngakho batshele uthi,

‘Lesi yisizwe esingalalelanga uJehova uNkulunkulu waso kumbe sivume ukuqondiswa. Iqiniso selifile; kalisekho ezindebeni zabo. ²⁹ Gelani izinwele zenu lizilahlele khatshana; lenze isililo emiqolweni elugwadule, ngoba uJehova usesalile wasidela isizukulwane lesi esingaphanphasi kolaka lwakhe.

ISigodi Sokubulala

³⁰ “ ‘Abantu bakoJuda benze ububi phambi kwami, kutsho uJehova. Bamise izithombe zabo ezenyanyekayo endlini eleBizo lami balingcolisa. ³¹ Sebakhe izindawo eziphakemeyo zaseThofethi esigodini saseBheni Hinomi ukuba batshisele khona amadodana lamadodakazi abo ngomlilo – into engingabalayanga yona, engazange ifike engqondweni yami. ³² Ngakho qaphelani, izinsuku ziyeza, kutsho uJehova, lapho abantu bengayikuyithi yiThofethi kumbe iSigodi saseBheni Hinomi, kodwa iSigodi sokuBulala, ngoba abafuleyo bazabangwaba eThofethi kuze kusweleke indawo. ³³ Lapho-ke izidumbu zabantu laba zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zomhlaba, njalo akuyikuba lomuntu ozazethusa. ³⁴ Ngizaqeda imisindo yokuthokoza leyenjabulo emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema, lokuthaba lelizwi lomlobokazi lelomyeni, ngoba ilizwe lizachitheka.

8 “ ‘Ngalesosikhathi, kutsho

uJehova, amathambo amakhosi akoJuda lawezikhulu zakhona, amathambo abaphristi lawabaphrofethi, kanye lamathambo abantu baseJerusalema azakhutshwa emangcwabeni awo.

² Azachaywa elangeni lasenyangeni lakuzo zonke izinkanyezi zasemkhathini,

abakuthandayo bakukhonza njalo
 abakulandelayo bakubuza bakudumisa.
 Kawayikubuthwa loba angewatshwe,
 kodwa azakuba njengezibi phezu
 komhlabathi. ³Loba kungaphi
 engibaxotshela khona, bonke abasilayo
 balesisizwe esibi bazakhetha ukufa
 kulokuphila, kutsho uJehova
 uSomandla.’

Isono Lesijeziso

⁴“Wothi kubo,

‘UJehova uthi:

“Abantu bangawa, kabavuki na?

Umuntu angaphambuka, kaphenduki
 na?

⁵Pho kungani abantu laba bedukile?

Kungani iJerusalema lihlala liseduka?

Bayanamathela enkohlisweni;

Bayala ukuphenduka.

⁶Ngilalele ngesineke,

kodwa kabatsho okulungileyo.

Kakho ophenduka ebubini bakhe,

Esithi, Kuyini engikwenzileyo na?

Yilowo lalowo ulandela indlela yakhe
 njengebhiza lizithela empini.

⁷Lengabuzane emoyeni

liyazazi izikhathi zalo zomnyaka,

lejuba, lenkonjane lohemu kuyasigcina

isikhathi sakho sokuthutha.

Kodwa abantu bami kabakwazi

okufunwa nguJehova.

⁸“Lingatsho kanjani ukuthi,

“Sihlakaniphile,

ngoba silomthetho kaJehova,”

lona iqiniso kuyikuthi amanga

alotshwe ngababhali

asenze umthetho wangabi liqiniso?

⁹Abahlakaniphileyo bazayangiswa;

bazakwesaba bathiyeke.

Njengoba belalile ilizwi likaJehova,

balenhlakaniphopho bani na?

¹⁰Ngakho abafazi babo ngizabapha

amanye amadoda lamasimu abo abe
 ngawabanye abatsha.

Kusukela komncinyane kusiya

komkhulu,

bonke bayizihwaba ezidinga inzuzo;
 banjalo labaphrofethi kanye labaphristi,
 bonke benza inkohliso.

¹¹Babopha inxeba labantu bami

kungathi kalilibi kakhulu.

Bathi, “Ukuthula, ukuthula,” khona
 ukuthula kungekho.

¹²Kambe bayayangeka na ngokuziphatha

kwabo okunengisayo?

Hatshi, bavele kabalazo izinhloni;

lokuyangeka kabakwazi.

Ngakho bazawela phakathi

kwabawileyo; bazakwehliselwa

phansi lapho sebejeziswa, kutsho
 uJehova.

¹³“Ngizabemuka isivuno sabo, kutsho
 uJehova.

Akuyikuba lezithelo

ezivinini zabo. Akuyikuba lezithelo

zomkhiwa esihlahleni, lamahlamvu
 aso azabuna.

Engibanike khona kuzathathwa

kubo.’”

¹⁴“Pho sihlaleleni lapha?

Buthanini! Kasibalekeni

emadolobheni avikelweyo

siyebhubhela khona!

Ngoba uJehova uNkulunkulu wethu

usesilahlele ekubhubheni wasinika

amanzi aletshefu ukuba sinathe,

ngoba sonile kuye.

¹⁵Sathemba ukuba lokuthula

kodwa akubanga lobuhle obukhona,

ekubeni kube yisikhathi sokwelatshwa
 kwaba lokwesaba.

¹⁶Ukuthimula kwamabhiza esitha

kuyezwakala kuvelela koDani;

ekukhaleni kwamabhiza amaduna

ilizwe lonke liyaqhaqhaqazela.

Zilande ukuzatshwabadela

ilizwe lakho konke okukulo,

idolobho labo bonke abahlala kulo.”

¹⁷“Khangelani, ngizathumela phakathi kwenu izinyoka ezilobuhlungu, izinhlangwane ezingeke zithakathwe, njalo zizaliluma,” kutsho uJehova.

¹⁸Awu Mduduzi wami osizini, inhliziyi yami isiqaleka phakathi kwami.

¹⁹Lalela ukukhala kwabantu bami okuvela elizweni elikhatshana besithi:

“UJehova kakho eZiyoni na? INkosi yalo kayisekho lapho na?”

“Kungani bevuse ulaka lwami ngezifanekiso zabo, langezithombe zezizweni eziyize na?”

²⁰Ukuvuna sekwedlule, ihlobo seliphelile, njalo kasihlengwanga.”

²¹Njengoba abant bami benqotshiwe lami ngingqotshiwe; ngiyalila njalo ukwesaba kungiphethe.

²²Akulamuthi yini eGileyadi? Kakho yini lomelaphi khona? Pho kungani kungekho kwelatshwa kwenxeba labantu bami na?

9¹Awu, sengathi ngabe ikhanda lami lingumthombo wamanzi lamehlo ami umthombo wezinyembezi! Kade ngizakhala emini lebusuku ngikhalela abantu bami ababuleweyo.

²Awu, sengathi ngabe enkangala ngilendawo engahlala izihambi, ukuba ngisuke ebantwini bami ngibatshiye; ngoba bonke bayizifebe, ixuku labantu abangathembekanga.

³Benza izindimi zabo zilunge njengedandili ukuba, batshoke amanga; ukuthi bayanqoba elizweni akusikho ngeqiniso. Basuka kokunye ukona baye kokunye

kabangamukeli,” kutsho uJehova.

⁴“Qaphela abangane bakho; ungabathembi abafowenu. Ngoba wonke umfowenu ungumkhohlisi; njalo wonke umngane ungumhlebi.

⁵Umngane ukhohlisa umngane, njalo kakho okhuluma iqiniso. Sebafundisa izindimi zabo ukuqamba amanga; bayazidinisa ngokona.

⁶Lihlala phakathi kwenkohliso; ngenkohliso yabo bayala ukungamukela,”
kutsho uJehova.

⁷Ngakho uJehova uSomandla uthi: “Khangelani, ngizabacolisa ngibahlole, ngoba kuyini okunye engingakwenza ngenxa yesono sabantu bami?

⁸Ulimi lwabo lungumtshoko olobuthi, lukhuluma inkohliso. Lowo lalowo ukhuluma kuhle ngomlomo wakhe lomakhelwana wakhe, kodwa enhliziyweni yakhe emthiya ngomjibila.

⁹“Kakufanele ngibajezisele lokhu na?” kubuza uJehova “Kakufanele ngiphindisele esizweni esinjengalesi na?”

¹⁰Ngizakhala ngililele izintaba njalo lamadlelo asenkangala ngizawenzela isililo. Atshabalele njalo kakho ohambela kuwo, lokubhonsa kwezinkomo akuzwakali. Izinyoni zasemoyeni sezibalekile lezinyamazana kazisekho.

¹¹“IJerusalem ngizalenza libe yinqumbi yonxiwa, isikhundla samakhanka; njalo ngizawadiliza amadolobho akoJuda ukuze kungabi khona ohlala kuwo.”

¹²Nguwuphi umuntu ohlakaniphileyo

ukuba akuzwisise lokhu? Ngubani ofundiswe nguJehova ongakuchaza? Kungani ilizwe litshabalalisiwe lachithwa njengenkangala ukuze kungadluli muntu kulo?

¹³UJehova wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi sebelahle umthetho wami, engababekela wona; kabangilalelanga lomthetho wami kabawulandelanga.

¹⁴Esikhundleni salokho, bona balandele ubulukhuni bezinhliziyi zabo; balandele oBhali, njengokufundiswa kwabo ngoyise.” ¹⁵Ngakho-ke, uJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Khangalani, abantu laba ngizabadlisa ukudla okubabayo ngibanathise lamanzi alobuthi.

¹⁶Ngizabahlakazela ezizweni bona kanye laboyise abangazange bazazi, njalo ngizabalandela ngenkamba ngize ngibaqede du.”

¹⁷UJehova uSomandla uthi:

“Cabangani khathesi! Bizani abesifazana abalilayo beze; libize labo abalobuciko obumangalisayo.

¹⁸Kabeze ngokuphangisa bazesililela amehlo ethu aze ehlise izinyembezi lamanzi ageleze ephuma enkopheni zethu.

¹⁹Iilizwi lokukhala liyezwakala livela eZiyoni lisithi: “yeka kunganani ukuchithakala kwethu! Yeka ubukhulu behlazo lethu! Kumele sisuke elizweni lethu ngoba izindlu zethu zidilizwe.”

²⁰Khathesi, lina abesifazana, zwanini ilizwi likaJehova, vulani izindlebe zenu lizwe amazwi omlomo wakhe. Fundisani amadodakazi enu ukulila; lifundisane amazwi okukhala.

²¹Ukufa kukhwele kwangena ngamawindi ethu njalo kungenile lasezinqabeni zethu; sekususe abantwana emigwaqweni kanye lamajaha ezindaweni zikazulu.

²²Tshono uthi, “UJehova uthi,

“ ‘Izidumbu zabafuleyo zizalala njengezibi egangeni, lanjengamabele aqunywe ngemuva kovunayo, okungekho ozawabutha.’ ”

²³UJehova uthi:

“Ohlakaniphileyo kangazincomi ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe loba indoda elamandla izincome ngamandla ayo loba indoda enothileyo izincome ngenotho yayo,

²⁴kodwa lowo ozincomayo kazincome ngalokhu:

ukuthi uyaqedisisa njalo uyangazi, ukuthi mina nginguJehova, osebenzisa umusa, imfanelo lokulunga emhlabeni, ngoba lezizinto ziyangithokozisa,” kutsho uJehova.

²⁵UJehova uthi, “Izinsuku ziyeza, lapho engizabajezisa khona bonke abasoke enyameni kuphela – ²⁶iGibhithe, loJuda, lo-Edomi, lo-Amoni loMowabi labo bonke abahlala enkangala ezindaweni ezikhatshana. Ngoba izizwe zonke lezi kazisokanga, njalo lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli kayisokanga enhliziyweni.”

UNkulunkulu Lezithombe

10 Zwana okutshiwo nguJehova kuwe, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli.

²UJehova uthi:

“Lingazifundi izindlela zezizwe loba lethuswe yizibonakaliso zasemkhathini, lanxa nje izizwe zisethuswa yizo.

³Ngoba imikhuba yabantu iyize; bagamula isihlahla ehlathini, ingcwethi isibaze ngetshizela yayo.

⁴Bayasicecisa ngesiliva langegolide;

basibethele ngesando langezipikili
ukuze singanyikinyeki.

⁵Njengezinto zokwethusa endimeni
yamakhabe,
izithombe zabo azikhulumi;
kumele zithwalwe ngoba azingeke
zihambe.
Lingazesabi; azingeke zenze okubi;
lokuhle azingeke zikwenze.”

⁶Kakho ofana lawe, wena Jehova;
wena umkhulu, lebizu lakho
lilamandla amakhulu.

⁷Ngubani ongeke akwesabe, wena
Jehova wezizwe? Lokhu kukufanele.
Phakathi kwabantu bonke
abahlakaniphileyo bezizwe lakuyo
yonke imibuso yabo, kakho onjengawe.

⁸Bonke kabalangqondo njalo
bayizithutha; bafundiswa yizithombe
zezigodo eziyize.

⁹Isiliva esikhandiweyo siya lethwa sivele
eThashishi legolide livela e-Ufazi.
Okwenziwe yingewethi lomkhanda
wegolide kugqokiswa okuluhlaza
lokulubende–njalo konke kwenziwe
zingcitshi.

¹⁰Kodwa uJehova unguNkulunkulu
oqotho; unguNkulunkulu ophilayo,
iNkosi yanininini.
Lapho ethukuthele, umhlaba
uyagedezela; izizwe azingeke
zimelane lolaka lwakhe.

¹¹“Batshele lokhu uthi:
Onkulunkulu laba, abangawenzanga
amazulu lomhlaba, bazabhubha
emhlabeni langaphansi kwamazulu.”

¹²Kodwa uNkulunkulu wenza umhlaba
ngamandla akhe; wawumisa umhlaba
ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe njalo
wanweba amazulu ngokuqedisisa
kwakhe.

¹³Lapho eqaqamba, amanzi
asemazulwini ayahlokoma;

wenza amayezi aphakame evela
emikhawulweni yomhlaba.
Uthumela umbane ulezulu njalo
akhuphe umoya eziphaleni zakhe.

¹⁴Umuntu wonke kalangqondo njalo
kalalwazi; wonke umkhanda
wensimbi uyangiswa yizithombe zakhe.
Izithombe zakhe ziyinkohliso;
kazilamphefumulo phakathi kwazo.

¹⁵Ziyize, izinto zenhlekisa nje;
lapho ukwahlulelwa kwazo sekufikile,
zizabhubha.

¹⁶Yena oyiNgxenye kaJakhobe kafani
lalaba, ngoba unguMenzi wezinto
zonke, kubalwa lo-Israyeli, isizwe selifa
lakhe – ibizo lakhe nguJehova
uSomandla.

Ukubhujiswa Okuzayo

¹⁷Qoqani impahla yenu ukuba lisuke
elizweni, lina elihlezi livinjezelwe.

¹⁸Ngoba uJehova uthi:
“Ngalesisikhathi ngizabaphosela
phandle labo abahlala kulelizwe;
ngizabehlisela usizi ukuze
bathunjwe.”

¹⁹Maye mina ngenxa yokulimala kwami!
Inxeba lami kalelapheki!
Ikanti ngazitshela ngathi,
“Lo ngumkhuhlane wami,
njalo kumele ngiwubekezelele.”

²⁰Ithente lami lidiliziwe;
izintambo zalo zonke ziqumekile.
Amadodana ami asukile kimi njalo
kawasekho;
kakho oseleyo ukuba angimisele ithente
lami loba ongangilungisela
amakhetheni ami.

²¹Abelusi kabalangqondo njalo
kabambuzi uJehova; ngakho
kabaphumeleli, njalo lemihlambi yabo
yonke ihlakazekile.

²²Lalelani! Umbiko uyeza –

ukuxokozela okukhulu okuvela
elizweni lenyakatho! Kuzakwenza
amadolobho akoJuda achitheke,
abe yizikhundla zamakhanka.

Umkhuleko KaJeremiya

²³ Ngiyazi, O Jehova, ukuthi ukuphila
komuntu akusikho kwakhe; umuntu
akusikho kwakhe ukuthi aqondise
izinyathelo zakhe.

²⁴ Ngiqondise Jehova, kodwa kube
ngokulunga – kungabi ngolaka
lwakho,
hlezi ungenze ngibe yize.

²⁵ Yehlisela ulaka lwakho phezu
kwezizwe ezingakwamukeliyo,
phezu kwabantu abangakhuleki
ebizweni lakho. Ngoba bamdlile
uJakhobe; bamdlile waphela bachitha
lelizwe lakhe.

Isivumelwano Siyephulwa

11 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya

livelya kuJehova lisithi: ² ‘Zwana izimiso
zesivumelwano lesi uzitshela abantu
bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalema.

³ Batshela uthi uJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-
Israyeli, uthi: ‘Uthukiwe umuntu
ongalandeli izimiso zesivumelwano lesi
– ⁴ izimiso engalaya ngazo okhokho benu
ekubakhupheni kwami eGibhithe,
esasiyisithando sokuncibilikisa insimbi.’

Ngathi, ‘Lalelani ilizwi lami lenze konke
engililaya khona, lizakuba ngabantu
bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu.

⁵ Lapho-ke ngizagcwalisa isifungo sami
engasifunga kubokhokho benu,
ukubanika ilizwe eligeleza uchago
loluju’ – ilizwe elihlezi kulo khathesi.”
Ngaphendula ngathi, “Akube njalo
Jehova.”

⁶ UJehova wasesithi kimi, “Memezela
wonke amazwi la emadolobheni akoJuda
lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema uthi:
‘Zwanini izimiso zesivumelwano lesi

lizilandele. ⁷ Kusukela ekukhupheni
kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe kuze
kuba lamhla, ngabalaya njalonjalo
ngisithi, “Lalelani ilizwi lami.” ⁸ Kodwa
kabazange balalele kumbe banake;
esikhundleni salokho, bona balandela
inkani yezinhliziyi zabo ezimbi. Ngakho
ngabehlisela zonke izithuko
zesivumelwano engangibalaye ukuba
basilandele kodwa kabaze basigcina.’”

⁹ UJehova wasesithi kimi,
“Kulokuhlamuka okukhona ebantwini
bakoJuda lakulabo abahlala eJerusalema.
¹⁰ Sebebuyele ezonweni zabokhokho
babo, abalayo ukulalela amazwi ami.
Balandele abanye onkulunkulu ukuba
babakhonze. Indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu
kaJuda zombili zisephule isivumelwano
engasenza labokhokho babo. ¹¹ Ngakho
nanku akutshoyo uJehova:

‘Ngizabehlisela umonakalo abangeke
baphephe kuwo. Lanxa sebekhala kimi
kangiyikubalalela. ¹² Amadolobho
akoJuda labantu baseJerusalema
bazakuyakhala kubonkulunkulu
ababatshisela impepha, kodwa kabasoze
babasize ngalutho lapho uhlupho
selubehlela. ¹³ Wena Juda ubunengi
babonkulunkulu bakho
bunjengobamadolobho akho, njalo lama-
alithare owakhele ukutshisela impepha
kulowonkulunkulu olihlazo, uBhali,
ubunengi bawo bunjengobemigwaqo
yaseJerusalema.’

¹⁴ “Abantu laba ungabakhulekeli kumbe
ubakhulumele loba ubacelele, ngoba
angiyikulalela lapho bekhala kimi
esikhathini sokuhlupheka kwabo.

¹⁵ “Othandekayo wami wenzani
ethempelini lami eceba amaqhinga
amabi labanengi? Kambe inyama
ebusisiweyo ingaphuthisa ukujeziswa
kwakho na? Lapho uphatheka ngobubi

bakho, uyajabula.”

¹⁶UJehova wakubiza ngokuthi uyisihlahla se-oliva esihlumileyo esilezithelo ezinhle. Kodwa ngokuhlokoma kwesiphepho esikhulu uzasithungela ngomlilo, izingatsha zaso zephuke.

¹⁷UJehova uSomandla, owakuhlanyelayo, usememezele umonakalo kuwe, ngoba indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda zenze okubi zangithukuthelisa ngokutshisela uBhali impepha.

Icebo Lokubulala uJeremiya

¹⁸Ngenxa yokuthi uJehova waveza icebo labo kimi, ngalazi, ngoba ngalesosikhathi wangitshengisa ababekwenza. ¹⁹Ngangifana lewundlu elithambileyo lisiwa ekuhlatshweni; ngangingazi ukuthi basebebumbe icebo ngami, besithi,

“Kasiqumeni isihlahla kanye lezithelo zaso; kasimsuseni elizweni labaphilayo, ukuze ibizo lakhe lingakhunjulwa futhi.”

²⁰Kodwa, wena, Jehova Somandla, wena owahlulela ngokulunga njalo uhlola inhliziyo lengqondo, yenza ngibone ukuphindisela kwakho kubo, ngoba isisusa sami ngisinikela kuwe.

²¹“Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguJehova mayelana labantu base-Anathothi abafuna ukukubulala besithi, ‘Ungaphrofethi ngebizo likaJehova funa sikubulale’ – ²²ngakho uJehova uSomandla uthi: ‘Ngizabajezisa. Amajaha akibo azabulawa yinkemba, amadodana lamadodakazi abo abulawe yindlala.

²³Akuyikuba khona osalayo kubo, ngoba ngizaletha incithakalo ebantwini base-Anathothi ngomnyaka wokujeziswa kwabo.’”

Insolo KaJeremiya

12Wena ulungile izikhathi zonke,

O Jehova, lapho ngiletha indaba kuwe. Ikanti ngingakhuluma lawe ngokulunga kwakho: Kungani indlela yababi iphumelela na?

Kungani abangathembekanga behlezi kuhle na?

²Ubahlanye, njalo sebemilile; bayakhula bathele izithelo.

Bahlezi bekhuluma ngawe, kodwa ezinhliziyweni zabo ukhatshana.

³Kodwa mina, O Jehova, uyangazi; uyangibona uhlele imicabango yami ngawe. Bahudule njengezimvu eziyahlatshwa! Bamisele usuku lokubulawa!

⁴Koze kube nini ilizwe lomile lotshani iganga lonke bubunile? Ngenxa yokuthi labo abahlala kulo babi, izinyamazana lezinyoni sezibhubhile. Kanti futhi abantu bathi, “Kasoze akubone okwenzakala kithi.”

Impendulo KaNkulunkulu

⁵“Nxa ugijime labantu ngezinyawo bakudinisa, ungancintisana njani lamabhiza na? Uma ukhubeka elizweni elingelangozi, pho uzakwanelisa njani ezixukwini zaseJodani na?

⁶Abafowenu, indlu yakwenu – labo futhi bakunikele; baklabalale batsho okubi ngawe. Ungabathembi, lanxa bekhuluma kuhle ngawe.

- ⁷“Indlu yami ngizayitshiya,
ngilidele ilifa lami; lowo
engimthandayo ngizamnikela
ezandleni zezitha zakhe.
- ⁸Ilifa lami kimi selibe njengesilwane
ehlathini. Liyangihwabhela; ngakho
ngiyalizonda.
- ⁹Ilifa lami kimi kaselibe njengenyoni
emabalabala edla inyama ehanqwa
ngezinye izinyoni ezidla inyama,
ziyihlasela na?
Hamba uyebutha zonke izinyamazana
zeganga; uzilethe ukuba zidle.
- ¹⁰Abelusi abanengi bazasichitha isivini
sami bagandele insimu yami;
bazaguqula insimu yami enhle
ibe lugwadule oluphundlekileyo.
- ¹¹Izakwenziwa ugwadule, yome
iphundlekile phambi kwami;
ilizwe lonke lizachitheka
ngoba kakho olinakayo.
- ¹²Emiqolweni yonke engelalutho
enkangala abachithi bazaphithizela,
ngoba inkemba kaJehova izakudla
kusukela komunye umkhawulo
- welizwe kusiya komunye;
kakho ozavikeleka.
- ¹³Bazahlanyela ingqoloyi kodwa bavune
ameva;
bazazidinisa kodwa bangazuzi lutho.
Ngakho wobani lenhloni ngesivuno
senu ngenxa yolaka olwesabekayo
lukaJehova.”
- ¹⁴UJehova uthi: “Bonke omakhelwane
bami ababi abathumba ilifa engalinika
abantu bami bako-Israyeli, ngizabasusa
emazweni abo ngisuse lendlu kaJuda
phakathi kwabo. ¹⁵Kodwa emva
kokubasusa kwami, ngizaphinda ngibe
lesihawu ngibuyisele omunye lomunye
wabo endaweni eyilifa lakhe elizweni
lakhe. ¹⁶Bangazifunda kuhle izindlela
zabantu bami njalo bafunge ngebizo
lami besithi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba
uJehova ephila’ – lanxa nje bake

bafundisa abantu bami ukufunga
ngoBhali – bazahlaliswa phakathi
kwabantu bami. ¹⁷Kodwa uma isizwe
singalaleli, ngizasisusa ngokupheleleyo
ngisibhubhise,” kutsho uJehova.

Ibhanti leLineni

13 UJehova wathi kimi:

“Hamba uyethenga ibhanti lelineni
ubophe ukhalo lwakho ngalo, kodwa
lingathinti amanzi.” ²Ngakho ngathenga
ibhanti, njengokulaya kukaJehova,
ngabopha ukhalo lwami ngalo.

³Ilizwi likaJehova labuya lafika kimi
ngokwesibili lathi: ⁴“Thatha ibhanti
olithengileyo obophe ngalo ukhalo
lwakho, uye ePherathi, khathezi nje
ulifihle khona empankeni wamatshe.”

⁵Ngakho ngahamba ngayalifihla
ePherathi, njengokutsho kukaJehova
kimi.

⁶Sekudlule izinsuku ezinengi uJehova
wathi kimi, “Hamba khathezi ePherathi
uyethatha ibhanti engathi lifihle khona.”

⁷Ngakho ngaya ePherathi ngagebha
lapho engangifihle khona ibhanti, kodwa
laselonakele impela lingaselasizo.

⁸Lapho-ke kwafika ilizwi likaJehova
kimi lisithi: ⁹“UJehova uthi: ‘Ngendlela
efanayo ngizakuchitha ukuzigqaja
kukaJuda lokuzigqaja okukhulu
kweJerusalema. ¹⁰Lababantu
abangalunganga, abalayo ukulalela
amazwi ami, abalandela ubulukhuni
bezinhliziyo zabo badinge abanye
onkulunkulu ukuba babasebenzele
njalo babakhonze, bazakuba
njengebhanti leli – bengelasizo
loluncane! ¹¹Ngoba njengebhanti libopha
ukhalo lomuntu, ngayibophela kanjalo
kimi yonke indlu ka-Israyeli layo yonke
indlu kaJuda, kutsho uJehova, ukuba
babe ngabantu bami ngenxa yodumo

Iwami, ukubongwa lokudunyiswa.
Kodwa kabalalelanga.’ ”

Izikhumba Zewayini

¹²“Batshele uthi: ‘UJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Zonke izikhumba zewayini kumele zigwaliswe ngewayini.’ Bona bangathi kuwe, ‘Kanti thina kasikwazi yini ukuthi izikhumba zonke kumele zigwaliswe ngewayini?’
¹³wena uthi kubo, ‘UJehova uthi: ngizabenza badakwe bonke abahlala kulelizwe, kanye lamakhosi ahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida, abaphristi, abaphrofethi labo bonke abahlala eJerusalema. ¹⁴Ngizabamahlaza omunye komunye, oyise lamadodana ngokufananayo, kutsho uJehova. Angiyikuvumela isihawu loba umusa kumbe uzwelo ukuba kungivimbele ukubabhuhisa.’ ”

Isisongo sokuthunjwa

¹⁵Zwanini lilalele,
lingazigqaji,
ngoba uJehova usekhulumile.
¹⁶Dumisani uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu engakalethi umnyama, izinyawo zenu zingakakhubeki emaqaqeni asesemeswa ngumnyama. Lilindele ukukhanya, kodwa yena uzakwenza kube ngumnyama olohlonzi, akuphendule kube ngumnyama omkhulu.
¹⁷Kodwa uma lingalaleli,
ngizakhalela ensitha ngenxa yokuzigqaja kwenu;
amehlo ami azalila kabuhlungu, ageleze izinyembezi, ngoba umhlambi kaJehova uzathunjwa.
¹⁸Tshono enkosini laseNdlovukazini uthi, “Yehlani ezihlalweni zenu zobukhosi lize phansi, ngoba imiqhele

yenu emihle kakhulu izakuwa emakhanda enu.”

¹⁹Amadolobho aseNegebi azavalwa, njalo akuyikuba khona ozawavula. UJuda wonke uzathathwa asiwe ekuthunjweni, uzasiwa ekuthunjweni ngokupheleleyo.
²⁰Phakamisani amehlo enu libone labo abavela enyakatho. Ungaphi umhlambi ababewugcinisiwe, izimvu elalizazisa ngazo na?
²¹Lizakuthini lapho uJehova esebabeka phezu kwenu labo elabenza baba ngabangane benu abaqakathekileyo na?
Kaliyikubanjwa yibuhlungu obufana lobowesifazana ehelelwa na?
²²Njalo uma uzibuza usithi,
“Kungani lokhu kwenzakele kimi na? – kungenxa yezono zakho ezinengi ukuthi izidwaba zakho zidatshulwe lomzimba wakho waphathwa kubi.
²³UmTopiya angaliguqula yini ijwabu lakhe loba ingwe iguqule amabala ayo na? Lani lingeke lenze okuhle lina selajwayela ukwenza okubi.
²⁴“Ngizalihlakaza njengamakhoba ephetshulwa ngumoya wasenkangala.
²⁵Lokhu yikho okungokwenu, isabelo engilimisele sona,” kutsho uJehova, “ngoba lingikhohliwe lathemba onkulunkulu bamanga.
²⁶Ngizaphekulela izidwaba zakho ebusweni bakho ukuba kubonakale ihlazo lakho –
²⁷ubufebe bakho lokububuliswa yisigwebo, ukuwula kwakho ungelanhloni! Ngizibonile izenzo zakho ezenyanyekayo phezu kwamaqaqa lasegangeni. Maye kuwe, wena Jerusalema! Koze kube nini unghambulukanga na?”

Ukoma, Indlala, Inkemba

14Leli yilizwi likaJehova elafika

kuJeremiya mayelana lokoma
elizweni lisithi:

²“UJuda uyalila, amadolobho akhe
ayahlupheka; alilela ilizwe,
njalo isililo siyaqonga sivela
eJerusalema.

³Izikhulu zithuma izinceku zazo
ukuyafuna amanzi; ziya emithonjeni
kodwa zifce amanzi engekho.

Ziyabuyela lemigqomo yazo
ingelalutho;
zithithibele njalo zidanile, zembese
amakhanda azo.

⁴Umhlabathi uqhekezekile
ngoba akulazulu elizweni;
abalimi bathithibele njalo bembese
amakhanda abo.

⁵Lenyamazana ensikazi egangeni
iyabalekela ithole layo elizelweyo
ngoba akulatshani .

⁶Obabhemi beganga bema emiqolweni
elugwadule bakhefuzele

njengamakhanka; amehlo abo
asefiphele
ngenxa yokuswela amadlelo.”

⁷Lanxa izono zethu zifakaza kubi ngathi,
O Jehova, ake wenze okunye ngenxa
yebizo lakho. Ngoba ukuhlehlela
kwethu emuva kunengi; sonile kuwe.

⁸O Themba lika-Israyeli, Mhlengi
wakhe ezikhathini zokuhlupheka,
kungani usiba njengowezizweni
elizweni, njengesihambi esihlala
ubusuku obubodwa kuphela?

⁹Kungani usiba njengomuntu
ojunyiweyo, lanjengebutho
elingelamandla okusiza na?
Ukhona phakathi kwethu, wena

Jehova,
njalo sibizwa ngebizo lakho;
ungasilahli!

¹⁰Nanku okutshiwo nguJehova
ngalababantu:
Bayakuthanda kakhulu ukuntula;
kabazibambi izinyawo zabo.
Ngakho uJehova kayikubamukela;
khathesi uzakhumbula ububi babo
abajezisele izono zabo.”

¹¹UJehova wasesithi kimi,
ungakhulekeli inhlalakahle yabantu laba.

¹²Lanxa bezila ukudla, ukukhala kwabo
angiyikukulalela; loba benikela
iminikelo yokutshiswa kanye leminikelo
yamabele, angiyikuyamukela;
Esikhundleni salokho, ngizabaqeda du
ngenkemba, ngendlala langezifo.”

¹³Kodwa mina ngathi, “Awu Jehova
Wobukhosi, abaphrofethi bahlezi
bebatshela besithi, ‘Kaliyikubona
inkemba loba libulawe yindlala. Impela,
ngizalipha ukuthula okungapheliyo kule
indawo.’ ”

¹⁴UJehova wasesithi kimi,
“Abaphrofethi baphrofetha amanga
ngebizo lami. Angibathumanga njalo
angibakhetanga kumbe ngikhulume
labo. Baphrofetha imibono yamanga
kini, ukuhlahlula, ukukhonza izithombe
lenkohliso yezingqondo zabo. ¹⁵Ngakho-
ke, nanku okutshiwo nguJehova
ngabaphrofethi abaphrofetha ngebizo
lami ukuthi: Kangizange ngibathume,
kodwa bona bathi, ‘Akulankemba
kumbe indlala ezathinta ilizwe leli.’
‘Bona labo abaphrofethi bazabhujiswa
ngenkemba langendlala. ¹⁶Abantu
abaphrofetha kubo bazaphoselwa
phandle emigwaqweni yaseJerusalema
ngenxa yendlala lenkemba. Akulamuntu
ozabangcwaba kumbe omkabo,

amadodana abo loba amadodakazi abo.
Ngizabehlisela ingozi ebfaneleyo.

¹⁷ “Khuluma ilizwi leli kubo uthi:

“ ‘Amehlo ami kawehlise izinyembezi
ebusuku lemini zingakhawuki; ngoba
indodakazi yami emsulwa – abantu
bami – ilimele kakhulu, ukugalela
okuchobozayo.

¹⁸ Nxa ngingena elizweni,
ngibona labo ababulawa ngenkamba;
nxa ngingena edolobheni ngibona
umonakalo owenziwa yindlala.
Bobabili umphrofethi lomphristi
sebeye elizweni abangalaziyo.’ ”

¹⁹ UJuda usumlahle kokuphela na?
IZiyoni uyaleyisa na? Usitshayeleni
kangaka size singelapheki na?
Sasilindele ukuthula kodwa
akulabuhle obaba khona, isikhathi
sokwelatshwa
kodwa kulokwesaba kuphela.

²⁰ Awu Jehova, siyakuvuma ukona
kwethu kanye lokona kwabokhokho
bethu; impela sonile kuwe.

²¹ Ngenxa yebizo lakho ungasenyanyi;
ungasigconi isihlalo sakho sobukhosi
esihle kakhulu. Khumbula
isivumelwano sakho lathi
ungasephuli.

²² Zikhona yini izithombe eziyize
zezizwe ezinganisa izulu na?
Imikhathi yona ngokwayo iyalinisa
izulu na?
Hatshi, nguwe, Jehova Nkulunkulu
wethu. Ngakho ithemba lethu
likuwe, ngoba nguwe owenza konke
lokhu.

15 UJehova wasesithi kimi, “Lanxa
uMosi loSamuyeli bengema phambi

kwami, inhliziyo yami ingeke
iphendukele kulababantu. Basuse
phambi kwami! Kabahambe!
² Bangakubuza bathi, ‘Sizakuya ngaphi
na?’ uthi kubo, ‘UJehova uthi:

“ ‘Abamiselwe ukufa, baya ekufeni;
abenkamba, enkembeni;
abendlala, endlaleni;
abokuthunjwa, ekuthunjweni.’ ”

³ Ngizabathumela izinhlobo ezine
zabachithi,” kutsho uJehova,
“inkamba yokubulala lezinja
zokuhudulela khatshana njalo
lezinyoni zasemoyeni kanye
lezinyamazana zeganga ukuba zidle
zibhuqe. ⁴ Ngizabenza banengeke
emibusweni yonke yasemhlabeni
ngenxa yalokho okwenziwa
eJerusalema nguManase indodana
kaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda.

⁵ “Ngubani ozakuba lesihawu kuwe wena
Jerusalema? Ngubani ozakukhalela
na?
Ngubani ozakuma abuze ukuthi
unjani na?

⁶ Ungalile,” kutsho uJehova. Uqhubeka
uhlehlela emuva. Ngakho ngizabeka
izandla phezu kwakho ngikuchithe;
ngingeke ngibe lesihawu futhi.

⁷ Ngizabela ngoluthi lokwela
emasangweni amadolobho elizwe.
Ngizaletha ukufelwa lokuchitheka
ebantwini bami, ngoba kabaguqulanga
izindlela zabo.

⁸ Ngizakwenza abafelokazi babo bande
kakhulu kuletshebetshebe
lasolwandle.

Emini ngizakwehlisela umbulali phezu
kwabonina bamajaha akibo; khonokho
ngizabehlisela usizi lokwesaba.

⁹ Unina wabayisikhombisa uzaqaleka
aphefumule okokucina. Ilanga lakhe

lizatshona kusesemini; uzayangiswa njalo eyiswe. Izinsalela ngizaziqeda ngenkemba phambi kwezitha zazo,” kutsho uJehova.

¹⁰Maye, wena mama, ngokuthi wangizala, mina muntu ilizwe lonke elibangisana laye njalo liphikisana laye! Kangikaze ngebolekise loba ngeboleke, kodwa bonke bayangithuka.

¹¹UJehova wathi,

“Ngeqiniso ngizakukhulula ngenjongo enhle; ngeqiniso ngizakwenza izitha zakho zikuncenge ezikhathini zomonakalo lezokuhlupheka.

¹²“Umuntu angayiqamula insimbi – insimbi evela enyakatho – kumbe ithusi na?

¹³Inotho yakho lamatshe akho aligugu ngizakwenza kube yimpango, yamahala, ngenxa yezono zakho kulo lonke ilizwe lakini.

¹⁴Ngizakwenza ube yisigqili sezitha

zakho elizweni ongalaziyo, ngoba ulaka lwami luzabhebha umlilo ozakutshisa.”

¹⁵Uyazwisisa wena Jehova; ngikhumbula ungikhathalele. Ungiphindiselele kwabangihluphayo. Uyabekezela – ungangigudluli; khumbula ukuthi ngithukwa njani ngenxa yakho.

¹⁶Ekufikeni kwamazwi akho, ngawadla; ayeyintokozo yami lenjabulo yenhliziyo yami, ngoba mina ngibizwa ngebizo lakho, wena Jehova Nkulunkulu Somandla.

¹⁷Kangizange ngihlale enhlanganisweni yabazithokozisayo, kumbe ngijabule labo; ngahlala ngedwa ngoba isandla sakho sasiphezu kwami njalo wawungenze ngagcwala intukuthelo.

¹⁸Kungani ubuhlungu engibuzwayo bungapheli lenxeba lami lilibi kakhulu njalo lingelapheki na? Kimi uzakuba njengesifula esikhohlisayo, lanjengomthombo ongelamanzi na?

¹⁹Ngakho uJehova uthi:

“Ungaphenduka, ngizakubuyisela ukuze ungikhonze; uma ukhuluma amazwi afaneleyo, hatshi angasizi lutho, uzakuba yisikhulumeli sami. Abantu laba kabaphendukele kuwe, kodwa wena akumelanga uphendukele kubo.

²⁰Ngizakwenza ube ngumduli kulababantu, umduli ovikelweyo wethusi; bazakulwa lawe kodwa kabayikukwehlula, ngoba mina ngilawe ukuba ngikuhlenge ngikusize,” kutsho uJehova.

²¹“Ngizakuhlenga ezandleni zababi ngikukhulule ezandleni zabalesihluku.”

Usuku Lwencithakalo

16 Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kimi futhi

lisithi: ²“Ungathathi mfazi ube lamadodana loba amadodakazi kule indawo.” ³Ngoba mayelana lamadodana lamadodakazi azalelwe kulelizwe kanye labesifazana abangonina lamadoda angoyise uJehova uthi: ⁴“Bazakufa bebulawa yimikhuhlane eyesabekayo. Kabayikukhalelwa loba bangcwatshwe, kodwa bazakuba njengezibi emhlabathini. Bazabhubha ngenkemba langendlala, njalo izidumbu

zabo zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zaganga.”

⁵Ngoba nanku akutshoyo uJehova: “Ungangeni endlini elokudla kwesililo; ungayilila kumbe utshengisele uzwelo, ngoba isibusiso sami, lothando lwami kanye lesihawu sami, sengikususile kulababantu,” kutsho uJehova. ⁶“Bonke abaphakemeyo labantukazana bazakufa kulelilizwe. Kabayikungcwatshwa kumbe bakhalelwe, njalo kakho ozazisika kumbe aphuce ikhanda lakhe ngenxa yabo. ⁷Kakho ozabanika ukudla ukuba abaduduze labo abalilela ofileyo – loba kunguyise kumbe unina – kakho lozabanika amanzi ukuba abaduduze. ⁸“Njalo ungangeni endlini eledili ukuba uhlale phansi udle unathe. ⁹Ngoba uJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Phambi kobuso bakho njalo ezinsukwini zakho ngizawuqeda umsindo wentokozo lokuthaba kanye lamazwi abalobokazi labayeni kule indawo.

¹⁰“Lapho abantu laba ubatshela konke lokhu babesebekubuza besithi, ‘Kungani uJehova esemise ukusehlisela inkemenkeme engaka na? Senze bubi bani na? Sono bani esisenze kuJehova uNkulunkulu wethu,’ ¹¹ wena wothi kubo, ‘Kungenxa yokuthi okhokho benu bangifulathela,’ kutsho uJehova, ‘njalo

balandela abanye onkulunkulu babasebenzela, babakhonza. Bangifulathela njalo kabayigcinanga imithetho yami. ¹²Kodwa lina selenze okubi kakhulu kulabokhokho benu. Khangelani ukuthi lowo lalowo wenu uyilandela njani inkani yenhliziyo yakhe embi esikhundleni sokuthi angilalele. ¹³Ngakho ngizalilahlela ngaphandle kwalelilizwe elizweni lina loba oyihlo abangazange balazi, lapho elizakhonza khona abanye onkulunkulu emini

lebusuku, ngoba angiyikuba lomusa kini.’

¹⁴UJehova uthi, “Kodwa izinsuku ziyeza lapho abantu bengayikuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi uJehova ukhona, yena owakhupha abako-Israyeli eGibhithe,’ ¹⁵kodwa bazakuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi uJehova ukhona, yena owakhupha abako-Israyeli elizweni lasenyakatho lakuwo wonke amazwe ayebaxotshela kuwo.’ Ngoba ngizababuyisela elizweni engalinika okhokho babo.

¹⁶UJehova uthi, “Kodwa khathesi ngizathumela abagoli benhlanzi abanengi, bazababamba. Emva kwalokho ngizathumela abazingeli abanengi, bazabazingela ezintabeni zonke lasemaqaneni wonke njalo lasezingoxweni zamadwala.

¹⁷Amehlo ami akuzo zonke izindlela zabo; kabafihlakalanga kimi, lesono sabo kasiwacatshelanga amehlo ami.

¹⁸Ngizaphindisela ngokuphindiweyo ububi babo lesono sabo, ngoba bangcolise ilizwe lami ngezinto ezingaphiliyo zezifanekiso zabo ezingamanyala, bagcwalisa lelifa lami ngezithombe zabo ezinengekayo.”

¹⁹Awu Jehova, mandla ami lenqaba yami, siphephelo sami ngesikhathi sokuhlupheka, izizwe zizakuza kuwe zivela emikhawulweni yomhlaba zithi, “Okhokho babengelalutho kodwa onkulunkulu bamanga, izithombe eziyize ezingabasizanga ngalutho.

²⁰Kambe abantu bayazenzela onkulunkulu babo na? Ye, kodwa kayisibo onkulunkulu!”

²¹“Ngakho ngizabafundisa – khathesi ngizabafundisa amandla ami lobukhulu bami. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi ibizo lami nguJehova.

17 “Isono sikaJuda sidwetshe
ngensimbi, sabhalwa ngomcijo welitshe
lomlilo,
ezicecedwini zezinhliziyi zabo
lasezimpondweni zama-alithare abo.

² Labantwababo bayawakhumbula
ama-alithare abo lezinsuku zika-
Ashera phansi kwezihlahla eziluhlaza
laphezu kwamaqaqa aphakemeyo.

³ Intaba yami eselizweni
lenotho yenu kanye lemfuyo yenu
yonke ngizakunikela kube yimpango,
ndawonye lezindawo zenu
eziphakemeyo, ngenxa yokona kulo
lonke ilizwe lenu.

⁴ Ngenxa yezici zenu lizalahlekelwa
yilifa engalinika lona. Ngizalenza libe
yizigqili zezitha zenu elizweni
elingalaziyo, ngoba livuse ulaka
lwami,
njalo luzavutha kuze kube nininini.”

⁵ UJehova uthi:

“Uqalekisiwe lowo othemba umuntu,
othembe ukuthi amandla akhe
asenyameni, onhliziyi yakhe
ihlamukela uJehova.

⁶ Uzakuba njengesihlahlanyana
enkangala; ukuphumelela
kayikukubona ekufikeni kwakho.
Uzahlala ezindaweni ezomileyo
enkangala, elizweni letswayi
elingahlali muntu.

⁷ “Kodwa ubusisiwe umuntu othemba
uJehova, othemba lakhe likuye.

⁸ Uzakuba njengesihlahla esihlanyelwe
eduze lamanzi esinabisela impande
zaso esifuleni. Kasesabi lapho
ukutshisa kufika;
kasikhathazeki ngomnyaka wokoma
kasiphuthi ukuthela izithelo.”

⁹ Inhliziyi iyakhohlisa okudlula izinto
zonke njalo imbi kakhulu.
Ngubani ongayizwisisa na?

¹⁰ “Mina Jehova ngiyayihlola inhliziyi
ngihlole lengqondo, ukuba umuntu
ngimnike okufanele ukwenza kwakhe
mayelana lalokho okufanele izenzo
zakhe.”

¹¹ Umuntu ozusa inotho ngezindlela
unjengesikhwehle esichamusela
amaqanda
esingawaqandelanga. Lapho ingxenywe
yokuphila kwakhe isidlule, izaphela,
kuthi ekucineni abonakale eyisithutha.

¹² Isihlalo sobukhosi, esikhazimulayo
esaphakanyiswayo kusukela
ekuqaleni,
siyindawo yethu yokuphephela.

¹³ Awu Jehova, themba lika-Israyeli,
bonke abakudelayo bazayangiswa.
Labo abakuhlamukelayo bazabhalwa
othulini ngoba bedele uJehova,
umthombo wamanzi okuphila.

¹⁴ Ngisilisa, Jehova, njalo ngizasiliswa;
ungikhulule, ngizakhululeka, ngoba
nguwe engimdumisayo.

¹⁵ Bahlala besithi kimi,
“Lingaphi ilizwi likaJehova na?
Kaligcwaliseke khathesi!”

¹⁶ Angibalekanga ekubeni ngumelusi
wenu; liyakwazi ukuthi angilufisanga
usuku lokuphela ithemba. Okudlula
endebeni zami kusobala kini.

¹⁷ Ungabi ngowesabekayo kimi;
uyisiphephelo sami ngosuku
lokuhlupheka.

¹⁸ Abangihluphayo kabayangiswe,
kodwa mina ungivikele ehlazweni;
kababe lokwesaba, kodwa mina
ungivikele ekwesabeni. Balethele
usuku lobubi. Ubabhubhise
ngokuqothula okuphindiweyo.

Ukugcina ISabatha Lingcwele

¹⁹UJehova wathi kimi: “Hamba uyekuma esangweni labantu, amakhosi akoJuda angena ngalo njalo aphume ngalo; ume futhi lakuwo wonke amanye amasango aseJerusalema. ²⁰Uthi kubo, ‘Zwanini ilizwi likaJehova, lina makhosi akoJuda labo bonke abantu abahlala koJuda kanye labantu bonke abahlala eJerusalema abangena ngala amasango. ²¹UJehova uthi: Qaphelani lingathwali mthwalo ngosuku lweSabatha loba liwungenise ngamasango aseJerusalema. ²²Lingaphumisi mthwalo ezindlini zenu kumbe lenze loba yiwuphi umsebenzi ngosuku lweSabatha, kodwa ligcine iSabatha lingcwele, njengokulaya kwami okhokho benu. ²³Kodwa kabalalelanga loba banake; izintamo zabo zazilukhuni njalo kabalalelanga kumbe bamukele ukulaywa. ²⁴UJehova uthi: Kodwa uma liqaphele ukungilalela, lingangenisi mthwalo ngamasanga edolobho leli ngeSabatha, kodwa ligcina usuku lweSabatha lungcwele ngokungenzi msebenzi ngalo, ²⁵lapho-ke amakhosi ahlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida azangena lezikhulu zawo ngamasango edolobho leli. Wona lezikhulu zawo bazafika begade izinqola zempi lamabhiza, belabantu bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalema; bahlale kulo idolobho kuze kube nininini. ²⁶Abantu bazakuza bevela emadolobheni akoJuda lasemizini egqagqele iJerusalema, bevela elizweni lakoBhenjamini lasezintatshaneni zangasentshonalanga, bevela elizweni lamaqaqa laseNegebi, beletha iminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, iminikelo yamabele, impepha kanye leminikelo yokubonga endlini kaJehova. ²⁷Kodwa uma lingangilaleli ekuthini ligcine usuku lweSabatha lungcwele ngokungathwali

mthwalo lapho lingena ngamasango aseJerusalema ngosuku lweSabatha, lapho-ke ngizaphemba umlilo ongacitshekiyo emasangweni eJerusalema ozaqothula izinqaba zalo.’ ”

Endlini Yombumbi

18 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya

livela kuJehova lisithi: ²“Suka wehlele endlini yombumbi, lapho engizakutshelela khona ilizwi lami.” ³Ngakho ngehlela endlini yombumbi, ngambona esebenza ngevili. ⁴Kodwa imbiza ayeyibumba ngebumba yonakala ezandleni zakhe; ngakho umbumbi wayenza yaba ngenye imbiza, ngendlela ayibona ingcono kuye.

⁵Ilizwi likaJehova laselifika kimi lisithi; ⁶“Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, ngingeze ngenza kuwe njengokwenziwa ngumbumbi lo na?” kutsho uJehova. “Njengebumba esandleni sombumbi lawe unjalo esandleni sami, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli. ⁷Uma ngimemezela langasiphi isikhathi ukuthi isizwe loba umbuso uzasuswa udilizwe, uchithwe, ⁸kuthi isizwe lesi engisixwayisileyo siphenduke ebubini baso, ngizaxola ngingabe ngisasehlisela ebesengimise ukusehlisela khona. ⁹Njalo uma ngesinye isikhathi ngimemezela ukuthi isizwe kumbe umbuso ngizawakha ngiwumise, ¹⁰ube ususenza ububi emehlweni ami njalo ungangilaleli, ngizacabanga kutsha ngokuhle ebesengicebe ukukwenzela khona.

¹¹“Ngakho khatesi tshela abantu bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalema uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguJehova: Khangelani! Ngilungisela ukulehlisela umonakalo njalo ngibumba lecebo ngani. Ngakho phendukani ezindleleni zenu ezimbi, omunye lomunye wenu,

lilungise izindlela zenu lezenzo zenu.’

¹² Kodwa bazaphendula bathi, ‘Akusizi lutho. Sizaqhubeka ngamacebo ethu; lowo lalowo wethu uzalandela ubulukhuni benhliziyo yakhe embi.’ ”

¹³ Ngakho uJehova uthi:

“Buzani phakathi kwezizwe ukuthi:

Ngubani owake wezwa okunjengalokhu na? Into eyesabekayo kakhulu yenziwe yintombi emsulwa u-Israyeli.

¹⁴ Ungqwaqwane waseLebhanoni uyake unyamalale emithezukweni yayo elamatshe na?

Amanzi akhona aqandayo avela kude ayake eme ukugeleza na?

¹⁵ Kodwa abantu bami sebengikhohliwe; batshisela izithombe eziyize impepha, ezabenza bakhubeka ezindleleni zabo lasemikhondweni yasendulo.

Zabenza bahamba ngezindledlana zeganga lasemigwaqweni engalungiswanga.

¹⁶ Ilizwe labo lizatshabalaliswa, into yokuhlekwa usulu; bonke abadlula khona bazakwethuka banikine amakhanda abo.

¹⁷ Njengomoya ovela empumalanga, ngizabahlakaza phambi kwezitha zabo; ngizabafulathela ngibancitshe ubuso bami ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwabo.”

¹⁸ Bona bathi, “Wozani sicebe amacebo amabi ngoJeremiya; ngoba ukufundisa kwabaphristi umthetho akusoze kuphutha, kumbe ukweluleka kwezihlakaniphi, loba ilizwi elivela kubaphrofethi. Ngakho wozani, simhlasele ngemilomo yethu singananzi lutho alutshoyo.”

¹⁹ Ake ungizwe, awu Jehova; ulalele okutshiwo yizitha zami!

²⁰ Okuhle kuphindiselwa ngokubi na?

Ikanti sebengimbele igodi.

Khumbula ukuba ngema phambi kwakho ngabakhulumela ukuba ususe ulaka lwakho kubo.

²¹ Ngakho-ke abantwababo banikele endlaleni; ubaqhubele emandleni enkemba. Abafazi babo kabangabi labantwana njalo babe ngabafelokazi; amadoda abo kawabulawe, amajaha akhona abulawe ngenkemba empini.

²² Kakuzwakale ukukhala ezindlini zabo, lapho usulethe abahlaseli ukuba babajume, ngoba sebegebhe igodi ukuba bangithumbe njalo bathiya izinyawo zami ngemijibila.

²³ Kodwa uyawazi, wena Jehova, wonke amaqhinga abo okungibulala. Ungabathetheleli amacala abo loba ucitshe izono zabo phambi kobuso bakho. Kabachithwe phambi kwakho; bahlasele ngesikhathi sokuthukuthela kwakho.

19 Lokhu yikho akutshoyo uJehova:

“Hamba uyethenga udiwo kumbumbi wezimbiza. Thatha abanye abadala babantu labanye babaphristi ² uhambe labo esigodini seBheni Hinomi, eduze lentuba yeSango loDengezi. Umemezele amazwi engikutshela wona, ³ uthi, ‘Zwanini ilizwi likaJehova, lina makhosi akoJuda lani bantu abahlala eJerusalema. UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Lalelani! Ngizaletha umonakalo kule indawo ozabanda izindlebe zomuntu wonke owazwayo. ⁴ Ngoba bangidelile kwathi indawo le bayenza eyabonkulunkulu bezizweni; kuyo batshisele imihlatshelo onkulunkulu abangabaziyo, bona

labokhokho babo kanye lamakhosi akoJuda, njalo indawo le sebayigcwalisa igazi labantu abangelacala. ⁵Sebakhele uBhali izindawo eziphakemeyo ukuba batshise amadodana abo emlilweni njengeminikelo kuBhali – into engingazange ngibalaye kumbe ngitsho ukuthi bayenze, kumbe ukuthi ike ifike engqondweni yami. ⁶Ngakho qaphelani, izinsuku ziyeza, kutsho uJehova, lapho abantu bengayikubiza indawo le ngokuthi Thofethi loba iSigodi seBheni Hinomi kodwa iSigodi sokuBulala. ⁷“Kuyonale indawo ngizawachitha amacebo kaJuda laweJeruselema. Ngizabenza bafe ngenkamba phambi kwezitha zabo, lasezandleni zalabo abafuna ukubabulala, njalo ngizanikela izidumbu zabo, ukuba zibe yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga. ⁸Idolobho leli ngizalichitha ngilenze libe yinto yokweyiswa; bonke abadlula khona bazakwesaba njalo baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba alo wonke. ⁹Ngizabenza badle inyama yamadodana abo leyamadodakazi abo, njalo labo bazadlana inyama ngesikhathi esinzima sokuvinjazelwa kwabo yizitha ezifuna ukubabulala.” ¹⁰“Emva kwalokho bulala udiwo labo abahamba lawe bekhangele, ¹¹ubususithi kubo, ‘UJehova uSomandla uthi: Ngizasiphahlaza isizwe lesi kanye ledolobho leli njengokuphahlazwa kodiwo lombumbi lolu olungeke lulungiswe futhi. Abafuleyo bazabangcwaba eThofethi kuze

kusweleke indawo. ¹²Lokhu yikho engizakwenza kule indawo lakulabo abahlala lapha, kutsho uJehova. Idolobho leli ngizalenza lifanane leThofethi. ¹³Izindlu zaseJeruselema kanye lezamaxhosi akoJuda zizangcoliswa njengale indawo, iThofethi – zonke izindlu lapho

abazatshisela khona impepha phezu kwezimpahla kuwo wonke amaxuku ezinkanyezi, bathelela abanye onkulunkulu umnikelo wokunathwayo.’ ”

¹⁴UJeremiya wabuya evela eThofethi, lapho uJehova ayemthume ukuyatshumayela khona, wasesima egumeni lethempeli likaJehova wathi ebantwini bonke, ¹⁵“UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘Lalelani! Ngizakwehlisela kulelidolobho lasemizini elizungezileyo wonke umonakalo engawutshoyo, ngoba izintamo zabo zilukhuni njalo bayala ukulalela amazwi ami.’ ”

UJeremiya LoPhashuri

20 Kwathi uPhashuri umphristi indodana ka-Imeri, induna enkulu ethempelini likaJehova, ezwe uJeremiya ephrofetha lezizinto, ²wenza ukuthi uJeremiya umphrofethi atshaywe njalo wamvalela esitokisini eSangweni laPhezulu koBhenjamini ethempelini likaJehova. ³Ngosuku olwalandelayo, uPhashuri esemkhupha esitokisini, uJeremiya wathi kuye, “Ibizo lakho oliphiwe nguJehova akusuPhashuri, kodwa uMagori-Misabibi, ⁴ngoba uJehova uthi: ‘Ngizakwenza wesabeke kuwe lakubo bonke abangane bakho; uzababona ngamehlo akho besiwa ngenkamba yezitha zabo. UJuda wonke ngizamnikela enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, ezabathumba ibase eBhabhiloni loba ibabulale ngenkamba. ⁵Yonke inotho yedolobho leli ngizayipha izitha zabo – zonke izithelo zalo, zonke izinto zalo eziligugu kanye lemfuyo yonke yamakhosi akoJuda zizayithumba njengempango ziyithwalele eBhabhiloni.

⁶Wena Phashuri, labo bonke abahlala
endlini yakho lizathunjwa liye
eBhabhiloni. Uzafela khonale,
ungcwatshwe khonale, wena kanye
labangane bakho bonke ophrofetha
amanga kubo.’ ”

Insolo KaJeremiya

⁷Awu Jehova, wangiyenga, ngayengeka;
wangehlula wanqoba.

Ngiyahlekwa izinsuku zonke; bonke
bayangiklolodela.

⁸Zonke izikhathi lapho ngikhuluma,
ngiyakhala ngimemezela ukuba kube
lodlakela lokuchitheka.

Ngakho ilizwi likaJehova
selingilethele isithuko lensolo ilanga
lonke.

⁹Kodwa nxa ngisithi,

“Kangiyikumqamba
loba ngikhulume ngebizo lakhe futhi,”
ilizwi lakhe lisenhliziyweni yami
njengomlilo, umlilo ovaelwe
emathanjeni ami. Sengidiniwe
ngokuligodla ngaphakathi;
impela, ngingeke nganelise.

¹⁰Ngizwa abanengi benyenyeza besithi,
“Kulokuthuthumela indawo yonke!
Mmangaleleni! Kasimmangalele!”
Abangane bami bonke balindele
ukuwa kwami, besithi, “Mhlawumbe
uzayangeka; lapho-ke sizamehlula
siphindisele kuye.”

¹¹Kodwa uJehova ulami njengebutho
elilamandla; ngakho abangihluphayo
bazakuwa banganqobi.

Bazakwehluleka njalo bayangeke
kakhulu; ihlazo labo
kaliyikukhohlakala lanini.

¹²Awu Jehova Somandla, wena
obahlolayo abalungileyo, uhlole
inhliziyi lengqondo, kangibone
ukuphindisela kwakho kubo,
ngoba indaba yami ngiyinikele kuwe.

¹³Hlabelani kuJehova! Dumisani
uJehova! Uhlenga impilo
yabaswelayo ezandleni zababi.

¹⁴Kaluqalekiswe usuku engazalwa
ngalo! Usuku umama angizala ngalo
kalungabusiwa!

¹⁵Kaqalekiswe umuntu owayabikela
ubaba izindaba, owamemeza
wathaba, esithi, “Uzalelwe umntwana
– yindodana!”

¹⁶Lowomuntu kabe njengamadolobho
uJehova awachitha kungekho sihawu.
Kezwe ukulila ekuseni, lomkhosi
wempi emini.

¹⁷Ngoba kangibulalelanga esiswini,
umama enjengengcwaba lami,
isisu sakhe sikhukhumele kokuphela.

¹⁸Ngaphumelani esiswini ukuba ngibone
uhlupho losizi njalo akuthi ngiphethe
izinsuku
zami ngiphakathi kwehlazo?

*UNkulunkulu Uyasala Isicelo
SikaZedekhiya*

21 Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela
kuJehova lapho uZedekhiya inkosi
wayemthume kuPhashuri indodana
kaMalikhiya lomphristi uZefaniya
indodana kaMaseyiya. Bathi:

²“Ake usibuzele kuJehova khathesi nje
ngoba uNebhukhadinezari inkosi
yaseBhabhiloni uyasihlasela.
Mhlawumbe uJehova angasenzela
izimanga njengasezikhathini ezedlulayo
ukuze asuke kithi.”

³Kodwa uJeremiya wathi kubo,
“Tshelani uZedekhiya lithi: ⁴‘UJehova,
uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi:
Sekuseduze ukuthi ngiziphendulele
kuwe izikhali zempi ezisezandleni
zakho, ozisebenzisayo ekulweni lenkosi
yaseBhabhiloni lAmaKhaledi

angaphandle komduli ekuvimbezele.
 Njalo ngizawaqoqa phakathi
 kwalelidolobho. ⁵Mina uqobo
 ngizakulwa lawe ngesandla eseluliweyo
 langengalo elamandla ngentukuthelo
 langokufuthelana kanye lolaka olukhulu.
⁶Ngizabatshaya abahlala kulelidolobho,
 abantu lezifuyo – njalo bazabulawa
 yisifo esesabekayo. ⁷Emva kwalokho,
 kutsho uJehova, uZedekhiya inkosi
 yakoJuda, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labantu
 bakulelidolobho abaphepha
 emkhuhlaneni, enkembeni lasendlaleni,
 ngizabanikela kuNebhukhadinezari
 inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lasezitheni zabo
 ezifuna ukubabulala. Uzababulala
 ngenkamba; kayikuba lomusa kumbe
 uzwelo loba isihawu.’

⁸“Phezu kwalokho, abantu batshele uthi,
 ‘UJehova uthi: Khangelani,
 ngiyalimisela phambi kwenu indlela
 yokuphila lendlela yokufa. ⁹Loba
 ngubani osala kulelidolobho uzabulawa
 ngenkamba, yindlela loba
 ngumkhuhlane. Kodwa loba ngubani
 ophumayo kulo ayezinkela
 kumaKhaledi alivimbezeleleyo uzasila,
 aphunyuke lokuphila kwakhe.

¹⁰Sengiqonde ukwenza okubi
 kulelidolobho hatshi okuhle, kutsho
 uJehova. Lizanikelwa ezandleni zenkosi
 yaseBhabhiloni, ezalitshabalalisa
 ngomlilo.’

¹¹“Phezu kwalokho, uthi kumdlunkulu
 wakoJuda, ‘Zwanini ilizwi likaJehova;

¹²lina abendlu kaDavida, UJehova uthi:

“ ‘Yenzani ukulunga izinsuku zonke
 ekuseni; mhlengeni esandleni
 somcindezeli wakhe lowo
 ophangiweyo,

hlezi ulaka lwami luqubuke lutshise
 njengomlilo ngenxa yobubi
 elibenzileyo – lutshise engekho

ongalucitsha.

¹³Ngimelane lawe, Jerusalema wena
 ohlala ngaphezu kwalesisigodi
 emagcekeni alamadwala, kutsho
 uJehova – lina elithi, “Ngubani
 ongazasihlasela na? Ngubani
 ongangena esiphephelweni sethu
 na?”

¹⁴Ngizalijezisa njengokufanele izono
 zenu, kutsho uJehova. Ngizaphemba
 umlilo emahlathini enu ozalobisa
 konke okuseduze lani.’ ”

*Ukwahlulelwa Kwamakhosi
 Angalunganga*

22 Nanku akutshoyo uJehova:

“Hamba wehlele endlini yenkosi
 yakoJuda umemezele khona ilizwi leli
 uthi, ²‘Zwana ilizwi likaJehova, we
 nkosi yakoJuda, wena ohlala esihlalweni
 sobukhosi sikaDavida – wena, izikhulu
 zakho kanye labantu bakho abangena
 ngamasango la. ³UJehova uthi: Yenzani
 okulungileyo lokuqondileyo. Mhlenge
 esandleni somcindezeli wakhe lowo
 ophangiweyo. Lingenzi okubi loba
 udlakela koweziwini, intandane loba
 umfelokazi, njalo lingachithi igazi
 elingelacala kule indawo. ⁴Ngoba uma
 linanzelela ukulandela imilayo le,
 amakhosi ahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi
 sikaDavida azangena ngamasango ale
 indawo, egade izinqola zempi
 lamabhiza, elezikhulu zawo kanye
 labantu bawo. ⁵Kodwa uma imilayo le
 lingayilaleli, kutsho uJehova, ngifunga
 ngami ukuthi indawo le izakuba
 lunxiwa.’ ”

⁶Ngoba mayelana lendawo yenkosi
 yakoJuda uJehova uthi:

“Lanxa unjengeGileyadi kimi,
 lanjengengqongo yeLebhanoni,

ngeqiniso ngizakwenza ufane
lenkangala, lanjengamadolobho
angahlali muntu.

⁷Ngizakuthumela abachithi, indoda
nganye ilezikhali zayo, njalo bazaquma
imijabo yenu emihle yemisedari
bayiphosele emlilweni.

⁸“Abantu abavela ezizweni ezinengi
bazadlula kulelidolobho babuzane
besithi, ‘Kungani uJehova enze into enje
kulelidolobho elikhulu na?’ ⁹Impendulo
izakuthi: ‘Ngoba basidelile
isivumelwano sikaJehova uNkulunkulu
wabo bakhonza abanye onkulunkulu
njalo babasebenzela.’”

¹⁰Lingayikhaleli inkosi efileyo
loba lililele ukulilahlekela kwayo;
kodwa, khalelani kakhulu
othunjiweyo,
ngoba kasayikubuya njalo loba abone
ilizwe lakibo futhi.

¹¹Ngoba mayelana loShalumi indodana
kaJosiya, owangena esikhundleni
sikayise esiba yinkosi yakoJuda kodwa
osesukile kule indawo: uJehova uthi,
“Kasoze abuye futhi. ¹²Uzafela
kuleyondawo asiwa kuyo ethunjiwe;
ilizwe leli kasoze alibone futhi.”

¹³“Maye kuye owakha indlu yakhe
yobukhosi ngokungalungi,
lezindlu zakhe zangaphezulu
ngokungafanelanga, esenza abantu
bakibo basebenzele ize,
engabahlisi lutho ngokusebenza
kwabo.

¹⁴Uthi, ‘Ngizazakhela indlu enkulu
yobukhosi elezindlu zangaphezulu
ezibanzi.’ Ngakho uyenza ibe
lamawindi amakhulu, ayinameke

imisedari ayicombe ngokubomvu.

¹⁵“Ukuba lemisedari eminenginengi

kukwenza ube yinkosi na? Uyihlo
kazange abe lokudla lokunathwayo na?
Wenza okuqondileyo lokulungileyo,
ngakho konke kwamlungela.

¹⁶Wavikela amalungelo abayanga
labaswelayo, ngakho konke
kwamlungela. Lokho akusikho
okutsho ukungazi na?” kutsho
uJehova.

¹⁷“Kodwa amehlo akho lenhliziyo yakho
kukhangele inzuzo yenkohliso,
lokuchitha igazi elingelacala,
ukucindezela kanye lodlakela.”

¹⁸Ngakho mayelana loUJehoyakhimi
indodana kaJosiya, inkosi yakoJuda,

UJehova uthi:

“Kabayikumkhalela besithi:
‘Maye ngomfowethu! Maye

ngodadewethu!’ Kabayikumkhalela
besithi:

‘Maye ngenkosi yami! Maye
ngobuhle bayo obukhulu!’”

¹⁹Uzangcwatshwa njengobabhemi –
ahudulwe aphoselwe ngaphandle
kwamasango aseJerusalema.”

²⁰“Qansa uye eLebhanoni umemeze,
wenze ilizwi lakho lizwakale
eBhashani;
memeza use-Abharimi, ngoba bonke
abamanyane lawe banqotshiwe.

²¹Ngakuxwayisa uzibona uvikelekile,
kodwa wena wathi, ‘Angiyikulalela!’
Le ibe iyindlela yakho kusukela
ebutsheni bakho; kawungilalelanga.

²²Umoya uzabaxotshela khatshana
bonke abelusi bakho, labamanyene
lawe bazathunjwa. Lapho-ke
uzayangeka ube lenhloni ngenxa

yobubi bakho bonke.

²³Lina abahlala eLebhanoni,
eligcineke kuhle ezindlini zemisedari,
izabubula kakhulu lapho izinhlungu
zilehlela, ubuhlungu
obunjengowesifazana ehelelwa!

²⁴“Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona,”
kutsho uJehova, “lanxa ngabe wena,
Jehoyakhini ndodana kaUJehoyakhimi
inkosi yakoJuda, wawuyindandatho
ebukekayo esandleni sami sokunene,
ngangizakukhupha. ²⁵Ngizakunikela
kulabo abafuna ukukubulala, labo
obesabayo – kuNebhukhadinezari inkosi
yaseBhabhiloni lakumaKhaledi. ²⁶Wena
kanye lonyoko owakuzalayo
ngizaliphosela kwelinye ilizwe, lapho
elingazalelwanga khona, lapho elizafela
khona bubili benu. ²⁷Kaliyikuphinda
libuye elizweni elifisa ukuza kulo.”

²⁸Umuntu lo, uJehoyakhini, uyimbiza
efileyo, edelelwayo, into engafunwa
muntu na? Kungani yena
labantwabakhe bezaphoselwa
ngaphandle, balahlelwe elizweni
abangalaziyo na?

²⁹Wena lizwe, lizwe, lizwe, zwana
ilizwi likaJehova!

³⁰UJehova uthi:
“Bhalani umuntu lo
njengongelabantwana, umuntu
ongayikuphumelela empilweni
yakhe, ngoba kakho owenzalo yakhe
ozaphumelela, kakho ozahlala
esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida
loba abuse futhi koJuda.”

Ugatsha Olulungileyo

23 “Maye kubelusi abachitha izimvu
zedlelo lami njalo bezihlakaza!” kutsho
uJehova. ²Ngakho uJehova,
uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi kubelusi

abelusa abantu bami: “Ngenxa yokuthi
lina lihlakaze umhlambi wami
lawuxotshela khatshana kalaze
lawunaka, ngizakwehlisela isijeziso
phezu kwenu ngenxa yobubi
elibenzileyo,” kutsho uJehova. ³“Mina
ngokwami ngizabutha insalela zezimvu
zami emazweni wonke
engangizixotshela kuwo ngazibuyisele
edlelweni lazo, lapho ezizazalana khona
zande. ⁴Ngizazilethela abelusi
abazazelusa, njalo kazisayikwesaba loba
zithuthumele, loba enye yazo ilahleke,”
kutsho uJehova.

⁵“Izinsuku ziyeza,” kutsho uJehova,
lapho uDavida ngizamvusele uGatsha
olulungileyo, iNkosi ezabusa
ngokuhlakanipha, yenze
okulungileyo, lokufaneleyo elizweni.
⁶Ezinsukwini zayo uJuda uzakhululwa,
lo-Israyeli ahlale evikelekile. Ibizwa
azabizwa ngalo yileli elithi:
UJehova Oyikulunga Kwethu.

⁷“Ngakho-ke, izinsuku ziyeza,” kutsho
uJehova, “lapho abantu bengasayikuthi,
‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uJehova ekhona,
yena owakhupha u-Israyeli eGibhithe,
⁸kodwa bazakuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso
elinjengoba uJehova ekhona, yena
owakhipha izizukulwana zika-Israyeli
elizweni elisenyakatho lakuwo wonke
amazwe abaxotshela kuwo.’ Lapho-ke
bazahlala elizweni labo.”

Abaphrofethi Abaqamba Amanga

⁹Mayelana labaphrofethi:
Inhliziyo yami idabukile ngaphakathi
kwami; wonke amathambo ami
ayaqhaqhazela. Ngifana lomuntu
odakiweyo, lanjengomuntu owehlulwa
liwayini, ngenxa kaJehova lamazwi
akhe angcwele.

¹⁰Ilizwe leli ligcwele izifebe;
ngenxa yesiqalekiso ilizwe lomile

lamadlelo enkangala abunile.

Abaphrofethi balandela indlela embi,
basebenzisa amandla abo
ngokungalungi.

¹¹ Umphrofethi lomphristi kabakholwa
kuNkulunkulu; lasethempelini lami
ngiyabufumana ububi babo,” kutsho
uJehova.

¹² “Ngakho indlela yabo izatshelela;
bazaxotshelwa emnyameni njalo
lapho bazakuwa. Ngizabehlisela
umonakalo ngomnyaka wokujeziswa
kwabo,” kutsho uJehova.

¹³ “Phakathi kwabaphrofethi
baseSamariya ngabona into
eyenyanyekayo:

Baphrofetha ngoBhali
njalo baholela abantu bami
ekulahlekeni.

¹⁴ Lakubaphrofethi baseJerusalema
sengibone into eyesabekayo:
Bayafeba baphile ngamanga.
Baqinisa izandla zabenza okubi,
ukuba kungabi khona oguquka ebubini
bakhe. Kimi bonke
banjengeSodoma;
abantu baseJerusalema
banjengeGomora.”

¹⁵ Ngakho, mayelana labaphrofethi
uJehova uSomandla uthi:

“Ngizabenza badle ukudla okubabayo,
banathe lamanzi aletshefu,
ngoba kusukela kubaphrofethi
baseJerusalema ukungakholwa
kuNkulunkulu sekugcwele ilizwe
lonke.”

¹⁶ UJehova uSomandla uthi:

“Lingalaleli okuphrofethwa
ngabaphrofethi kini; balenza lithembe
amanga. Bakhuluma imibono evela
ezingqondweni zabo, engaveli

emlonyeni kaJehova.

¹⁷ Bahlala besithi kulabo abangidelelayo,
‘UJehova uthi: Lizakuba lokuthula.’
Lakubo bonke abalandela inkani
yezinhliziyi zabo bathi, ‘Akulabubi
obuzalehlela.’

¹⁸ Kodwa nguwuphi wabo owake wema
emhlanganweni kaJehova ukuba
abone kumbe ezwe ilizwi lakhe na?

¹⁹ Khangelani, isiphepho sikaJehova
sizaphutsha silulaka, isivunguzane
esibhoda ngolaka phezu kwamakhanda
ababi.

²⁰ Ulaka lukaJehova kaluyikuphela
aze azifeze ngokupheleleyo izinjongo
zenhliziyi yakhe. Ezinsukwini ezizayo
lizakuzwisisa kuhle lokhu.

²¹ Abaphrofethi laba angibathumanga;
kodwa bagijima lemibiko yabo;
kangizange ngikhulume labo, kodwa
sebephrofethile.

²² Kodwa aluba babekhona
emhlanganweni wami, ngabe
bamemezela amazwi ami ebantwini
bami njalo ngabe babaphendula
ezindleleni zabo ezimbi
lasezenzweni zabo ezimbi.

²³ “NginguNkulunkulu oseduze kuphela,”
kutsho uJehova “uNkulunkulu
ongekho khatshana na?

²⁴ Umuntu angacatsha endaweni
efihlakeleyo ukuba ngingamboni na?”
kutsho uJehova.

“Angithi ngigcwele ezulwini
lasemhlabeni na?” kutsho uJehova.

²⁵ “Ngikuzwile okutshiwo
ngabaphrofethi abaphrofetha amanga
ngebizo lami. Bathi, ‘Ngiphuphile!
Ngiphuphile!’ ²⁶ Koze kube nini lokhu
kuqhubeka ezinhliziyweni zalaba
abaphrofethi abalamanga na?

²⁷ Bacabanga ukuthi amaphupho
abawatshelelanayo azakwenza abantu
bami bakhohlwe ibizo lami,

njengabokhokho babo abakhohlwa ibizo lami ngenxa yokukhonza uBhali.
²⁸ Akuthi umphrofethi ophupha iphupho kalitsho, kodwa lowo olezizwi lami kalikhulume ngobuqotho, ngoba amakhoba angenzani lamabele na?" kutsho uJehova. ²⁹ "Ilizwi lami kalinjengomlilo," kutsho uJehova, "lanjengesando esidabula idwala libe yizicucu na?"
³⁰ "Ngakho," kutsho uJehova, "ngimelana labaphrofethi abantshontsha kwabanye amazwi okuthiwa avela kimi. ³¹ Ye," kutsho uJehova, "ngimelana labaphrofethi abasebenzisa indimi zabo kodwa bathi, 'UJehova uthi,' ³² Ngeqiniso, ngimelana lalabo abaphrofetha amaphupho amanga," kutsho uJehova. "Bayawatsho baholele abantu bami ekulahlekeni ngamanga abo lamawala, ikanti angizange ngibathume kumbe ngibakhethe. Kababasizi ngalutho abantu laba," kutsho uJehova.

Amazilo Amanga Labaphrofethi Bamanga

³³ "Nxa abantu laba, loba umphrofethi kumbe umphristi, bebuza besithi, 'Izilo likaJehova kuyini?'" wothi kubo, 'Izilo liphi? Ngizakulahla, kutsho uJehova.'
³⁴ Uma umphrofethi loba umphristi kumbe omunye umuntu esithi, 'Leli lizilo likaJehova,' lowomuntu ngizamjezisa kanye labendlu yakhe.
³⁵ Lokhu yikho omunye wenu ohlala ekutsho kumngane wakhe loba isihlobo sakhe ukuthi: 'Ipendulo kaJehova ithini na?' loba 'uJehova utheni?'
³⁶ Kodwa akumelanga lithi 'izilo likaJehova' futhi, ngoba umuntu wonke

ilizwi lakhe liba lizilo lakhe ngoba liyawahlanekela amazwi kaNkulunkulu ophilayo, uJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu wethu. ³⁷ Lokhu yikho

elihlala likutsho kumphrofethi ukuthi, 'Ipendulo kaJehova kuwe ithini?' loba 'UJehova utheni?' ³⁸ lanxa lina lisithi, 'Leli lizilo likaJehova,' uJehova uthi: Lasebenzisa amazwi athi, 'Leli lizilo likaJehova.' Lanxa mina ngalitshela ukuthi lingabokuthi, 'leli lizilo likaJehova.' ³⁹ Ngakho, ngeqiniso ngizalikhohlwa ngiliphosele khatshana lami kanye ledolobho engalinika lona lina labokhokho benu. ⁴⁰ Ngizalehlisela ihlazo elingapheliyo – lokuyangeka okungayikukhohlakala.

Izitsha Ezimbili Zomkhiwa

24 Emva kokuba uJehoyakhini indodana kaUJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda lezikhulu, izingcitshi kanye lezisebenzi zakoJuda sebethunjwe eJerusalema basiwa eBhabhiloni nguNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, uJehova wangitshengisa izitsha ezimbili zomkhiwa zibekwe phambi kwethempeli likaJehova.
² Esinye isitsha sasilomkhiwa omuhle kakhulu, njengovuthwa kuqala; esinye isitsha sasilomkhiwa omubi, ubolile ungeke wadleka.
³ UJehova wasesithi kimi, "Kuyini okubonayo, Jeremiya?" Ngathi, "Ngumkhiwa. Omuhle muhle kakhulu, kodwa omubi ubole kakhulu ungeke udliwe."
⁴ Ilizwi likaJehova laselifika kimi lisithi, ⁵ "UJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, 'Njengalo umkhiwa omuhle, ngibathatha njengabalungileyo abathunjwa bakoJuda, engabasusa kule indawo ngabasa elizweni laseBhabhiloni. ⁶ Amehlo ami azabakhangela kokuphela, njalo ngizababuyisa kulelizwe. Ngizabakha ngingabadilizi; ngizabahlanyela

ngingabasiphuni. ⁷Ngizabapha inhliziyoyokungazi, ukuthi mina nginguJehova. Bazakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo, ngoba bazabuyela kimi ngenhliziyoyabo yonke.

⁸“ ‘Kodwa njengomkhiwa omubi, obolileyo ongeke udliwe,’ kutsho uJehova, ‘ngizamphatha kanjalo uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labasindayo eJerusalema, langabe basele kulelizwe loba baseGibhithe. ⁹Ngizabenza bazondakale njalo babe yisinengiso kuyo yonke imibuso yasemhlabeni, insolo lesiga, into yokuhlekwa lokuthukwa, loba kungaphi engibaxotshela khona. ¹⁰Ngizathumela inkemba, indlala lomkhuhlane baze babhujiswe baphele elizweni engabanika lona kanye labokhokho babo.’ ”

Iminyaka Yokuthunjwa Engamatshumi Ayisikhombisa

25 Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya mayelana labantu bonke bakoJuda ngomnyaka wesine kaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, okwakungumnyaka wokuqala kaNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni. ²Ngakho uJeremiya umphrofethi wathi kubo bonke ababantu bakoJuda lakubo bonke abahlala eJerusalema: ³Okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lantathu – kusukela ngomnyaka wetshumi lantathu kaJosiya indodana ka-Amoni inkosi yakoJuda kuze kube yilolusuku – ilizwi likaJehova lafika kimi njalo ngalikhulumama kini njalonjalo, kodwa kalilalelanga.

⁴Lanxa uJehova wathumela zonke izinceku zakhe abaphrofethi kini njalonjalo, kalilalelanga njalo

kalinakanga. ⁵Bathi, ”Phendukani khathesi, omunye lomunye wenu, ezindleleni zenu ezimbi lasezenzweni zenu ezimbi, lihlale elizweni uJehova alinika lona kanye labokhokho benu kuze kube nininini. ⁶Lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu ukuba libasebenzele njalo libakhonze; lingangithukuthelisi ngalokho okwenziwa yizandla zenu. Lapho-ke angiyikulehlisela okubi.”

⁷“Kodwa kalingilalelanga,” kutsho uJehova, “njalo lingithukuthelisi le ngokwenziwa ngezandla zenu, lazehlisela okubi.”

⁸Ngakho uJehova uSomandla uthi: “Ngenxa yokuthi kalilalelanga amazwi ami, ⁹ngizabiza bonke abantu basenyakatho lenceku yami uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni,” kutsho uJehova, “njalo ngizabaletha ukuba bamelane lelizwe leli labahlala kulo kanye lelizwe zonke eziseduze lalo. Ngizababhubhisa ngokupheleleyo ngibenze babe yinto eyesabekayo leyokuklolodelwa, lencithakalo yanini lanini. ¹⁰Ngizasusa phakathi kwabo imisindo yokuthokoza lokuthaba, lelizwi lomlobokazi lelomyeni, lomsindo wamatshe okuchola kanye lokukhanya kwesibane. ¹¹Ilizwe leli lonke lizakuba yinkangala ephundlekileyo, lelizwe lezi zizasebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa. ¹²Kodwa lapho iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa isiphelile, ngizayijezisa inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lesizwe sayo, ilizwe lAmaKhaledi, ngenxa yobubi babo,” kutsho uJehova, “njalo ngizalenza lichitheke kokuphela. ¹³Ngizakwehlisela phezu kwelizwe lelo zonke izinto engazitshoyo ngalo, konke okulotshwe encwadini le

okwaphrofethwa nguJeremiya ezizweni zonke. ¹⁴Lazo uqobo zizathunjwa yizizwe ezinengi lamakhosi amakhulu; ngizaphindisela kubo mayelana lezenzo zabo langemisebenzi yezandla zabo.”

Inkezo Yolaka LukaNkulunkulu

¹⁵UJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wathi kimi, “Yamukela esandleni sami inkezo le egcwele iwayini lolaka lwami unathise zonke izizwe engikuthuma kuzo. ¹⁶Zingalinatha, zizadiyazela zihlanye ngenxa yenkemba engizayithumela phakathi kwazo.” ¹⁷Ngakho ngayithatha inkezo esandleni sikaJehova ngazinathisa zonke izizwe ayengithuma kuzo: ¹⁸IJerusalema lamadolobho akoJuda, amakhosi akhona kanye lezikhulu, ukubenza babe yincithakalo lento eyesabekayo yokuklolodelwa lokuthukwa, njengoba benjalo lamhla; ¹⁹uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe, lezincku zakhe, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labantu bakhe bonke, ²⁰labantu bonke bezizweni abakhonale; wonke amakhosi ase-Uzi; wonke amakhosi amaFilisti (awe-Ashikheloni, eGaza, e-Ekhironi, labantu abasala e-Ashidodi); ²¹e-Edomi, leMowabi kanye le-Amoni; ²²wonke amakhosi aseThire, leSidoni; amakhosi amazwe angasolwandle ngaphetsheya kwalo, ²³eDedani, leThema leBhuzi labo bonke abasezindaweni ezikhatshana; ²⁴wonke amakhosi ase-Arabhiya lawo wonke amakhosi abantu bezizweni abahlala enkangala; ²⁵amakhosi wonke aseZimuri, le-Elami leMediya; ²⁶lawo amakhosi asenyakatho, eduze lakhatshana, elandelana – yonke imibuso esemhlabeni. Ngemva kwabo bonke, inkosi yaseSheshaki layo izalinatha. ²⁷“Lapho-ke batshele uthi, ‘UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Nathani, lidakwe lihlanze, njalo liwe lingavuki futhi ngenxa yenkemba

engizayithumela phakathi kwenu.’

²⁸Kodwa bangala ukwamukela inkezo esandleni sakho ukuba banathe, batshele uthi, ‘UJehova uSomandla uthi: Kumele liyinathe! ²⁹Khangelani, sengiqalisile ukuletha umonakalo edolobheni elileBizo lami, njalo lina lizaphutha impela ukujeziswa, na? Kaliyikuphutha ukujeziswa ngoba ngizakwehlisela inkemba phezu kwabo bonke abahlala emhlabeni, kutsho uJehova uSomandla.’ ³⁰“Khathesi-ke phrofetha wonke amazwi la ngabo uthi kubo:

“ ‘UJehova uzahlokoma ephezulu; uzaduma esendaweni yakhe engcwele, njalo ahlokome kakhulu emelana lelizwe lakhe. Uzamemeza njengabakhama amavini, akhwazele amelane labo bonke abahlala emhlabeni.

³¹Ukuxokozela kuzazwakala emikhawulweni yomhlaba, ngoba uJehova uzazethesa amacala izizwe; uzakwahlulela abantu bonke ababi ababhubhise ngenkemba,” kutsho uJehova.

³²Nanku akutshoyo uJehova uSomandla:

“Khangelani! Umonakalo uyanda usuka kwesinye isizwe usiya kwesinye; isiphepho esikhulu siyavunguza sivela emikhawulweni yomhlaba.”

³³Ngalesosikhathi labo ababulewe nguJehova bazakuba sezindaweni zonke – kusukela komunye kusiya komunye umkhawulo womhlaba. Kabayikukhalelwa loba babuthwe kumbe bangewatshwe, kodwa bazakuba njengezibi emhlabathini.

³⁴Khalani lilile lina belusi; giqikani ethulini lina bakhokheli bomhlambi.

Ngoba isikhathi sokubulawa kwenu
sesifikile; lizakuwa liphohlozeke
njengokubunjiweyo.

³⁵ Abelusi laba kabayikuba lalapho
abangabalekela khona, abakhokheli
bomhlambi bengelandawo
yokubalekela kuyo.

³⁶ Zwanini ukukhala kwabelusi,
ukulila kwabakhokheli bomhlambi,
ngoba uJehova uyalichitha idlelo labo.

³⁷ Lamadlelo alokuthula azatshabalaliswa
ngenxa yolaka olwesabekayo
lukaJehova.

³⁸ Njengesilwane uzaphuma esikhundleni
sakhe, njalo ilizwe labo lizakuba
yinkangala ngenxa yenkamba
yomcindezeli langenxa yolaka
lukaJehova olwesabekayo.

UJeremiya Usongelwa ukubulawa

26 Ekuqaleni kokubusa

kukaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya
inkosi yakoJuda, kwafika ilizwi leli
livala kuJehova lisithi,

² “UJehova uthi: Mana egumeni lendlu
kaJehova ukhulume kubo bonke abantu
basemadolobheni akoJuda abeza endlini
kaJehova ukuba bakhonze. Batshele
konke engakulaya khona, kungabi lelizwi
olitshiyayo. ³ Mhlawumbe bazalalela
omunye lomunye wabo aphenduke
endleleni yakhe embi. Lapho-ke
ngizadeda ngingabehliseli umonakalo
ebengizawenza kubo ngenxa yobubi
ababenzileyo. ⁴ Tshono kubo
uthi, ⁵ UJehova uthi: Uma lingangilaleli
lilandele umthetho wami engalibekela
wona, ⁶ njalo uma lingalaleli amazwi
ezinceku zami abaphrofethi,
engabathuma kini njalonjalo (lanxa
lingalalelanga), ⁷ ngizakwenza indlu le
ibenjengeShilo ledolobho leli libe yinto
yokuthukwa phakathi kwezizwe zonke
zomhlaba.”

⁷ Abaphristi, labaphrofethi kanye labantu
bonke bamuzwa uJeremiya ekhuluma
amazwi la endlini kaJehova.

⁸ Kodwa kwathi uJeremiya eqeda nje
ukubatshela bonke abantu konke
uJehova ayemlaye ukuba akutsho,
abaphristi, labaphrofethi kanye labantu
bonke bamputhuma bathi kuye, ‘Kumele
ufe! ⁹ Kungani uphrofetha ngebizo
likaJehova usithi indlu le izakuba
njengeShilo ledolobho leli lizachitheka
abantu basuke kulo?’ Abantu bonke
bambuthanela uJeremiya endlini
kaJehova.

¹⁰ Kwathi izikhulu zakoJuda sezizwe
ngalezizinto, zaya endlini kaJehova
zisuka esigodlweni senkosi zahlala
ezindaweni zazo entubeni yeSango
elitsha lendlu kaJehova. ¹¹ Abaphristi,
labaphrofethi basebesithi ezikhulwini
lasebantwini bonke, “Umuntu lo kumele
agwetshelwe ukufa ngoba uphrofetha
kubi ngedolobho leli. Likuzwile
ngezindlebe zenu!”

¹² UJeremiya wasesithi ezikhulwini
zonke lasebantwini bonke: “UJehova
ungithumile ukuba ngiphrofethe kubi
ngendlu le langedolobho leli zonke
sizinto elizizwileyo. ¹³ Ngakho lungisani
izindlela zenu lezeno zenu lilalele
uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu. Ngalokho
uJehova uzadeda angabe esalehlisela
umonakalo abememezele ukuwehlisa
kini. ¹⁴ Kodwa mina, ngisezandleni zenu;
yenzani kimi loba kuyini lokho
elikubona kukuhle, kufanele. ¹⁵ Kodwa
likwazi, impela ukuthi lingangibulala,
lizakwehlisela phezu kwenu icala legazi
elimsulwa laphezu kwedolobho leli
kanye laphezu kwabantu abahlala kulo,
ngoba ngeqiniso uJehova ungithumile
kini ukuba ngikhulume wonke amazwi
la lani lisizwa.”

¹⁶ Izikhulu labantu bonke basebesithi kubaphristi lakubaphrofethi, “Umuntu lo akumelanga abulawe! Ukhulume kithi ngebizo likaJehova uNkulunkulu wethu.”

¹⁷ Abanye babadala baselizweni basondela phambili bakhuluma kulo lonke ibandla labantu bathi,

¹⁸ “UMikha waseMoresbethi waphrofetha ezinsukwini zikaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. Wabatshela bonke abantu bakoJuda wathi, “UJehova uSomandla uthi :

“ ‘IZiyoni izalinywa njengensimu, iJerusalema lizakuba yinqwaba yemfucuzo, uqaqa lwethempeli lube yindunduma elezixuku ezenileyo.’

¹⁹ “Kanje uHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda loba omunye umuntu nje wakoJuda wambulala na? UHezekhiya kamesabanga yini uJehova wacela umusa kuye? UJehova kadedanga wayekela ukubehlisela umonakalo ayewumemezele kubo na? Sekuseduze ukuthi sizehlisele umonakalo owesabekayo phezu kwethu!”

²⁰ (U-Uriya indodana kaShemayiya owaseKhiriyathi Jeyarimi ungomunye umuntu owaphrofetha ngebizo likaJehova: waphrofetha izinto ezinjalo ngedolobho leli langelizwe leli njengoJeremiya. ²¹ Kwathi inkosi uJehoyakhimi lezinduna zakhe kanye lezikhulu zakhe besizwa amazwi akhe, bafuna ukumbulala. Kodwa u-Uriya wakuzwa lokho wasebalekela eGibhithe esesaba. ²² UJehoyakhimi inkosi, wathuma u-Elinathani indodana ka-Akhibhori lamanye amadoda eGibhithe.

²³ Bamthatha u-Uriya eGibhithe bamusa kuJehoyakhimi inkosi wambulala ngenkamba isidumbu sakhe saphoselwa

endaweni yokungcwabela abantukazana.)

²⁴ Phezu kwalokho, u-Ahikhami indodana kaShefani wasekela uJeremiya, ngakho kanikezwanga ebantwini ukuba bambulale.

UJuda uzasebenzela uNebhukhadinezari

27 Ekuqaleni kokubusa

kukaZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuJehova lisithi: ² UJehova wathi kimi, “Yenza ijogwe ngemichilo langemigoqo uligaxe entanyeni yakho. ³ Ubusuthumela ilizwi enkosini yase-Edomi, leyaseMowabi, leyase-Amoni, eyeThire kanye leyaseSidoni ngezithunywa ezize eJerusalema kuZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. ⁴ Zinike ilizwi eliya emakhosini azo uthi, ‘UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Tshelani amakhosi enu lokhu ukuthi: ⁵ Ngamandla ami amakhulu langengalo yami eyeluliweyo ngenza umhlaba labantu bawo kanye lezinyamazana ezikuwo, njalo ngiwunika loba ngubani ngokuthanda kwami. ⁶ Khathesi wonke amazwe enu ngizawanikela encekwini yami uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ngizakwenza lezinyamazana zeganga zibe ngaphansi kwakhe. ⁷ Izizwe zonke zizamsebenzela yena lamadodana akhe kanye labazukulu bakhe kuze kufike isikhathi selizwe lakhe lapho azanqotshwa khona yizizwe ezinengi lamakhosi amakhulu.

⁸ “ ‘Kodwa, loba yisiphi isizwe loba umbuso ongasebenzeli uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni loba ukhothamisele intamo yawo ejogweni lakhe, ngizasisijezisa lesosizwe ngenkamba,

ngendlala langesifo, ngize ngiwuchithe ngesandla sakhe, kutsho uJehova.

⁹Ngakho lingabalaleli abaphrofethi benu, izanusi zenu, abachazi bamaphupho, izangoma zenu loba izinyanga zenu ezithi kini, ‘Kaliyikuyisebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.’ ¹⁰Baphrofetha amanga kini azasebenza ukulisusa nje kuphela emazweni enu; ngizalixotsha njalo lizabhubha. ¹¹Kodwa isizwe esizabeka intamo yaso ngaphansi kwejogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni siyisebenzele, lesosizwe ngizasiyekela siselizweni laso ukuba sililime njalo sihlale kulo, kutsho uJehova.” ’ ’ ”

¹²UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda ngamnika ilizwi elinjalo; Ngathi, “Beka intamo yakho ngaphansi kwejogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni; isebenzele yona kanye labantu bayo, uzaphila. ¹³Kungani wena labantu bakho lizabulalwa ngenkamba, indlala lesifo uJehova ayesongele ngakho isizwe esingayikusebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni na? ¹⁴Lingawalaleli amazwi abaphrofethi abathi kini, ‘Kaliyikuyisebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni,’ ngoba baphrofetha amanga kini. ¹⁵‘Angibathumanga,’ kutsho uJehova. ‘Baphrofetha amanga ngebizo lami. Ngakho ngizalixotsha, libhubhe lina kanye labaphrofethi abaphrofetha kini.’ ”

¹⁶Ngasengisithi kubaphristi lakubo bonke abantu laba, “UJehova uthi: Lingabalaleli abaphrofethi abathi, ‘Masinyane nje izitsha zasendlini kaJehova zizabuyiswa zivela eBhabhiloni.’ Baphrofetha amanga kini.

¹⁷Lingabalaleli. Isebenzeleni inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, lizaphila. Kungani idolobho leli kumele libe lunxiwa na?

¹⁸Uma bengabaphrofethi njalo belezizwi likaJehova, kabamncenge uJehova

uSomandla ukuba imihlobiso eseleyo endlini kaJehova lasesigodlweni senkosi yakoJuda kanye laseJerusalema ingasiwa eBhabhiloni. ¹⁹Ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguJehova uSomandla mayelana lezinsika, langoLwandle, lokokumisa okuphakamisekayo kanye leminyane imihlobiso eseleyo kulelidolobho, ²⁰uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni engahambanga layo ekuthatheni kwakhe uJehoyakhini indodana kaUJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda emsusa eJerusalema emusa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni, kanye lezikhulu zonke zakoJuda lezeJerusalema – ²¹yebo, lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, mayelana lezinto eziseleyo endlini kaJehova lasesigodlweni senkosi yakoJuda kanye laseJerusalema ukuthi: ²²‘Zizasiwa eBhabhiloni lapho ezizakuba khona kuze kufike usuku engizazilanda ngalo,’ kutsho uJehova. ‘Lapho-ke ngizazibuyisela emuva kule indawo.’ ”

UHaniya Umphrofethi Wamanga

28 Ngenyanga yesihlanu

yawonalowo umnyaka, umnyaka wesine, ekuqaleni kokubusa kukaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, umphrofethi uHaniya indodana ka-Azuri, owayevela eGibheyoni, wathi kimi endlini kaJehova phambi kwabaphristi labantu bonke:

²“UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Ngizalephula ijogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni. ³Phakathi kweminyaka emibili ngizazibuyisela kule indawo zonke izitsha zendlu yeNkosi uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni azithatha lapha wazisa eBhabhiloni. ⁴Ngizambuyisela kule indawo futhi uJehoyakhini indodana

kaUJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda kanye labanye bonke abathunjwa koJuda baya eBhabhiloni, kutsho uJehova, 'ngoba ngizalephula ijogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni.' ”

⁵Umphrofethi uJeremiya waphendula umphrofethi uHananiya phambi kwabaphristi labantu bonke ababemi endlini kaJehova. ⁶Wathi, “Ameni! Sengathi uJehova angamenzenjalo! Sengathi uJehova angagcwalisa amazwi owaphrofethayo ngokubuyisela kule indawo izitsha zendlu kaJehova labo bonke abathunjelwa eBhabhiloni.

⁷Lanxa kunjalo, lalela kulokhu engikutsho lawe usizwa kanye labantu bonke besizwa ukuthi: ⁸Kusukela ezikhathini zakuqala abaphrofethi abandulela wena lami baphrofetha ngempi, ngomonakalo langesifo emazweni amanengi lasemibusweni emikhulu. ⁹Kodwa umphrofethi ophrofetha ngokuthula uzakwaziwa njengothunye nguJehova sibili lapho ilizwi lakhe seligcwalisekile.”

¹⁰Lapho-ke uHananiya umphrofethi wasusa ijogwe entanyeni kaJeremiya umphrofethi walephula, ¹¹wasesithi phambi kwabantu bonke, ‘UJehova uthi: Ngizalephula kanjalo ijogwe likaNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ezintanyeni zezizwe zonke phakathi kweminyaka emibili.’ ”

Ngemva kwalokho umphrofethi uJeremiya wasuka wazihambela.

¹²Masinyane nje emuva kokuba umphrofethi uHananiya ephule ijogwe entanyeni kaJeremiya umphrofethi, kwafika ilizwi likaJehova kuJeremiya lisithi: ¹³“Hamba uyetshele uHananiya uthi, ‘uJehova uthi: Wephule ijogwe lesigodo, kodwa esikhundleni salo uzakuba lejogwe lensimbi. ¹⁴UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizabeka ijogwe lensimbi ezintanyeni zezizwe zonke lezi ukuba

zisebenzele uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, zizamsebenzela.

Ngizamnika amandla laphezu kwezinyamazana zeganga.’ ”

¹⁵Umphrofethi uJeremiya wasesithi kuHananiya umphrofethi, “Lalela, Hananiya! UJehova kakuthumanga, kodwa usuwenze isizwe lesi sathemba amanga. ¹⁶Ngakho, uJehova uthi, ‘Sekuseduze ukuthi ngikususe ebusweni bomhlaba. Ngawonalo umnyaka uzakufa, ngoba uphrofetha ukuhlamukela uJehova.’ ”

¹⁷Ngenyanga yesikhombisa yalowomnyaka, uHananiya umphrofethi wafa.

Incwadi Kwabasekuthunjweni

29 La ngamazwi encwadi

umphrofethi uJeremiya ayithumela eseJerusalema ebadaleni abasindayo phakathi kwabathunjwayo lakubaphristi, abaphrofethi, lakubo bonke abantu uNebhukhadinezari abathatha eJerusalema wabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. (²Lokhu kwakungemva kokuba inkosi uJehoyakhini lonina indlovukazi, izikhulu zasemthethwandaba kanye labadala bakoJuda labaseJerusalema, izingcitshi lezingcwethi basebeye ekuthunjweni besuka eJerusalema.) ³Incwadi leyo wayiphathisa u-Elasa indodana kaShafani loGemariya indodana kaHilikhiya, abathunywa nguZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kuNebhukhadinezari eBhabhiloni. yathi:

⁴UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi kubo bonke labo engabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni besuka eJerusalema, ⁵“Yakhani izindlu lihlale phansi: limani izivande lidle izithelo zazo. ⁶Thathani abafazi lizale amadodana lamadodakazi; dingelani

amadodana enu abafazi lendise lamadodakazi enu, ukuze lawo abe lamadodana kanye lamadodakazi; Inani lenu lande ngapho; lingehli. ⁷Funani ukuthula lokuphumelela kwedolobho engilise ekuthunjweni kulo.

Likhulekeleni kuJehova, ngoba uma liphumelela lani lizaphumelela.” ⁸Ye, uJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, “Lingavumeli ukuthi abaphrofethi labahlahluli abaphakathi kwenu balikhohlise. Lingawalaleli amaphupho elibakhuthaza ukuthi bawaphuphe. ⁹Baphrofetha amanga kini ngebizo lami. Kangibathumanga,” kutsho uJehova.

¹⁰UJehova uthi: “Lapho iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa isiphelile eBhabhiloni, ngizakuza kini ngigcwalise isithembiso sami somusa sokulibuyisela kule indawo. ¹¹Ngoba ngiyawazi amacebo engilawo ngani,” kutsho uJehova, “amacebo okuliphumelelisa hatshi ukulilimaza, amacebo okulinika ithemba kanye lesikhathi esizayo.

¹²Ngaleso sikhathi lizangibiza lizekhuleka kimi, njalo ngizalizwa

¹³Lizangidinga lingifumane uma lingidinga ngenhliziyo yenu yonke.

¹⁴Lizangifumana,” kutsho uJehova, “njalo ngizalibuyisa livela ekuthunjweni. Ngizaliquqa ezizweni zonke lasezindaweni zonke engalixotshela kuzo,” kutsho uJehova, “njalo ngilibuyise endaweni engalithatha kuyo ngilisa ekuthunjweni.”

¹⁵Lingatsho lithi, “UJehova usesiphe abaphrofethi eBhabhiloni,” ¹⁶kodwa uJehova uthi mayelana lenkosi ehlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida labantu bonke abasala kulelidolobho, abantu bakini abangahambanga lani ekuthunjweni – ¹⁷yebo, uJehova uthi, “Ngizabathumela inkemba, lendlala lesifo njalo ngizabenza babe

njengomkhiwa obolileyo ongeke udliwe.

¹⁸Ngizaxotshana labo ngenkemba, ngendlala langesifo njalo ngizabenza benyanyeke kuyo yonke imibuso yasemhlabeni njalo babe yinto yokuqalekiswa lokwesatshwa, ukuklolodelwa lokuthukwa, phakathi kwezizwe zonke engibaxotshela kuzo.

¹⁹Ngoba, kabawalalelanga amazwi ami,” kutsho uJehova, “amazwi engawathumela kubo njalonjalo ngezinceku zami abaphrofethi. Lani abasekuthunjweni kalilalelanga,” kutsho uJehova.

²⁰Ngakho, zwanini ilizwi likaJehova, lonke lina elisekuthunjweni engalisusa eJerusalema ngalisa eBhabhiloni.

²¹Mayelana lo-Ahabi indodana kaKholaya loZedekhiya indodana kaMahaseya, abaphrofetha amanga kini ngebizo lami, uJehova uthi, “Ngizabanikela kuNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ozababulala phambi kobuso benu. ²²Ngenxa yabo, bonke abathunjiweyo abavela koJuda abaseBhabhiloni bazasebenzisa isiqalekiso lesi sokuthi: ‘UJehova makenze kini njengalokhu akwenze kuZedekhiya lo-Ahabi, abatshiswa yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngomlilo,’

²³ngoba benze izinto ezimbi kakhulu ko-Israyeli; bafeba labafazi babomakhelwane babo, baqamba amanga ngebizo lami, engingazange ngithi bakwenze. Ngiyakwazi njalo ngingufakazi kukho,” kutsho uJehova.

Ilizwi KuShemayiya

²⁴Tshela uShemayiya umNehelami uthi,

²⁵“UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Wathumela izincwadi ngebizo lakho kubo bonke abantu baseJerusalema, lakuZefaniya indodana kaMahaseya umphristi, lakwabanye abaphristi bonke. KuZefaniya wathi,

²⁶ ‘UJehova usekubeke ukuba ngumphristi esikhundleni sikaJehoyada ukuba ube ngumphathi wendlu kaJehova; umuntu ohlanyayo ozenza umphrofethi ubomfaka esitokisini umfake lezankosi zentanyeni. ²⁷ Pho kungani ungamkhuzanga uJeremiya wase-Anathothi, ozenza umphrofethi phakathi kwenu? ²⁸ Uthumele ilizwi leli kithi eBhabhiloni elithi: Kuzakuba yisikhathi eside. Ngakho yakhani izindlu lihlale phansi; limani izivande lidle izithelo zazo.’ ”

²⁹ Kodwa, uZefaniya umphristi incwadi le wayibalela uJeremiya umphrofethi. ³⁰ Ilizwi likaJehova laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi, ³¹ “Thumela ilizwi leli kubo bonke abathunjweyo uthi; ‘Mayelana loShemayiya umNehelami uJehova uthi: Njengoba uShemayiya esephrofetha kini, lanxa mina ngingamthumanga, walenza lakholwa amanga, ³² uJehova uthi: Ngeqiniso ngizamjezisa uShemayiya umNehelami kanye lenzalo yakhe. Kakuyikuba lowakibo ozasala ekhona phakathi kwalabantu, njalo lezinto ezinhle engizazenzela abantu bami kasoze azibone, kutsho uJehova, ngoba uphrofetha ukungihlamukela.’ ”

Ukubuyiswa Kuka-Israyeli

30 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuJehova lisithi: ² “UJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Loba encwadini wonke amazwi engiwakhulume kuwe. ³ Izinsuku ziyeza,’ kutsho uJehova, ‘lapho engizabuyisa abantu bami u-Israyeli loJuda bevela ekuthunjweni ngibabuyisele elizweni engalinika okhokho babo ukuba libe ngelabo,’ kutsho uJehova.”

⁴ Amazwi akhulunywa nguJehova ngo-Israyeli loJuda yila athi, ⁵ “UJehova uthi:

“ ‘Ukukhala kokwesaba kuzwakele – ukwesaba okukhulu, hatshi ukuthula.

⁶ Buzani libone: indoda ingazala abantwana na? Pho kungani ngibona wonke amadoda aqinileyo ebambe izisu zawo ngezandla njengowesifazana ohelelwayo, ubuso bonke sebube mhlotshana okokufa?

⁷ Yeka ukwesabeka okuzakuba yilolosuku! Kalukho oluzakuba njengalo. Kuzakuba yisikhathi sokuhlupheka kukaJakhobe, kodwa uzahlangwa kukho.

⁸ “ ‘Ngalolosuku,’ kutsho uJehova uSomandla, ‘ngizalephula ijogwe ezintanyeni zabo ngiqamule lezibopho zabo; abezizweni kabasayikubagqilaza futhi.

⁹ Esikhundleni salokho, bazasebenzela uJehova uNkulunkulu wabo, loDavida inkosi yabo, engizabavusela yona.

¹⁰ “ ‘Ngakho ungesabi, wena Jakhobe nceku yami; ungangali, wena Israyeli,’ kutsho uJehova. ‘Ngeqiniso ngizakuhlenga ezindaweni ezikude, lenzalo yakho elizweni lokuthunjwa kwayo. UJakhobe uzakuba lokuthula futhi kanye lokuvikeleka, njalo kakho ozamenza esabe.

¹¹ Ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga, kutsho uJehova.

‘Lanxa ngizichitha ngokupheleleyo zonke izizwe engikuhlakazela kuzo, wena angiyikukuchitha ngokupheleleyo. Ngizakukhuza kodwa ngokufaneleyo kuphela; kangiyikukuyekela ungajeziswanga.’ ”

¹² UJehova uthi:

“ ‘Isilonda sakho kaselapheki, ukulimala kwakho akupholi.

¹³ Kakho okhulumela inhloso yakho,

akulamuthi wesilonda sakho, akukho kuphola kuwe.

¹⁴ Bonke abasekeli bakho
sebekukhohliwe; kabalandaba lawe.
Ngikutshaye njengokungenziwa
yisitha ngakujezisa
njengokungenziwa ngolesihluku,
ngoba
icala lakho likhulu kakhulu. Lezono
zakho zinengi kakhulu.

¹⁵ Kungani ukhaliswa linxeba lakho,
ubuhlungu bakho obungelaphekiyo
na?
Ngenxa yecala lakho elikhulu lezono
ezinengi ngenze lezizinto kuwe.

¹⁶ “Kodwa bonke abakudlayo
bazadliwa; zonke izitha zakho
zizathunjwa. Labo abakuphangayo
bazaphangwa; bonke abakwemukayo
ngizabemuka.

¹⁷ Kodwa ngizakusilisa ngipholise
lamanxeba akho,’ kutsho uJehova,
‘ngoba kuthiwa ungolahlweyo,
iZiyoni okungekho olendaba lalo.’

¹⁸ “UJehova uthi:

“ ‘ Ngizavuselela inotho
yasemathenteni kaJakhobe ngibe
lesihawu emakhaya akhe; idolobho
lizakwakhiwa kutsha emanxiweni alo,
lendlu yobukhosi izakuma endaweni
yayo uqobo.

¹⁹ Kubo kuzavela izingoma zokubonga
kanye lomsindo wokuthokoza.
Ngizakwandisa amanani abo, njalo
kabayikuphungulwa; ngizabenza
bahlonitshwe, njalo kabayikweyiswa.

²⁰ Abantwana babo bazakuba
njengezinsukwini zakudala, lebandla
labo lizamiselwa phambi kwami;
ngizabajezisa bonke
ababacindezelayo.

²¹ Umkhokheli wabo uzakuba ngomunye
wabakibo; umbusi wabo uzavela

phakathi kwabo. Ngizamsondeza
eduze, uzakuza phansi kwami, ngoba
ngubani lowo ongazinikela ukuba
eduzane lami na?’ kutsho uJehova.

²² “ ‘Ngakho lina lizakuba ngabantu
bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu
wenu.’ ”

²³ Khangelani, isiphepho sikaJehova
sizakhupha ulaka,
umoya ozululeka usehlela phezu
kwamakhanda ababi.

²⁴ Ulaka olwesabekayo lukaJehova
kaluyikudeda aze ayifeze
ngokupheleleyo injongo yenhliziyi
yakhe.
Ezinsukwini ezizayo lizakuzwisisa
lokhu.

31 “Ngalesosikhathi,” kutsho
uJehova, “ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu
wezizwana zonke zako-Israyeli,
bona bazakuba ngabantu bami.”

² UJehova uthi:
“Abantu abasilayo enkembeni
bazathola umusa enkangala;
ngizakuzanika u-Israyeli
ukuphumula.”

³ UJehova wabonakala kithi kudala
esithi:

“ngikuthandile ngothando
olungapheliyo;
ngikuhole ngesisa esikhulu.

⁴ Ngizakwakha njalo uzakwakhiwa
kutsha futhi, wena Israyeli Ntombi
emsulwa. Uzathatha amagedla akho
futhi uphume uyegida labathokozayo.

⁵ Uzalima izivini zakho futhi
emaqaqeni aseSamariya; abalimi
bazazilima badle izithelo zazo.

⁶ Kuzakuba losuku lapho abalindi
bezamemeza phezu kwamaqaqa
ako-Efrayimi bathi,

‘Wozani, kasiyeni eZiyoni, kuJehova uNkulunkulu wethu.’”

⁷UJehova uthi:

“Mhlabeleleni uJakhobe ngokuthokoza; nqongolozelani izizwe ezidumileyo. Yenzani ukudumisa kwenu kuzwakale, lisithi, ‘Awu Jehova, bahlenge abantu bakho, insalela ka-Israyeli.’”

⁸Khangelani, ngizababuyisa bevela elizweni lasenyakatho, ngibaqoqe emikhawulweni yomhlaba.

Phakathi kwabo kuzakuba leziphofu labaqhulayo; abesifazana abazithweleyo labahlelwayo; ixuku elikhulu lizabuya.

⁹Bazabuya bekhala; bazakhuleka lapho ngibabuyisa. Ngizabaholela ezihotsheni zamanzi endleleni eyendlalekileyo lapho abangayikukhubeka khona, ngoba nginguyise ka-Israyeli, njalo u-Efrayimi indodana elizibulo lami.

¹⁰“Zwanini ilizwi likaJehova, lina zizwe; limemezeleni emazweni angaselwandle khatshana lithi: ‘Yena owahlakaza u-Israyeli uzamqoqa njalo uzakwelusa umhlambi wakhe njengomalusi.’”

¹¹Ngoba uJehova uzamhlenga uJakhobe, abakhulule ezandleni zalabo abalamandla kulabo.

¹²Bazakuza banqongolozwe ngentokozo ezinqongeni zeZiyoni; bazathokoza ngokuphana kukaJehova – ngamabele, langewayini elitsha kanye lamafutha, ngamazinyane ezimvu langamathole ezinkomo. Bazakuba njengesivande esithelelwa kuhle, njalo kabasayikuba losizi futhi.

¹³Izintombi zizagida njalo futhi zithabe,

enzenjalo amajaha labadala.

Ngizaguqula ukukhala kwabo kube yikuthaba; ngizabapha induduzo lentokozo esikhundleni sosizi.

¹⁴Ngizasuthisa abaphristi ngokunengi, labantu bami bazasutha ngokuphana kwami,” kutsho uJehova.

¹⁵Nanku akutshoyo uJehova:

Ilizwi liyezwakala eRama, ukulila lokukhala okukhulu, uRasheli ukhalela abantwabakhe esala lokududuzwa, ngoba abantwana bakhe kabasekho.”

¹⁶Nanku akutshoyo uJehova:

“Bamba ilizwi lakho ungakhali, lamehlo akho angehlisi izinyembezi ngoba umsebenzi wakho uzathola umvuzo,” kutsho uJehova.

“Bazabuya bevela elizweni lesitha.”

¹⁷Ngakho kulethemba ezinsukwini zakho ezizayo,” kutsho uJehova.

“Abantwabakho bazabuyela elizweni labo.

¹⁸“Ngikuzwile impela ukukhala kuka-Efrayimi esithi:

‘Wangitshaya njengethole elibhedayo, njalo sengajeziseka. Ngibuyisa, njalo ngizabuya, ngoba unguJehova uNkulunkulu wami.’

¹⁹Emva kokuba ngedukile, ngaphenduka; emva kokuba sengizwisisile, ngatshaya isifuba sami. Ngaba lenhloni ngadumazeka ngoba ngangilehlazo lasebutsheni bami.’

²⁰U-Efrayimi kasindodana yami ethandekayo, umntanami engithokoza ngaye na? Lanxa ngihlala ngikhuluma kubi ngaye ngisamkhumbula. Ngakho

inhliziyo yami iyamlangazela;
ngilesihawu esikhulu kuye,”
kutsho uJehova.

²¹ Beka izitshengiso zomgwaqo;
umise lezinsika zeziqondiso.
Nanzelela umgwaqo, indlela
ozahamba ngayo. Buya, we Ntombi
emsulwa Israyeli, buyela
emadolobheni akho.

²² Koze kube nini ulokhu uzulazula,
wena ndodakazi engathembekanga
na?
UJehova uzadala into entsha
emhlabeni – owesifazana uzavikela
indoda.”

²³ UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu
ka-Israyeli uthi, “Lapho ngibabuyisa
bevela ekuthunjweni, abantu
abaselizweni lakoJuda lasemadolobheni
alo bazawasebenzisa futhi amazwi la
athi, ‘UJehova akubusise wena ndawo
yokuhlala elungileyo, wena ntaba
engcwele.’ ²⁴ Abantu bazahlala
ndawonye koJuda lasemadolobheni
akhona wonke – abalimi kanye lalabo
abazulazulayo lemihlambi yabo.

²⁵ Ngizaqinisa abadiniweyo ngisuthise
abangelamandla.”

²⁶ Lapho-ke ngaphaphama ngakhangelala
indawana yonke. Ubuthongo bami
babube mnandi kimi.

²⁷ “Izinsuku ziyeza,” kutsho uJehova,
‘lapho engizahlanyela khona indlu ka-
Israyeli lendlu kaJuda lenzalo yabantu
lezinyamazana. ²⁸ Njengoba ngabalinda
ukusiphuna lokudiliza, ukuchitha
lokubhubhisa kanye lokuletha
umonakalo, ngokunjalo ngizabalinda
ukwakha lokuhlanyela,” kutsho uJehova.

²⁹ “Ngalezonsuku abantu kabasayikutsho
ukuthi,
‘Oyise badle amavini amunyu,
Ngakho amazinyo abantwana
asetshelela.’

³⁰ Esikhundleni salokho, umuntu wonke
uzafela izono zakhe; loba ngubani odla
amavini amunyu – awakhe amazinyo
azatshelela.

³¹ “Isikhathi siyeza,” kutsho uJehova,
“lapho engizakwenza khona
isivumelwano esitsha lendlu ka-
Israyeli kanye lendlu kaJuda futhi.

³² Kasiyikuba njengesivumelwano
engasenza labakhokho babo
lapho ngababamba ngesandla
ukubaholela ngaphandle
kweGibhithe,
ngoba bephula isivumelwano sami,
lanxa ngangingumyeni wabo,”
kutsho uJehova.

³³ “Isivumelwano engizasenza
lendlu ka-Israyeli ngemva
kwalesosikhathi yilesi,”
kutsho uJehova.

“Ngizafaka umthetho wami
ezingqondweni zabo, ngiwulobe
lasezinhliziyweni zabo.

Ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo,
bona bazakuba ngabantu bami.

³⁴ Umuntu kasayikufundisa
umakhelwana wakhe, kumbe umuntu
afundise umfowabo esithi,
‘Yazi uJehova,’ ngoba bonke bazangazi,
kusukela komncane wabo kusiya
komkhulukazi,” kutsho uJehova.

Ngoba ngizabathethelela ububi babo,
ngingazikhumbuli futhi izono zabo.”

³⁵ Nanku akutshoyo uJehova,

yena obeka ilanga
ukuba likhanyise emini,
omisa inyanga lezinkanyezi ukuba
kukhanye ebusuku,
onyakazisa ulwandle ukuze amagagasi
alo ahlokome – uJehova uSomandla
yilo ibizo lakhe, uthi:

³⁶ “Uma izimiso lezi zinganyamalala
ebusweni bami,”

kutsho uJehova

“kulapho lenzalo ka-Israyeli ingacina ukuba yisizwe phambi kwami.”

³⁷UJehova uthi:

“Uma amazulu phezulu engalinganiswa lezisekelo zomhlaba ngaphansi zihlolwe, kulapho engingayilahla khona yonke inzalo ka-Israyeli ngenxa yakho konke abakwenzileyo,” kutsho uJehova.

³⁸“Izinsuku ziyeza,” kutsho uJehova, Lapho idolobho leli ngizalakhelwa kutsha kusukela eMphoshongweni waseHananeli kusiya eSangweni leNgosi. ³⁹Intambo yokulinganisa izasukela lapho iqonde eqaqeni lweGarebi ibe isijikela eGowa. ⁴⁰Isigodi sonke lapho okulahllelwa khona izidumbu zabafuleyo lomlotha, lawo wonke amasimu kusiyafika esigodini seKhidironi ngasempumalanga kusiyafika ejikweni leSango leBhiza, kuzakuba ngcwele kuJehova. Idolobho kaliyikusitshunwa futhi loba lidilizwe.”

UJeremiya Uthenga Insimu

32 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuJehova ngomnyaka wetshumi wokubusa kukaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, owawungumnyaka wetshumi lasificaminwemibili wokubusa kukaNebhukhadinezari.

²Ngalesosikhathi ibutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lalivimbezele iJerusalema, uJeremiya umphrofethi evalelwe egumeni labalindi phakathi kwesigodlo senkosi yakoJuda.

³UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda wayemvalele lapho esithi, “Kungani uphrofetha njengalokhu okwenzayo?

Uthi: ‘UJehova uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilnikele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo izalithumba.

⁴UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda akayikuphunyuka ezandleni zAmaKhaledi, kodwa uzanikelwa impela enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo uzakhuluma layo ubuso ngobuso ayibone mgamehlo akhe. ⁵Izathatha uZedekhiya imuse eBhabhiloni, lapho azahlala khona ngize ngibone engingakwenza kuye, kutsho uJehova. Uma usilwa lamaKhaledi, kawuyikuphumelela.’ ”

⁶UJeremiya wathi, “Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kimi lisithi: ⁷UHanameli indodana kaShalumi umalumakho uzakuza kuwe athi, ‘Thenga insimu yami e-Anathothi, ngoba njengesihlobo sami segazi kulilungelo lakho lomlandu wakho ukuba uyithenge.’ ”

⁸“Ngakho, njengokutsho kukaJehova, umzawami uHanameli weza kimi egumeni labalindi wathi, ‘Thenga insimu yami e-Anathothi elizweni lakoBhenjamini. Njengoba kulilungelo lakho ukuba uyihlengi ibe ngeyakho, zithengele yona.’ ”

“Ngakwazi ukuthi leli laliyilizwi likaJehova; ⁹ngakho ngayithenga insimu ye-Anathothi kumzawami uHanameli, ngamlinganisela amashekeli alitshumi lesikhombisa esiliva. ¹⁰Ngasayina incwadi yesivumelwano sokuthenga ngayinamathisela, yafakazelwa, ngalinganisa isiliva esikalini.

¹¹Ngathatha incwadi yokuthenga enanyekiweyo eyayilemithetho lezimiso, kanye leyayingananyekwangwa, ¹²incwadi yokuthenga le ngayinika uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya, indodana kaMahaseyiya; umzawami ekhona kanye labafakazi ababesayine incwadi yokuthenga lamaJuda wonke ehlezi egumeni labalindi.

¹³“Nganika uBharuki imilayo le labo bekhona ngathi, ¹⁴‘UJehova uSomandla uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Thatha izincwadi lezi zesivumelwano sokuthenga enanyekiweyo lengananyekwanga uzifake embizeni yomdaka ukuze zihlale khona isikhathi eside. ¹⁵UJehova uSomandla uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Izindlu lamasimu lezivini kuzathengwa futhi kulelilizwe.’”

¹⁶“Emva kokuba uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya sengimphile incwadi yokuthenga, ngakhuleka kuJehova ngathi:

¹⁷“Jehova Wobukhosi, wadala amazulu lomhlaba ngamandla akho amakhulu langengalo yakho eyeluliweyo. Akukho lutho olunzima kuwe. ¹⁸Ubonakalisa uthando kuzinkulungwane kodwa ulethe isijeziso sezono zaboyise ebantwaneni babo ngemva kwabo. Wena Nkulunkulu omkhulu olamandla, obizo lakho nguJehova uSomandla, ¹⁹zinkulu izinjongo zakho njalo zilamandla izenzo zakho. Amehlo akho ayazibona zonke izindlela zabantu; unika umuntu wonke umvuzo kusiya ngokuziphatha kwakhe langokufanele izenzo zakhe. ²⁰Wenza izibonakaliso lezimangaliso eGibhithe, waqhubeka uzenza kwaze kwaba yilulusuku, khona ko-Israyeli laphakathi koluntu lonke, wathola udumo olukhulu lungolwakho lalamhlanje. ²¹Wakhupha abantu bakho u-Israyeli eGibhithe ngezibonakaliso langezimangaliso; ngesandla esilamandla langengalo eyeluliweyo kanye lokwesaba okukhulu. ²²Wabanika ilizwe leli owawufunge ukulipha okhokho babo, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju. ²³Beza bafika balithatha, kodwa kabakulalelanga kumbe balandele imithetho yakho; kabakwenzanga

owawubalaye ukuthi bakwenze. Ngakho wabehlisela wonke umonakalo lo.

²⁴“Khangela ukuthi akhiwe njani amadundulu okuvimbezela ukuba idolobho lihlaselwe. Ngenxa yenkamba, lendlala lesifo idolobho lizanikelwa kumaKhaledi alihlaselayo. Owakutshoyo sekusenzakala njengoba ubona khathezi. ²⁵Kodwa lanxa idolobho lizanikelwa kumaKhaledi, wena Jehova Nkulunkulu uthi kimi, ‘Thenga insimu ngesiliva kube labafakaza lokho.’”

²⁶Iilizwi likaJehova laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi: ²⁷“Mina nginguJehova, uNkulunkulu woluntu lonke. Kambe kulento engehlulayo na?

²⁸Ngakho, nanku okutshiwo nguJehova, uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilnikele kumaKhaledi lakuNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ozalithumba.

²⁹AmaKhaledi ahlasele idolobho leli azangena alithungele ngomlilo; alitshise, kanye lezindlu lapho abantu abangithukuthelisela khona ngokutshisela uBhali impepha phezu kwezimpahla zezindlu langokuthululela abanye onkulunkulu iminikelo yokunathwa.

³⁰“Abantu bakoJuda labako-Israyeli benza ububi bodwa emehlweni ami kusukela ebutsheni babo; impela, abantu bako-Israyeli bangithukuthelisa ngalokhu abakwenza ngezandla zabo, kutsho uJehova. ³¹Kusukela ngosuku elakhiwa ngalo kuze kube khathezi, idolobho leli livusa ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami okwenza kufanele ukuba ngilisuse ebusweni bami.

³²Abantu bako-Israyeli labakoJuda bangithukuthelisile ngobubi bonke ababenzileyo – bona, amakhosi abo

lezikhulu zabo, abaphristi babo
labaphrofethi babo, abantu bakoJuda
labantu baseJerusalema. ³³ Bangifulathela
kabaze bangipha ubuso babo; lanxa
ngabafundisa kanenginengi
kabalalelanga njalo kabakunakanga
ukukhuzwa. ³⁴ Bamisa izithombe zabo
ezinengekayo endlini eleBizo lami
bayingcolisa. ³⁵ Bakhela uBhali izindawo
eziphakemeyo eSigodini saseBheni
Hinomi ukuba banikele amadodana
lamadodakazi abo kuMoleki, lanxa
ngingazange ngibalaye, kumbe kufike
engqondweni yami, ukuthi babokwenza
into eyenyanyeka kangaka ngalokho
benze uJuda one.

³⁶ “Liyatsho ngedolobho leli
lithi, ‘Ngenkemba, langendlala kanye
langesifo lizanikelwa eNkosini
yaseBhabhiloni,’ kodwa uJehova,
uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi:

³⁷ Ngizababuyisa kule indawo ngibenze
bahlale ngokuvikelwa. ³⁸ Bazakuba
ngabantu bami, mina ngibe
nguNkulunkulu wabo. ³⁹ Ngizabenza
babe munye enhliziyweni
lasezenzweni, ukuze bahlale bengesaba,
ukuba kube kuhle kubo lakubantwana
babo emva kwabo. ⁴⁰ Ngizakwenza labo
isivumelwano esingapheliyo:
Angiyi kuyekela ukwenza okuhle kubo,
ngizabafunzelela ukuba bangesabe,
ukuze bangangideli. ⁴¹ Ngizathokoza
ekubenzeleni okuhle njalo
ngibagxumeke ngobuqotho kulelizwe
ngenhliziyoyami yonke langomoya
wami wonke.

⁴² “UJehova uthi: Njengoba ngehlisele
inkemenkeme le enkulu kangaka phezu
kwalabantu, ngokunjalo ngizabapha
konke ukuphumelela engabathembisa
khona. ⁴³ Amasimu azathengwa futhi
kulelizwe lina elithi ngalo,
‘Lilugwadule oluphundlekileyo,
olungelabantu lezinyamazana, ngoba
lanikelwa kumaKhaledi.’ ⁴⁴ Amasimu

azathengwa ngesiliva, lezincwadi
zokuthenga zisayinwe, zinanyekwe
njalo zifakazelwe elizweni
likaBhenjamini, lemizini eseduze
leJerusalema, lasemadolobheni akoJuda
kanye lasemadolobheni elizwe
lamaqaqa, asemawatheni
asentshonalanga kanye lawaseNegebi,
ngoba ngizabuyisela inotho yabo, kutsho
uJehova.”

Isithembiso Sokubuyiswa

33 UJeremiya elokhu esavalelwe
egumeni labalindi, ilizwi likaJehova
lafika kuye ngokwesibili lisithi:
² “UJehova, yena owadala umhlaba,
uJehova owawenzayo wawumisa –
uJehova yilo ibizo lakhe, uthi, ³ ‘Ngibiza
ngizakusabela, ngikutshele izinto
ezinkulu ezifihlakeleyo ongazaziyo.’
⁴ Ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo
nguJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli
mayelana lezindlu ezikulelidolobho
langezindlu zobukhosi koJuda
ezadilizwayo ukuba zisetshenziswe
ekumelaneni lamadundulu okuvimbezela
kanye lenkemba ⁵ ekulweni lAmaKhaledi
‘Zizagcwala izidumbu zabantu abafuleyo
engizababulala ekuthukutheleni kwami
langolaka lwami. Idolobho leli
ngizalifihlela ubuso bami ngenxa yobubi
balo bonke.

⁶ “Kodwa, ngizaletha ukuphila
lokusiliswa kulo: abantu bami
ngizabasilisa ngibenze bajabulele
ukuthula okukhulu kanye lokuvikeleka.
⁷ Ngizabuyisa uJuda lo-Israyeli besuka
ekuthunjweni njalo ngizabakha futhi
njengalokhu ababe yikho kuqala.
⁸ Ngizabahlambulula kuzo zonke izono
abazenza kimi njalo ngizabathethelela
zonke izono zabo zokungihlamukela.
⁹ Ngakho idolobho leli lizangilethela
indumela ukuthokoza, lokubongwa

kanye lodumo phambi kwezizwe zonke emhlabeni ezizwa ngezinto zonke ezinhle engizenzela lona; njalo zizakwesaba ziqhaqhazele ngenxa yokuphumelela okukhulu lokuthula engizakuletha kulo.’

¹⁰“UJehova uthi: ‘Liyatsho ngendawo le lithi, “Ilugwadule oluphundlekileyo, olungelabantu kumbe izinyamazana.” Kodwa emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema okwatshiywayo, okungekho muntu kumbe inyamazana ehlala khona, kuzazwakala khona futhi ¹¹ imisindo yokuthokoza lokuthaba, amazwi omlobokazi lomnyeni, lamazwi alabo abaletha iminikelo yokubonga endlini kaJehova besithi, “Bongani uJehova uSomandla, ngoba uJehova ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube nini lanini.”

Ngoba inotho yelizwe ngizayibuyisela njengoba yayinjalo kuqala, kutsho uJehova.

¹²“UJehova uSomandla uthi, ‘Kuyo yonale indawo ephundlekileyo, engelabantu kumbe izinyamazana – kuwo wonke amadolobho ayo kuzakuba lamadlelo futhi ukuba abelusi baphumuze imihlambi yabo.

¹³Emadolobheni elizwe lamaqaqa, lawemawatheni entshonalanga kanye lawaseNegebi, elizweni lakoBhenjamini, emizini eseduze leJerusalema lasemadolobheni akoJuda, imihlambi izadlula ngaphansi kwesandla salowo oyibalayo,’ kutsho uJehova.

¹⁴“ ‘Izinsuku ziyeza,’ kutsho uJehova, ‘lapho engizagwalisa isithembiso somusa engasenza endlini ka-Israyeli lasendlini kaJuda.

¹⁵“ ‘Ngalezozinsuku langalesosikhathi ngizahlumisa uGatsha olulungileyo

kunzalo kaDavida; uzakwenza okulungileyo lokufaneleyo elizweni.

¹⁶Ngalezozinsuku uJuda uzasindiswa leJerusalema ihlale ngokuvikeleka. Ibizozabizwa ngalo yileli elithi; UJehova oyikuLunga Kwethu.’

¹⁷Ngoba uJehova uthi, ‘UDavida kayikuswela umuntu ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi bendlu ka-Israyeli, ¹⁸labaphristi, abangabaLevi, kabayikuswela umuntu oma phambi kwami kokuphela ukuba anikele iminikelo yokutshiswa, atshise iminikelo yamabele lokwethula imihlatshelo.’ ”

¹⁹Iilizwi likaJehova lafika kuJeremiya lisithi: ²⁰“Nanku okutshiwo nguJehova, ‘Nxa lingephula isivumelwano sami lemini lesivumelwano sami lobusuku, ukuze imini lobusuku kungabe kusaqalisa ngezikhathi zakho ezamiswayo, ²¹pho-ke isivumelwano sami loDavida inceku yami – lesivumelwano sami labaLevi abangabaphristi abakhonzayo phambi kwami – singephulwa njalo uDavida angeke abe lenzalo ezabusa esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. ²²Ngizakwenza inzalo kaDavida inceku yami labaLevi abakhonzayo phambi kwami ingabi lakubalwa njengezinkanyezi zasemkhathini njalo ingalinganiseki njengetshebetshebe lasekhunjini lolwandle.’ ”

²³Iilizwi likaJehova lafika kuJeremiya lisithi; ²⁴“Kawukananzeleli na ukuthi abantu laba bathi, ‘UJehova useyilahlile imibuso emibili ayeyikhethile?’ Ngakho bayabeyisa abantu bami njalo kabasabanaki njengesizwe. ²⁵UJehova uthi, ‘Uma ngingamisanga isivumelwano sami lelanga lobusuku kanye lemithetho eqinileyo yasezulwini lasemhlabeni, ²⁶lapho-ke ngizayilahla inzalo kaJakhobe lekaDavida inceku yami njalo

ngingakhethi enye yamadodana akhe ukuba ibuse inzalo ka-Abrahama, leka-Isaka lekaJakhobe. Ngoba ngizabuyisela inhlanhla yabo ngibe lesihawu kubo.’ ”

Isixwayiso kuZedekhiya

34 Kwathi uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lebutso lakhe lonke kanye lemibuso yonke, labantu basemazweni ayewabusa besilwa leJerusalema lawo wonke amadolobho alo ayeseduzane, ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuJehova lisithi; ²“UJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Yana kuZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda uthi kuye, ‘UJehova uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilnikele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo izalitshisa ngomlilo. ³Kawuyikuphunyuka esandleni sayo kodwa uzathunjwa impela unikelwe kuyo. Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni uzayibona ngamehlo akho, njalo izakhuluma lawe ubuso ngobuso. Njalo uzahamba eBhabhiloni. ⁴“ ‘Kodwa-ke zwana isithembiso sikaJehova, wena Zedekhiya nkosi yakoJuda. Ngawe uJehova uthi: awuyikufa ngenkamba; ⁵uzakufa ngokuthula. Njengoba abantu babasa umlilo wesililo bekhumbula oyihlo, amakhosi akuqala akwandulelayo, ngokunjalo bazabasa umlilo wokukukhumbula, balile bathi, “Maye, O Nkosi!” Mina ngokwami ngenza isithembiso lesi, kutsho uJehova.’ ”

⁶Ngakho uJeremiya umprofethi wamtshela konke lokhu uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, eJerusalema, ⁷lapho ibutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lalisilwa leJerusalema lamanye amadolobho akoJuda ayelokhu esaqinisele – iLakhishi le-Azekha. La yiwo kuphela

amadolobho ayevikelwe ngezinqaba ayesasele koJuda.

Ukukhululwa Kwezigqili

⁸Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela kuJehova emva kokuba inkosi uZedekhiya esenze isivumelwano labantu bonke baseJerusalema sokumemezela ukukhululwa kwezigqili. ⁹Wonke umuntu kwakumele akhulule izigqili zakhe ezingamaHebheru, ezesilisa lezesifazana; kakho owayezagcina umJuda wakibo ebugqilini. ¹⁰Ngakho zonke izikhulu labantu bonke abenza isivumelwano lesi bavuma ukuthi babezakhulula izigqili zabo zesilisa lezesifazana bangazigcini ebugqilini futhi. Bavuma, bazikhulula. ¹¹Kodwa muva bantshintsha izingqondo zabo bazithumba njalo izigqili zabo ababezikhulule bazenza izigqili futhi. ¹²Ilizwi likaJehova laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi, ¹³“UJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngenza isivumelwano labokhokho benu ekubakhupheni kwami eGibhithe, elizweni lobugqili. Ngathi, ¹⁴‘Ngeminyaka yonke yesikhombisa omunye lomunye wenu kumele akhulule umHebheru wakibo ozithengise kuwe. Emva kokuba esekusebenzele iminyaka eyisithupha, kumele umkhulule ahambe. Kodwa okhokho benu, kabangilalelanga njalo kabanginakanga. ¹⁵Ngesikhathi esisanda kudlula laphenduka lenza okulungileyo emehlweni ami: Omunye lomunye wenu wamemezela ukukhululwa kwabantu belizwe lakibo. Laze lenza lesivumelwano phambi kwami endlini eleBizo lami. ¹⁶Kodwa khathesi seliguquke langcolisa ibizo lami; omunye lomunye wenu usezithumbile futhi izigqili zesilisa lezesifazana elalizikhulule ukuba zizihambele lapho ezifuna khona.

Selizibambe ngamandla ukuba zibe yizigqili zenu futhi.

¹⁷“Ngakho, lokhu yikho uJehova akutshoyo: ‘Kalingilalelanga; kalimemezelanga ukukhululwa kwabantu belizwe lakini. Ngakho khathesi ngimemezela ‘inkululeko’ yenu, kutsho uJehova – ‘inkululeko’ yokubulawa ngenkamba, yisifo lendlala. Ngizalenza lingengeke kuyo yonke imibuso yomhlaba. ¹⁸Abantu abephula isivumelwano sami kabaze bagcwalisa izimiso zesivumelwano abasenza phambi kwami, ngizabaphatha njengethole abalidabula phakathi basebehamba phakathi kweziqa zalo.

¹⁹Abakhokheli bakoJuda labeJerusalema, izikhulu zasemthethwandaba, abaphristi labantu bonke abahamba phakathi kweziqa zethole, ²⁰ngizabanikela ezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala. Izidumbu zabo zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga.

²¹“UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kanye lezikhulu zakhe ngizabanikela ezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala, lakubutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni eselisukile kini.

²²Ngizakhupha ilizwi, kutsho uJehova njalo ngizababuyisa futhi kulelidolobho. Bazakulwa lalo, balithumbe, balitshise ngomlilo. Amadolobho akoJuda ngizawabhidliza ukuze kungabi lamuntu ohlala kuwo.

AmaRekhabi

35 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuJehova ekubuseni kukaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, elathi, ²“Yana endlini yamaRekhabi uwabize ukuba eze kwelinye lamakamelo endlu kaJehova uwanike iwayini anathe.

³Ngakho ngayathatha uJahazaniya indodana kaJeremiya, indodana

kaHabhaziniya, labafowabo kanye lamadodana akhe wonke – umuzi wonke wamaRekhabi. ⁴Ngabasa endlini kaJehova, ekamelweni lamadodana kaHanani indoda ka-Igidaliya umuntu kaNkulunkulu. Laliseduze lekamelo lezikhulu elalingaphezu kwelikaMahaseyiya indodana kaShalumi umlindi wesango. ⁵Emva kwalokho ngabeka imiganu eyayigcwele iwayini lezinkezo phambi kwabantu bomndeni wamaRekhabi, ngathi kubo, “Nathani iwayini.”

⁶Kodwa bona baphendula bathi, “Iwayini kasilinathi ngoba ukhokho wethu uJonadabi indodana kaRekhabi wasinika umlayo lo othi: ‘Lina loba inzalo yenu akumelanga linathe iwayini.

⁷Njalo lingakhi zindlu, lingahlanyeli kumbe lilime izivini; lingabi lokunye kwalezizinto, kodwa kumele lihlale emathenteni kokuphela. Ngalokho lizaphila isikhathi eside elizweni elizinzulane kulo.’ ⁸Sakulalela konke ukhokho wethu uJonadabi indodana kaRekhabi asilaya khona. Thina labomkethu lamadodana ethu kanye lamadodakazi ethu asikaze silinathe iwayini, ⁹kumbe sakhe izindlu zokuhlala kuzo loba sibe lezivini, amasimu kumbe amabele. ¹⁰Sihlala emathenteni njalo siyakulalela konke ukhokho wethu uJonadabi asilaya khona. ¹¹Kodwa ekuhlaseleni kukaNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ilizwe leli, sathi, ‘Wozani siye eJerusalema sibalekele amabutho AmaKhaledi kanye lawama-Arameya.’ Sahlala kanjalo eJerusalema.” ¹²Ilizwi likaJehova laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi: ¹³“UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘Kalifundi sifundo lilalele amazwi ami na?’ kutsho uJehova. ¹⁴‘UJonadabi indodana kaRekhabi walaya amadodana akhe ukuba anganathi iwayini, njalo

umlayo lo wagcinwa. Kuze kube lamhla iwayini kabalinathi ngoba balalela umlayo kakhokho wabo. Kodwa mina sengakhuluma lani njalonjalo, kodwa kalingilalelanga. ¹⁵Ngathuma izinceku zami abaphrofethi kini kanenginengi. Bathi, “Ngamunye wenu kumele liphenduke ezindleleni zenu; ezimbi lilungise lezenzo zenu; lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu ukuba libakhonze.

Ngalokho lizahlala elizweni engalipha lona lina labokhokho benu.” Kodwa kalinakanga, njalo kalingilalelanga.

¹⁶Inzalo kaJonadabi indodana kaRekhabi iwulandele umlayo eyawuphiwa ngukhokho wayo, kodwa abantu laba mina kabangilalelanga.’ ”

¹⁷“Ngakho uJehova, uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi; ‘Lalelani, ngizakwehlisela phezu kukaJuda laphezu komuntu wonke ohlala eJerusalema wonke umonakalo engabathembisa wona. Ngabatshela, kodwa kabalalelanga; ngababiza, kodwa kabasabelanga.’ ”

¹⁸UJeremiya wasesithi kwabomndeni wamaRekhabi, “UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Liwulalele umlayo kakhokho wenu uJonadabi layilandela yonke imfundiso yakhe njalo lenza konke alilaya khona.’ ”

¹⁹Ngakho uJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘UJonadabi indodana kaRekhabi kayikuswela umuntu wokungikhonza.’ ”

UJehoyakhimi Utshisa Umqulu

KaJeremiya

36 Ngomnyaka wesine

kaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuJehova, lisithi:

²“Thatha umqulu ulobe kuwo wonke amazwi engawatsho kuwe ngo-Israyeli,

uJuda lezinye zonke izizwe kusukela ngiqalisa ukukhuluma kuwe ekubuseni kukaJosiya kuze kube khathesi.

³Mhlawumbe lapho abantu bakoJuda besizwa ngawo wonke umonakalo engiceba ukuwehlisela phezu kwabo, omunye lomunye wabo uzaphenduka ezindleleni zakhe ezimbi; kulapho-ke ngizabathethelela ububi babo lezono zabo.”

⁴Ngakho uJeremiya wabiza uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya. Kwathi uJeremiya ewatsho wonke amazwi ayekhulunywe nguJehova, uBharukhi ewaloba emqulwini. ⁵UJeremiya wasesithi kuBharukhi, “Mina ngivalelwe; ngingeke ngiye ethempelini likaJehova. ⁶Ngakho yana endlini kaJehova ngosuku lokuzila ukudla ubalele abantu amazwi kaJehova asemqulwini owawaloba ngikutshela. Abalele bonke abantu bakoJuda abangena bevela emadolobheni akibo. ⁷Engxenye bazaletha isicelo sabo phambi kukaJehova, omunye lomunye aphenduke ezindleleni zakhe ezimbi, ngoba intukuthelo lolaka okumenyezelwe kulababantu nguJehova kukhulu.”

⁸UBharukhi indodana kaNeriya wenza konke ayekutshelwe nguJeremiya umphrofethi ukuba akwenze; ethempelini lika Jehova wabala amazwi kaJehova emqulwini. ⁹Ngenyanga yesificamunwemunye yomnyaka wesihlanu kaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwamenyezelwa isikhathi sokuzila ukudla phambi kukaJehova ebantwini bonke baseJerusalema lakulaba ababeze bevela emadolobheni akoJuda.

¹⁰Esendlini kaGemariya indodana kaShafani umabhalani, eyayisegumeni langaphezulu ekungeneni kweSango

eLitsha lethempeli, uBharukhi wawabalela abantu bonke ethempelini likaJehova amazwi kaJeremiya asemqulwini.

¹¹ Kwathi uMikhaiya indodana kaGemariya, indodana kaShefani, esezwe wonke amazwi kaJehova ayesemqulwini, ¹² waya phansi endlini kamabhalani esigodlweni, lapho izikhulu zonke ezazihlezi khona: u-Elishama umabhalani, uDelayiya indodana kaShemayiya, u-Elinathani indodana ka-Akhibhori, uGemariya indodana kaShafani, uZedekhiya indodana kaHananiya kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu. ¹³ Emva kokuba uMikhaiya esebatshele konke ayezwe uBharukhi ekubalela abantu emqulwini, ¹⁴ izikhulu zonke zathuma uJehudi indodana kaNethaniya, indodana kaShelemiya, indodana kaKhushi, ukuba ayekuthi kuBharukhi, “Woza lomqulu owubalele abantu.” Ngakho uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya waya kubo lomqulu ewuphethe ngesandla. ¹⁵ Bathi kuye, “Ake uhlale phansi usibalele wona.”

Ngakho uBharukhi wababalela. ¹⁶ Sebezwe wonke amazwi la bakhangelana ngokwesaba, basebesithi kuBharukhi, “Amazwi la kumele siwabike wonke enkosini.” ¹⁷ Babuya bambuza uBharukhi bathi, “Sitshele, kwenzakale njani ukuthi ubhale konke lokhu? Kukhulunywe nguJeremiya na?” ¹⁸ UBharukhi waphendula wathi, “Ye, amazwi wonke la uwakhulume kimi, mina ngawaloba ngeyinki emqulwini.” ¹⁹ Izikhulu zasezisithi kuBharukhi, “Wena loJeremiya hambani liyecatsha. Lingatsheli muntu ukuthi lingaphi.” ²⁰ Sebefake umqulu endlini ka-Elishama umabhalani, baya enkosini egumeni bayibikela konke, ²¹ inkosi yathuma uJehudi ukuba ayethatha umqulu lowo, uJehudi weza lawo ewuthethe endlini

ka-Elishama umabhalani wawubalela inkosi lezikhulu zonke ezazimi phansi kwayo. ²² Kwakuyinyanga yesificamunwemunye, njalo inkosi yayihlezi ekamelweni lebusika, kulomlilo ovuthayo eziko phambi kwayo. ²³ Kwakusithi uJehudi angabala izigaba ezintathu loba ezine zomqulu, inkosi iziqume ngengqamu iziphosele eziko umqulu waze watsha wonke emlilweni. ²⁴ Inkosi lezikhonzi zayo zonke ezawezwayo amazwi la kabesabanga loba badabule iziqqoko zabo. ²⁵ Lanxa u-Elinathani loDelayiya kanye loGemariya bayincenga inkosi ukuba ingatshisi umqulu, kayibalalelanga. ²⁶ Esikhundleni salokho inkosi yalaya uJerameweli, indodana yenkosi, loSerayiya indodana ka-Aziriyeli kanye loShemayiya indodana ka-Abhideweli ukuba babophe uBharukhi umbali kanye loJeremiya umphrofethi. Kodwa uJehova waye sebafile. ²⁷ Inkosi isitshise umqulu owawulamazwi ayebhalwe nguBharukhi ewatshelwa nguJeremiya, ilizwi likaJehova lafika kuJeremiya lisithi, ²⁸ “Thatha omunye umqulu ulobe kuwo wonke amazwi abesemqulwini wakuqala, otshiswe nguJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda. ²⁹ Umtshele uJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda uthi, ‘UJehova uthi: Utshise umqulu lowana wathi, “Kungani ulobe kuwo ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni izakuza ngempela ichithe ilizwe leli, iqothule abantu lezinyamazana kulo na?” ³⁰ Ngakho mayelana loUJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda, uJehova uthi: Akayikuba lomuntu ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida; isidumbu sakhe sizaphoselwa phandle sichayeke ekutshiseni kwelanga lakungqoqwane

webusuku. ³¹Ngizamjezisa labantwana bakhe kanye lezikhonzi zakhe ngenxa yobubi babo. Ngizakwehlisela phezu kwabo laphezu kwalabo abahlala eJerusalema kanye labantu bakoJuda, wonke umonakalo engawumemezela kubo, ngoba kabalalelanga.’ ”

³²Ngakho uJeremiya wathatha omunye umqulu wawunika umbhali uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya, njalo kwathi uJeremiya emtshela uBharukhi waloba kuwo wonke amazwi omqulu owawutshiswe emlilweni nguJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda. Kwengezelelwa ngamanye amazwi amanengi ayefana lalawo.

UJeremiya Esentolongweni

37 UZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya

wabekwa nguNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abe yinkosi yakoJuda; wabusa esikhundleni sikaJehoyakhimi indodana kaUJehoyakhimi. ²Yena lezikhonzi zakhe kanye labantu baselizweni kabawanakanga amazwi kaJehova ayewakhulume ngoJeremiya umphrofethi.

³Kodwa uZedekhiya inkosi, wathuma uJehukhali indodana kaShelemiya lomphristi uZefaniya indodana kaMahaseyiya kuJeremiya umphrofethi belaleli ilizwi, elithi, “Ake usikhulekele kuJehova uNkulunkulu.”

⁴Ngalesisikhathi uJeremiya wayesekhululekile ukuza lokuhamba phakathi kwabantu, ngoba wayengakafakwa entolongweni.

⁵Ibutho likaFaro laseliphumile eGibhithe, kwasekusithi AmaKhaledi ayevimbezele iJerusalema esezwe umbiko ngalo, asuka eJerusalema.

⁶Kwasekufika ilizwi likaJehova kuJeremiya umphrofethi lisithi:

⁷“UJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Tshelani inkosi yakoJuda elithume ukuba lizengibuza lithi, “Ibutho likaFaro eseliphume ukuba lizelisekela, lizabuyela elizweni lalo eGibhithe .

⁸Emva kwalokho AmaKhaledi azaphenduka ahlasele idolobho leli; azalithumba alitshise ngomlilo.’

⁹“UJehova uthi: Lingazikhohlisi licabange lithi, ‘AmaKhaledi azasuka kithi impela.’ Kawayikusuka! ¹⁰Lanxa linganqoba lonke ibutho lAmaKhaledi alihlaselayo, kusale abantu abalimeleyo kuphela emathenteni abo, bazaphuma balitshise idolobho leli ngomlilo.”

¹¹Kwathi ibutho lAmaKhaledi selisukile eJerusalema ngenxa yebutho likaFaro,

¹²uJeremiya wasuka edolobheni ukuba aye elizweni lakoBhenjamini ukuba ayethatha isabelo sakhe selifa phakathi kwabantu khonale. ¹³Kodwa kwathi esefikile eSangweni lakoBhenjamini, induna yabalindi ebizo layo lalingu-Irija indodana kaShelemiya, indodana kaHananiya, wambopha wasesithi kuye, “Ubalekela kumaKhaledi wena!”

¹⁴UJeremiya wathi, “Akusiqiniso lokho! Kangibalekeli kumaKhaledi.”

Kodwa u-Irija kamlalelanga; esikhundleni salokho, wabopha uJeremiya wamusa ezikhulwini.

¹⁵Izikhulu zamthukuthelela uJeremiya zalaya ukuba atshaywe aphinde avalelwe endlini kaJonathani umabhalani, ezaseziyenze yaba yintolongo.

¹⁶UJeremiya wafakwa esitokisini esiyingubhe emgodini oyintolongo lapho ahlala khona okwesikhathi eside.

¹⁷Inkosi uZedekhiya wathi kayethathwa a lethwe esigodlweni lapho ambuzela khona ensitha esithi, “Kulelizwi elivela kuJehova na?” UJeremiya waphendula

wathi, “Ye, wena uzanikelwa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni.”

¹⁸UJeremiya wabuye wathi kuZedekhiya inkosi, “Ngoneni kuwe loba ezikhulwini zakho kumbe kulababantu, uze ungifake entolongweni nje? ¹⁹Bangaphi abaphrofethi bakho abaphrofetha kuwe besithi, ‘Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni kayiyikukuhlasela wena – lelizwe leli. ²⁰Kodwa khathesi, nkosi yami, ake ulalele. Ngivumela ngethule isicelo sami kuwe: Ungangibuyiseli endlini kaJonathani umabhalani, hlezi ngifele khona.”

²¹UZedekhiya inkosi waselaya ukuba uJeremiya afakwe egumeni labalindi aphiwe isinkwa esivela emgwaqweni wabapheki bezinkwa usuku ngalunye izinkwa zonke zize ziphele edolobheni. Ngakho uJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi.

UJeremiya Uphoselwa Emgodini

38 UShefathi indodana kaMathani, loGideliya indodana kaMalikhiya bakuzwa uJeremiya ayekutshela abantu bonke esithi, ²“UJehova uthi: ‘Lowo ozasala kulelidolobho uzabulawa yinkemba, yindlala kumbe yisifo; kodwa lowo ozakuya kumaKhaledi uzasila. Uzaphunyuka lokuphila kwakhe; uzaphila.’ ³Njalo uJehova uthi: ‘Idolobho leli lizanikelwa impela ebuthweni lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni ezalithumba.’ ”

⁴Izikhulu zasezisithi enkosini, “Umuntu lo kumele abulawe. Wenza amabutho asala kulelidolobho aphelelwe lithemba, kanye labantu bonke, ngenxa yezinto azitshoyo kubo. Umuntu lo kadingi okuhle kwabantu laba, kodwa ukubhujiswa kwabo.”

⁵UZedekhiya inkosi waphendula wathi, “Usezandleni zenu. Inkosi ingeke yenze lutho ukuba iliphikise.”

⁶Ngakho bamthatha uJeremiya bamfaka emgodini kaMalikhiya, indodana yenkosi, owawusegumeni labalindi. UJeremiya bamehlisela phansi phakathi komgodi ngemichilo; wawungelamanzi, kuludaka kuphela, ngakho uJeremiya watshona edakeni.

⁷Kodwa u-Ebhedi-Meleki, umKhushi, isikhulu endlini yobukhosi, wezwa ukuthi basebefake uJeremiya emgodini. Kwathi-ke inkosi ihlezi eSangweni lakoBhenjamini, ⁸u-Ebhedi-Meleki waphuma esigodlweni wathi kuyo, ⁹“Nkosi yami, abantu laba benze ububi kukho konke abakwenze kuJeremiya umphrofethi. Sebemphosele emgodini lapho azalamba khona aze afe kungaselakudla edolobheni.”

¹⁰Ngakho inkosi yalaya u-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi yathi, “Thatha amadoda angamatshumi amathathu lapha likhuphe uJeremiya umphrofethi emgodini engakafi.”

¹¹Ngakho u-Ebhedi-Meleki wathatha amadoda lawo waya lawo endlini engaphansi kwendlu yengcebo esigodlweni. Wathatha amanikiniki amadala lezigqoko ezigugileyo khonapho wakwehlisela phansi kuJeremiya emgodini ngemichilo.

¹²U-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi wathi kuJeremiya, “Faka amanikiniki la amadala lezigqoko lezi ezigugileyo emakhwapheni akho ukuze imichilo ingakulimazi.” UJeremiya wenza njalo, ¹³basebemdonsela phezulu ngemichilo, bamkhupha emgodini. UJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi.

UZedekhiya Ubuza UJeremiya futhi

¹⁴Inkosi uZedekhiya wabiza uJeremiya umphrofethi wasiwa entubeni yesithathu lethempeli likaJehova. Inkosi yasisithi kuJeremiya, “Ngizakubuza okuthize. Ungangifihleli lutho.”

¹⁵ UJeremiya wathi kuZedekhiya,
 “Ngingakuphendula kawuyikungibulala
 na? Loba ngingakweluleka,
 kawuyikungilalela.”

¹⁶ Kodwa uZedekhiya wafunga isifungo
 lesi ngasese kuJeremiya, wathi,
 “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uJehova ekhona,
 yena owasinika ukuphefumula,
 angiyikukubulala loba ngikunikele
 kulabo abafuna ukukubulala.”

¹⁷ Lapho-ke uJeremiya wathi
 kuZedekhiya, "UJehova uNkulunkulu
 uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli,
 uthi : ‘Ungazinikela ezikhulwini zenkosi
 yaseBhabhiloni, impilo yakho izaphepha
 njalo ledolobho leli kaliyikutshiswa
 ngomlilo; wena labendlu yakho lizasila.

¹⁸ Kodwa uma ungazinikeli ezikhulwini
 zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, idolobho leli
 lizanikelwa kumaKhaledi azalitshisa
 ngomlilo; njalo wena uqobo
 kawuyikuphunyuka ezandleni zawo.’ ”

¹⁹ INkosi uZedekhiya wasesithi
 kuJeremiya, “Ngiyabesaba abakoJuda
 asebe kumaKhaledi, ngoba AmaKhaledi
 anganginikela kubo bangiphathe kubi.”

²⁰ UJeremiya wathi, “Kabayikunikela.
 Lalela uJehova ngokwenza lokhu
 engikutshela khona. Lapho-ke
 kuzakulungela, njalo lempilo yakho
 izaphepha. ²¹ Kodwa ungala ukuzinikela,
 nanku okuvezwe nguJehova kimi:

²² Bonke abesifazana abasele endlini
 yobukhosi yenkosi yakoJuda
 bazakhutshelwa phandle ezikhulwini
 zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni bathi kuwe:

“ ‘Bakukhohlisile bakwehlula
 labobangane bakho abathenjiweyo.
 Izinyawo zakho zitshonile edakeni;
 abangane bakho bakudelile.’ ”

²³ “Abafazi bakho kanye labantwana
 bazakhutshelwa phandle kumaKhaledi.

Lawe uqobo kawuyikuphunyuka
 ezandleni zawo, kodwa uzathunjwa
 yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni; njalo idolobho
 leli lizatshiswa ngomlilo.”

²⁴ UZedekhiya wasesithi kuJeremiya,
 “Akungabi lomuntu omazisa inkulumo
 le, hlezi ufe. ²⁵ Izikhulu zingezwa ukuthi
 ngike ngakhuluma lawe, besezisisa kuwe
 zithi, ‘Sitshele lokho okutshiloyo
 enkosini kanye lokutshiwo yinkosi
 kuwe; ungasifihleli funa sikubulale,’
²⁶ wena zitshela uthi, ‘Kade ngincenga
 inkosi ukuthi ingangibuyiseli endlini
 kaJonathani ukuyafela khona.’ ”

²⁷ Lakanye izikhulu zonke zaya
 kuJeremiya zambuza, yena wazitshela
 konke inkosi eyayimlaye ukuthi akutsho.
 Ngakho kazisatshongo lutho kuye futhi,
 ngoba kakho owayeyizwile inkulumo
 yakhe lenkosi.

²⁸ UJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi
 kwaze kwaba lusuku lokuthunjwa
 kweJerusalema.

Ukuwa KweJerusalema

39 IJerusalema lathunjwa kanje:

Ngomnyaka wesificamunwemunye
 kaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda,
 ngenyanga yetshumi,
 uNebhukhadinezari inkosi
 yaseBhabhiloni waya eJerusalema
 lebutsho lakhe lonke wayivimbezela.

² Ngosuku lwesificamunwemunye
 lwenyanga yesine, yomnyaka wetshumi
 lanye kaZedekhiya umduli wedolobho
 wadilizwa. ³ Emva kwalokho zonke
 izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni zafika
 zahlala eSangweni laPhakathi:
 kwakunguNerigali-Sharezeri
 oweSamugari, loNebho-Sarisekhimi
 induna yezikhulu, loNerigali-Sharezeri,
 indunankulu kanye lezinye zonke
 izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni.

⁴ Kwathi lapho uZedekhiya inkosi

yakoJuda lamabutho wonke bebabona babaleka. Basuka edolobheni ebusuku ngendlela yasesivandeni senkosi, baphuma ngesango eliphakathi kwemiduli, baqonda e-Arabha.

⁵Kodwa ibutho lamaKhaledi laxotshana labo, lafica uZedekhiya emagecekeni aseJerikho. Lamthumba, laselimusa kuNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila, elizweni laseHamathi, lapho amgweba khona. ⁶Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yawabulalela khona eRibhila amadodana kaZedekhiya emehlweni akhe, yabulala lezikhulu zasesikhosini zonke zakoJuda. ⁷Emva kwalokho uZedekhiya yamkhupha amehlo yasimbopha ngamaketane ethusi ukuba imuse eBhabhiloni.

⁸AmaKhaledi atshisa isigodlo ngomlilo lezindlu zabantu, adiliza lemiduli yeJerusalema. ⁹UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, wathatha abantu ababesele edolobheni ndawonye lalabo ababebalekele kuye kanye labanye abantu wabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. ¹⁰Kodwa uNebhuzaradani watshiya elizweni lakoJuda abanye babantu abangabayanga ababengelalutho olungolwabo; njalo ngalesosikhathi wabapha izivini lamasimu.

¹¹UNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wayelaye uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini ngoJeremiya wathi, ¹²“Umthathe, umgcine kuhle; ungamlimazi kodwa umenzele konke akucelayo.” ¹³Ngakho uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi, loNebhushazibhani induna yezikhulu, loNerigali-Sharezeri indunankulu kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni ¹⁴bathumela ukuba uJeremiya asuswe egumeni labalindi. Bamnikela kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami,

indodana kaShafani, ukuba ambuyisele kibo. Ngakho wahlala labantu bakibo.

¹⁵UJeremiya esavalelwe egumeni labalindi, ilizwi likaJehova lafika kuye lathi, ¹⁶“Hamba ku-Ebhedi-Melekhi umKhushi uthi kuye, ‘UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Sekuseduze ukuba ngigcwalise amazwi ami ngedolobho leli ngokulehlisela umonakalo, hatshi ukuphumelela. Ngalesosikhathi azagcwaliseka phambi kwamehlo enu. ¹⁷Kodwa ngizakuhlenga ngalolosuku, kutsho uJehova; kawuyikunikelwa kulabo obesabayo. ¹⁸Ngizakusindisa, kawuyikubulawa ngenkamba kodwa uzaphunyuka lokuphila kwakho, ngoba ungithembile, kutsho uJehova.’”

Ukukhululwa KukaJeremiya

40 Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya

lively kuJehova emva kokuba uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, esemkhulule eRama. Wayefice uJeremiya ebotshe ngamaketane phakathi kwabo bonke ababethunjwe eJerusalema lakoJuda ababesiwa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. ²Umlawuli wabalindi esethole uJeremiya wathi kuye, “UJehova uNkulunkulu wakho wamisela indawo le umonakalo lo. ³Khathesi uJehova usewulethile; usenze ayethe uzakwenza. Konke lokhu kwenzakala ngoba lina bantu lona kuJehova njalo kalimlalelanga. ⁴Kodwa lamhla ngiyakukhulula amaketane ezihlakaleni zakho. Hamba lami eBhabhiloni, uma uthanda, ngizakugcina; kodwa uma ungafuni, ungahambi. Khangela, ilizwe lonke liphambi kwakho; yana loba kungaphi lapho ofuna khona.” ⁵Kodwa-ke kwathi uJeremiya engasuki ukuba ahambe,

uNebhuzaradani wengeza wathi,
 “Buyela kuGedaliya indodana ka-
 Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani,
 osebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba
 abuse amadolobho akoJuda, uhlale laye
 phakathi kwabantu, kumbe uye loba
 kungaphi lapho ofuna khona.”

Emva kwalokho umlawuli wamnika
 umphako lesipho wasesithi kahambe.
⁶Ngakho uJeremiya waya kuGedaliya
 indodana ka-Ahikhami eMizipha
 wahlala phakathi kwabantu
 ababetshiywe elizweni.

Ukubulawa KukaGedaliya

⁷Kwathi zonke izikhulu zebutho labantu
 bazo ababesegangeni sebezwe ukuthi
 inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayisibeke
 uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami ukuba
 abe ngumbusi welizwe njalo imenze
 waba ngumphathi wamadoda
 labesifazana kanye labantwana
 ababengabayanga bokucina elizweni
 njalo ababengasiwanga ekuthunjweni
 eBhabhiloni, ⁸baya kuGedaliya
 eMizipha – kungu-Ishimayeli indodana
 kaNethaniya, uJohanani loJonathani
 amadodana kaKhareya, loSerayiya
 indodana kaThanihemethi, lamadodana
 ka-Efayi umNethofathi, loJahazaniya
 indodana yomMahakhathi kanye labantu
 babo. ⁹UGedaliya indodana ka-
 Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, wafunga
 isifungo ebathembisa labantu babo,
 wathi, “Lingesabi ukusebenzela
 AmaKhaledi. Hlalani elizweni
 lisebenzele inkosi yaseBhabhiloni,
 kuzalilungela. ¹⁰Mina ngokwami
 ngizahlala eMizipha ukuba ngilimele
 kumaKhaledi eza kithi, kodwa lina
 vunani iwayini lezithelo zasehlobo
 kanye lamafutha, likufake ezimbizeni
 zokugcinela, lihlale emadolobheni
 eseliwaphethe.”

¹¹Kwathi bonke abaJuda baseMowabi,
 e-Amoni le-Edomi lawo wonke amanye
 amazwe sebezwe ukuthi inkosi
 yaseBhabhiloni yayitshiye insalela
 koJuda njalo ibeke uGedaliya indodana
 ka-Ahikhami indodana kaShafani, ukuba
 ngumbusi wabo, ¹²bonke babuyela
 elizweni lakoJuda, kuGedaliya
 eMizipha, bevela kuwo wonke amazwe
 ababehlakazekele kuwo. Bavuna iwayini
 elinengi lezithelo zasehlobo.

¹³UJohanani indodana kaKhareya
 lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilokhu
 zisegangeni, baya kuGedaliya eMizipha
¹⁴bathi kuye, “Kawazi na ukuthi
 uBhahalisi inkosi yama-Amoni
 usethume u-Ishimayeli indodana
 kaNethaniya ukuba akubulale? Kodwa
 uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami
 kakukholwanga lokho.

¹⁵UJohanani indodana kaKhareya
 wasekhuluma ngasese loGedaliya
 eMizipha esithi, “Yekela ngihambe
 ngiyebulala u-Ishimayeli indodana
 kaNethaniya, kakho ozakwazi lokho.
 Kungani kumele akubulale enze ukuba
 abakoJuda bonke ababuthene kuwe
 bahlakazeke, lensalela yakoJuda
 ibhubhe na?”

¹⁶Kodwa uGedaliya indodana ka-
 Ahikhami wathi kuJohanani indodana
 kaKhareya, “Ungenzi into enjalo. Lokhu
 okutshoyo ngo-Ishimayeli akusiqiniso.”

41 Ngenyanga yesikhombisa

u-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya,
 indodana ka-Elishama, owayeyinzalo
 yesikhosini, njalo owayengomunye
 wezikhulu zenkosi, waya kuGedaliya
 indodana ka-Ahikhami eMizipha
²lamadodana kaNethaniya lamadoda
 alitshumi ayelaye basukuma bamgwaza
 ngenkamba uGedaliya indodana ka-
 Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani,

bambulala lowo owayebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba ngumbusi welizwe. ³U-Ishimayeli wabulala lamaJuda wonke ayeloGedaliya eMizipha kanye lamabutho AmaKhaledi ayelapho.

⁴Ngosuku olwalandela ukubulawa kukaGedaliya, kungakabi lamuntu owayesesazi ngakho, ⁵kwafika amadoda angamatshumi aficaminwemibili evela eShekemu, leShilo leSamariya ayephuce indevu zawo izigqoko zawo zidabukile njalo ezisike imizimba, elethe iminikelo yamabele lempepha endlini kaJehova.

⁶U-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya wasuka eMizipha ukuyawahlangebeza; wahamba ekhala. Ekuhlanganeni kwakhe labo wathi, “Wozani kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami.” ⁷Kwathi sebengene phakathi kwedolobho u-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya kanye lamadoda ayelaye, bawabulala bawaphosela emgodini. ⁸Kodwa alitshumi awo athi ku-Ishimayeli, “Ungasibulali! Silengqoloyi lebhali, lamafutha loluju, esikufihle egangeni.” Ngakho wawayekela kaze awabulala lamanye. ⁹Umgodi ayephosele kuwo zonke izidumbu zamadoda ayewabulele kanye loGedaliya ngowawenziwe yinkosi u-Asa kuyingxenywe yokuzivikela kwakhe kuBhahaha inkosi yako-Israyeli. U-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya wawugcwalisa ngezidumbu.

¹⁰U-Ishimayeli wabenza baba yizigqili bonke abantu ababeseMizipha – amadodakazi enkosi kanye labanye bonke ababetshiywe khona, nguNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, owayebeke uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami ukuba ngumbusi wabo. U-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya wabathumba, wasuka ukuba achaphele kuma-Amoni.

¹¹Kwathi uJohanani indodana kaKhareya kanye lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye sebezwe konke okubi okwakwenziwe ngu-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya, ¹²bathatha bonke abantu babo bayakulwa lo-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya. Bamfica phansi kwechibi elikhulu eGibheyoni. ¹³Kwathi abantu bonke ababelo-Ishimayeli bebona uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zebutho ezazilaye, bathaba. ¹⁴Bonke abantu u-Ishimayeli ayebathumbe eMizipha baphenduka baya kuJohanani indodana kaKhareya. ¹⁵Kodwa u-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya labantu bakhe abayisifika mibili baphunyuka kuJohanani babalekela kuma-Amoni.

Ukubalekela eGibhithe

¹⁶Emva kwalokho uJohanani indodana kaKhareya, lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye, wathatha bonke abasilayo ababevele eMizipha ayebahlenge ku-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya emva kokubulala kwakhe uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami. Kwakungamabutho, labesifazana, labantwana kanye lezikhulu zasemthethwandaba ayezithethe eGibheyoni. ¹⁷Baqhubeka bahamba, bayakuma eGeruthi Khimihami eduze leBhetlehema, besiya eGibhithe ¹⁸ukuba babalekele AmaKhaledi. Babewesaba ngoba u-Ishimayeli indodana kaNethaniya wayebulele uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami owayebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abe ngumbusi welizwe.

42 Zonke izikhulu zebutho, kanye loJohanani indodana kaKhareya loJezaniya indodana kaHoshayiya, labantu bonke kusukela komncane

kusiya komkhulu baya ²kuJeremiya umphrofethi bathi kuye, “Ake uzwe isicelo sethu ubakhulekele bonke laba abaseleyo kuJehova uNkulunkulu wakho. Ngoba njengoba lawe uzibonela khathesi, lanxa sake saba banengi khathesi kusele abalutshwana kuphela .

³Khuleka ukuba uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho asitshela lapho okumele siye khona lalokho okumele sikwenze.”

⁴UJeremiya umphrofethi waphendula wathi, “Ngizwile. Ngizakhuleka impela kuJehova uNkulunkulu wenu njengoba licelile; ngizalitshela konke uJehova akutshoyo ngingalifihleli lutho.”

⁵Basebesithi kuJeremiya, “UJehova kabe ngufakazi wethu oqotho lothembekileyo uma singenzi okuvumelana lakho konke uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho akuthuma ukuba usitshela khona. ⁶Lanxa kukuhle kumbe kukubi sizamlalela uJehova uNkulunkulu wethu esikuthuma kuye, ukuze kusilungele, ngoba sizamlalela uJehova uNkulunkulu wethu.”

⁷Emva kwezinsuku ezilitshumi ilizwi likaJehova lafika kuJeremiya. ⁸Ngakho wabiza uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye kanye labantu bonke kusukela komncane kusiya komkhulu. ⁹Wathi kubo, “UJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, elingithume ukuba ngiyekwethula isicelo senu kuye, uthi: ¹⁰Lingahlala kulelizwe ngizalakra, ngingalibhidlizi, ngizalhlanyela ngingalisiphuni, ngoba ngilusizi ngomonakalo engawenza kini.

¹¹Lingayesabi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, eliyesabayo khathesi. Lingayesabi, kutsho uJehova, ngoba ngilani njalo ngizalhlenga ngilikhulule ezandleni zayo. ¹²Ngizakuba lesihawu kini ukuze layo ibe lesihawu kini ilibuyisele elizweni lakini.’

¹³“Kodwa lina lingathi, ‘Kasiyikuhlala kulelizwe,’ ngalokho lingalaleli uJehova

uNkulunkulu wenu, ¹⁴njalo uma lisithi, ‘Hatshi, thina sizakuyahlala eGibhithe lapho esingayikubona khona impi loba sizwe icilongo kumbe silambekele ukudla, ¹⁵zwanini-ke ilizwi likaJehova, lina abasele koJuda. UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Uma liphitshakela ukuya eGibhithe njalo lihambe ukuyahlala khona, ¹⁶lapho-ke inkemba eliyesabayo izalifika khona, lendlala eliyesabayo izalilandela eGibhithe, njalo lizafela khonale.

¹⁷Ngempela bonke abaphitshakela ukuya eGibhithe ukuba bahlale khona bazakufa ngenkemba, indlala lesifo; kakho lamunye wabo ozasinda loba aphephe kumonakalo engizabehlisela wona.’

¹⁸UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi, ‘Njengalokhu ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami kwehliselwa phezu kwabantu abahlala eJerusalema, ngokunjalo ulaka lwami luzakwehliselwa phezu kwenu lapho lisiya eGibhithe. Lizakuba yinto yokuthukwa lokwesatshwa, ukulahlwa lokuhlekwa; indawo le kaliyikuyibona futhi.’

¹⁹“Lina abasele koJuda, uJehova ulitshelile wathi, ‘Lingayi eGibhithe .’ Wobani leqiniso lalokhu ukuthi: Ngiyalixwayisa lamhla ²⁰ukuthi lenza iphutha elikhulu kakhulu lapho langithuma kuJehova uNkulunkulu wenu lathi, ‘Sikhulekele kuJehova unkulunkulu wethu; usitshela konke akutshoyo sizakwenza.’ ²¹Sengilitshelile lamhla, kodwa lilokhu lingalalelanga engilitshela khona. ²²Ngakho khathesi wobani leqiniso ukuthi lizakufa ngenkemba, indlala lesifo endaweni elifuna ukuyahlala kuyo.”

43 Kwathi uJeremiya eseqedile ukutshela abantu wonke amazwi kaJehova uNkulunkulu wabo – konke uJehova ayemthume ukuthi abatshele khona – ²u-Azariya indodana kaHoshayiya, loJohanani indodana kaKhareya labo bonke abantu abaziqqajayo bathi kuJeremiya, “Uqamba amanga! UJehova uNkulunkulu wethu kakuthumanga ukuba uthi, ‘Akumelanga liye eGibhithe ukuyahlala khona.’ ³Kodwa uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya uyakutshotshozela ukuba usinikele kumaKhaledi ukuba asibulale kumbe asise ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni.”

⁴Ngakho uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lazo zonke izikhulu zebutho kanye labantu bonke kabalilalelanga ilizwi likaJehova lokuthi bahlale elizweni lakoJuda. ⁵Esikhundleni salokho, uJohanani indoda kaKhareya lezikhulu zonke zebutho bathatha bonke ababesele koJuda ababebuyele koJuda ukuyahlala khona bevela ezizweni zonke ababekade behlakazelwe kuzo. ⁶Bathatha lamadoda wonke, labesifazana bonke kanye labantwana bonke, lamadodakazi enkosi lawo uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi ayewatshiye loGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, loJeremiya umphrofethi kanye loBharukhi indodana kaNeriya. ⁷Ngakho bangena eGibhithe bedelela uJehova, bahamba baze bayafika eThahiphanihesi.

⁸Ilizwi likaJehova lafika kuJeremiya eThahiphanesi lisithi, ⁹“Thatha amatshe amakhulu uwambelehlelabathini endaweni egandelwe ngezitina, abaJuda bekhangela, esangweni lesigodlo sikaFaro eThahiphanesi, ¹⁰uthi kubo, ‘UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizabiza inceku yami

uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, njalo ngizabeka isihlalo sakhe sobukhosi phezu kwamatshe la engiwambelehle lapha; uzakwendlala ithente lakhe lobukhosi phezu kwawo. ¹¹Uzakuza ahlasele iGibhithe, alethe ukufa kulabo abamiselwe ukufa, lokuthunjwa kulabo abamiselwe ukuthunjwa, lenkamba kulabo abamiselwe inkemba. ¹²Uzawathungela ngomlilo amathempeli abonkulunkulu bamaGibhithe; uzawatshisa amathempeli abo athumbe onkulunkulu bawo. Njengomalusi ezithandela ngesambatho sakhe, ngokunjalo laye uzazithandela ngeGibhithe asuke khona engalimalanga. ¹³Khonale eGibhithe, ethempelini lelanga, uzadiliza izinsika ezikhonzwayo njalo uzatshisa amathempeli abonkulunkulu beGibhithe.’ ”

Umonakalo Ngenxa Yokukhonza Izithombe

44 Ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya limayelana labaJuda ababehlala eZansi yeGibhithe – eMigodoli, leThahiphanesi leMemfisi – langaPhezulu yeGibhithe, lisithi, ²“UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Liwubonile umonakalo omkhulu engawehlisela phezu kweJerusalema laphezu kwamadolobho wonke akoJuda. Lamhlanje kawahlali muntu njalo angamanxiwa ³ngenxa yobubi ababenzayo. Bangithukuthelisa ngokukhonza langokutshisela impepha abanye onkulunkulu abangabaziyo bona, lani kanye labokhokho benu. ⁴Ngathuma izinceku zami, abaphrofethi, njalonjalo ezathi, ‘Lingayenzi into le enengisayo engiyizondayo!’ ⁵Kodwa kabalalelanga njalo kabanakanga; kabaphendukanga ebubini babo kumbe bayekelele ukutshisela abanye onkulunkulu

inpepha. ⁶Ngakho ulaka lwami olwesabekayo lwaphuphuma; lwavutha emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema, lwakwenza kwaba ngamanxiwa achithekileyo ayikho lamhlanje.

⁷“Khathesi uJehova uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Kungani lizilethela umonakalo omkhulu kangaka ngokususa koJuda amadoda labafazi, abantwana lensane, ngalokho lingazitshiyeli lensalela na?”

⁸Kungani lingithukuthelisa ngokwenziwa yizandla zenu, litshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha eGibhithe, lapho eselayhlala khona?

Lizazibhubhisa lina ngokwenu lizenze into yokuthukwa lokuhlekwa phakathi kwezizwe zonke emhlabeni.

⁹Selibukhohliwe yini ububi obenziwa ngokhokho benu lobubi obenziwa ngamakhosi lamakhosikazi akoJuda, lobubi obenziwa yini labomkenu elizweni lakoJuda, lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema? ¹⁰Kuze kube lamhla kabazithobanga kumbe batshengise ukuhlonipha, kumbe balandele imithetho yami lezimiso engalibekela zona lina labokhokho benu.

¹¹“Ngakho uJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizimisele ukulehlisela umonakalo ngibhubhise loJuda wonke.

¹²Ngizathatha abaseleyo koJuda ababezimisele ukuya eGibhithe; ukuba bahlale khona. Bonke bazabhubha eGibhithe; bazabulawa ngenkamba loba babulawe yindlala. Bazabulawa yinkamba loba indlala kusukela komncinyane kusiya komkhulu. Bazakuba yinto yokuqalekiswa lokwesaba, eyokulahlwa lokuthukwa.

¹³Abahlala eGibhithe ngizabajezisa ngenkamba, ngendlala langesifo, njengokujezisa engakwenza iJerusalema.

¹⁴Kakho owensalela yakoJuda

owayahlala eGibhithe ozaphunyuka kumbe aphephe ukuba abuyele elizweni lakoJuda asebefisa ukubuyela bayehlala kulo, kakho ozabuyela ngaphandle kweziphapheli ezilutshwana.”

¹⁵Lapho-ke wonke amadoda ayekwazi ukuthi omkawo babetshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha, kanye labesifazana bonke ababekhona – ixuku elikhulu – labantu bonke abahlala eGibhithe yangeZansi langaPhezulu, bathi kuJeremiya: ¹⁶“Thina kasiyikulilalela ilizwi olikhulume kithi ngebizo likaJehova! ¹⁷Impela sizakwenza konke esathi sizakwenza: Impepha sizayitshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini siyithululele leminikelo yokunathwayo njengalokhu esakwenzayo thina labobaba, amakhosi ethu kanye lezikhulu zakithi emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema. Ngalesosikhathi sasilokudla okunengi, sinothile kungekho okubi. ¹⁸Kodwa selokhu sayekela ukutshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha lokuyithululela iminikelo yokunathwayo, kasisabanga lalutho njalo sesilokhu sisifa ngenkamba langendlala.”

¹⁹Abesifazana bengeza bathi, “Lapho sasitshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha siyithululela leminikelo yokunathwa omkethu babengakwazi na ukuthi sasisenza amakhekhe anjengesithombe sayo siyithululela leminikelo yokunathwayo?”

²⁰UJeremiya wasesithi ebantwini bonke, abesilisa labesifazana, ababemphendula, ²¹“UJehova kakhumbulanga wanakana ngempepha elayitshisela emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema lina laboyihlo, lamakhosi enu lezikhulu zakini kanye labantu baselizweni na?”

²²Kwathi uJehova engaselakho

ukubekezelela izenzo zenu ezimbi lezinto ezinengisayo elazenzayo, ilizwe lenu laba yinto yokuqalekiswa logwadule oluphundlekileyo olungahlali muntu njengoba kunjalo lalamhla.

²³Umonakalo lo wehlele kini njengoba liwubona khathesi ngoba litshise impepha lenza okubi kuJehova njalo kalaze lamlalela loba lilandele umthetho wakhe kumbe izimiso zakhe loba izilayezelo zakhe.”

²⁴UJeremiya wasesithi ebantwini bonke, kubalwa labesifazana, “Zwanini ilizwi likaJehova lonke lina bantu bakoJuda abaseGibhithe. ²⁵UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Lina labomkenu selitshengisile ngezenzo zenu elathembisa ukukwenza lapho lathi, ‘Impela sizagcwalisa izifungo zethu esazenzayo zokutshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha kanye lokuyithululela iminikelo yokunathwayo.

“Ngakho qhubekani, yenzani elakuthembisayo. Gcwalisani izifungo zenu. ²⁶Kodwa zwanini ilizwi likaJehova lonke lina baJuda abahlala eGibhithe elithi, ‘Ngifunga ngebizo lami elidumileyo,’ kutsho uJehova, ‘ukuthi kakho ovela koJuda ohlala loba kungaphi eGibhithe ozabiza ibizo lami kumbe afunge esithi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uJehova uNkulunkulu ekhona.” ²⁷Ngoba ngilindele ukubenza okubi, hatshi okuhle. AbaJuda abaseGibhithe bazabhujiswa yinkemba lendlala baze baphele bonke. ²⁸Labo abazaphepha enkembeni babuyele elizweni lakoJuda bevela eGibhithe bazakuba balutshwana. Lapho-ke bonke abayinsalela yakoJuda abayahlala eGibhithe bazakwazi ukuthi ilizwi elizakuma ngelikabani – elami kumbe elabo.

²⁹“ ‘Lokhu kuzakuba yisibonakaliso kini sokuthi ngizalijezisa kuyonale indawo,’ kutsho uJehova, ‘ukuze lazi ukuthi okubi engalisongela ngakho kuzakwenzakala.’

³⁰UJehova uthi: ‘Ngizanikela uFaro Hofira inkosi yaseGibhithe ezitheni zakhe ezifuna ukumbulala, njengalokhu nganikela uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kuNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, isitha sakhe esasifuna ukumbulala.’ ”

Ilizwi KuBharukhi

45 Lokhu yikho uJeremiya

umphrofethi akutshela uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya ngomnyaka wesine kaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, emva kokuba uBharukhi elobe emqulwini amazwi ayekhulunywe nguJeremiya esithi:

²“UJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi kuwe, Bharukhi: ³Wena wathi, ‘Maye mina! UJehova usengezelele usizi ebuhlungwini bami; sengikhathele ngokububula njalo kangikutholi ukuphumula,’ ”

⁴UJehova wathi, “Yitsho lokhu kuye uthi: “UJehova uthi: Ngizadiliza esengikwakhile ngisiphune esengikuhlanyele elizweni lonke.

⁵Lapho-ke uzazifunela izinto ezinkulu na? Ungazidingi, ngoba ngizaletha umonakalo ebantwini bonke, kutsho uJehova, kodwa wena loba kungaphi oya khona ngizakwenza uphephe lokuphila kwakho.

Ilizwi NgeGibhithe

46 Leli yilizwi likaJehova elafika

kuJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana lezizwe.

²Mayelana leGibhithe:

Leli yilizwi elimayelana lebuthe
likaFaro Nekho inkosi yaseGibhithe,
elanqotshwayo eKharikhemishi emfuleni
iYufrathi nguNebhukhadinezari inkosi
yaseBhabhiloni ngomnyaka wesine
kaUJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya
inkosi yakoJuda:

³“Lungisani amahawu enu, amakhulu
lamancane, liphume liye empini.

⁴Bophani amabhiza, gadani amabhiza!
Manini ezindaweni zenu
lilezingowane zenu! Lolani imikhonto
yenu,

gqokani izigqoko zenu zensimbi!

⁵Kuyini engikubonayo?

Bayesaba, bahlehlala emuva,
amabutho abo ehlulwe.

Abaleka ngesiqubu
anganyemukuli emuva, njalo
kulokwesaba izindawo zonke,”
kutsho uJehova.

⁶Olejubane kasoze abaleke
kumbe olamandla aphephe.

Ngasenyakatho, emfuleni iYufrathi
bayakhubeka bawe.

⁷“Ngubani lo ophakama njengeNayili,
njengemifula elamanzi agubhazelayo
na?

⁸IGibhithe liphakama njengeNayili,
njengemifula elamanzi agubhazelayo.
Lithi: ‘Ngizaphakama ngembese
umhlaba; ngizachitha amadolobho
labantu bawo.’

⁹Hlaselani, lina mabhiza! Qhubekani
ngentukuthelo, lina zinqola zempi!
Yanini phambili, lina mabutho
madoda aseKhushi lawePhuthi
aphatha amahawu, madoda aseLidiya
agoba idandili.

¹⁰Kodwa usuku lolo
ngolukaJehova,
uJehova uSomandla – usuku

lokuphindisela, olokuphindisela
ezitheni zakhe. Inkemba izakudla ize
isuthe, ize icitshe ukoma kwayo
ngegazi.

Ngoba uJehova, uJehova uSomandla
uzanikela umhlatshelelo elizweni
lasenyakatho ngasemfuleni
iYufrathi.

¹¹Yana eGileyadi uyethatha umuthi
wokwelapha, wena Ntombi emsulwa
Ndodakazi yaseGibhithe. Kodwa
imithi uyandisela ize; akukho kusila
kuwe.

¹²Izizwe zizakuzwa ngehlazo lakho;
ukukhala kwakho kuzagcwala
umhlaba.

Elinye ibutho lizakhubeka kwelinye;
womabili azawela phansi ndawonye.”

¹³Leli yilizwi uJehova alikhuluma
kuJeremiya umphrofethi ngokuza
kukaNebhukhadinezari inkosi
yaseBhabhiloni ukuba ahlasele
iGibhithe:

¹⁴“Memezeleni lokhu eGibhithe,
likubike laseMigidoli;
kumemezeleni njalo laseMemfisi
laseThahiphanihesi lithi:
‘Manini ezindaweni zenu lilunge,
ngoba inkemba idla abakhelene lani.’

¹⁵Amabutho enu azabulawelwani na?
Angeke ame, ngoba uJehova
uzawalahlela phansi.

¹⁶Azakhubeka kokuphela; azakuwa
elekane. Azakuthi, ‘Vukani,
kasibuyeleni emuva ebantwini bakithi
lasemazweni akithi, kude kwenkemba
yomncindezeli.’

¹⁷Khonale bazamemeza bathi,
‘UFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe
ungumsindo omkhulu nje kuphela;
uselahlekelwe lithuba lakhe,’

¹⁸“Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi ngikhona,”

- kutsho uJehova obizo lakhe
 nguJehova uSomandla, “kuzafika
 omunye onjengoThabhozi phakathi
 kwezintaba,
 njengoKharimeli ngasolwandle.
¹⁹Lungisani izimpahla zekuthunjweni
 lina abahlala eGibhithe, ngoba
 iMemfisi izadilizwa ibe lunxiwa
 olungahlali muntu.
- ²⁰IGibhithe ilithokazi elihle,
 kodwa isibawu siyeza silisongela
 sivela enyakatho.
- ²¹Amabutho okuqatshwa aphakathi
 kwalo anjengamathole anonisiweyo.
 Lawo azaphenduka abaleke
 endawonye,
 kawayikujama, ngoba usuku
 lomona luyeza phezu kwabo,
 isikhathi sabo sokujeziswa.
- ²²IGibhithe izakhwaza njengenyoka
 ebalekayo lapho isitha sisondelela
 ngobunengi baso; sizayihlasela
 ngamahlaka okwabantu abagamula
 izihlahla.
- ²³Sizagamula amahlathi ayo,”
 kutsho uJehova, “lanxa eminyene
 kanjani.
 Sibanengi kulentethe, singeke
 sibalwe.
- ²⁴Indodakazi yaseGibhithe izayangiswa,
 inikelwe ebantwini basenyakatho.”
- ²⁵UJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu
 ka-Israyeli uthi: “Sekuseduze ukuba
 ngijezise u-Amoni unkulunkulu
 waseThebesi, loFaro, leGibhithe kanye
 labonkulunkulu balo lamakhosi alo,
 lalabo abathembe uFaro.
- ²⁶Ngizabanikela kulabo abafuna
 ukubabulala, kuNebhukhadinezari inkosi
 yaseBhabhiloni lezikhulu zakhe. Kodwa
 muva, iGibhithe lizahlalwa ngabantu
 futhi njengasezinsukwini zakudala,”
 kutsho uJehova.
- ²⁷“Ungesabi, wena Jakhobe nceku yami;

ungathuthumeli, wena Israyeli.
 Impela ngizakukhulula endaweni
 ekude,
 lenzalo yakho elizweni lokuthunjwa
 kwayo. UJakhobe uzakuba
 lokuthula futhi kanye lokuvikeleka,
 njalo kakho ozamthuthumelisa.
²⁸Ungesabi, wena Jakhobe nceku yami,
 ngoba ngilawe,” kutsho uJehova.
 Lanxa izizwe zonke engakuhlakazela
 kuzo ngizazichitha ngokupheleleyo,
 wena angiyikukuchitha
 ngokupheleleyo.
 Ngizakujezisa kodwa ngokufaneleyo
 kuphela; angiyikukuyekela nje
 ungajeziswanga.”

Ilizwi NgamaFilisti

47 Leli yilizwi likaJehova elafika
 kuJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana
 lamaFilisti uFaro engakahlaseli iGaza:

²UJehova uthi:

“Khangela ukuphakama kwamanzi
 enyakatho; azakuba ngumfula
 okhukhulayo. Azakhukhula ilizwe
 lakho konke okukulo, amadolobho
 lalabo abahlala kuwo. Abantu
 bazakhala,
 bonke abahlala elizweni bazalila
³ekuzweni umsindo wamasondo
 amabhiza agijimayo, lekuzweni
 umsindo wezinqola zesitha lomdumo
 wamasondo azo. Oyise
 kabayikuphenduka ukuba basize
 abantwababo;
 izandla zabo zizalenga zingelamandla.
⁴Ngoba usuku selufikile ukuba
 abhujiswe wonke amaFilisti,
 lokuqeda bonke abasilayo
 abangasiza iThire leSidoni.
 Sekuseduze ukuba uJehova abhubhise

amaFilisti, insalela emakhunjini
eKhafitori.

⁵ IGaza izaphuca ikhanda layo ilila;
i-Ashikheloni izathuliswa. Lina
nsalela esemageckeni, lizazisika kuze
kube nini na?

⁶ “ ‘Awu, nkemba kaJehova,’ likhala
kanjalo, ‘koba nini ukuze uphumule?
Buyela emgodleni wakho;
khawuka ungathi nyiki.’

⁷ Kodwa ingaphumula njani yona ilaywe
nguJehova, yona ithunywe nguye
ukuba ihlasele i-Ashikheloni lokhumbi
lolwandle.

Ilizwi NgeMowabi

48 Mayelana leMowabi:

UJehova uSomandla,

uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi:

“Maye kuyo iNebho ngoba izachithwa.
IKhiryathayimi izayangeka njalo
ithunjwe; inqaba izayangeka
ibhidlizwe.

² IMowabi kayiyikudunyiswa futhi;
eHeshibhoni abantu bazaceba
ukubhidlika kwayo besithi,
‘Wozani sitshabalalise isizwe lesiyana.’
Lawe, wena Madimeni uzathuliswa;
inkemba izaxotshana lawe.

³ Zwanini ukukhala okuvela
eHoronayimi; ukukhala komonakalo
omkhulu lencithakalo.

⁴ IMowabi izachitheka; abancinyane
bayo bazakhala.

⁵ Baqansa ngendlela eya eLuhithi,
bahamba belila kabuhlungu,
emgwaqweni owehlela eHoronayimi,
kuzwakala ukukhala okulosizi ngenxa
yokuchitheka

⁶ Balekani! Gijimani lisilise ukuphila
kwenu; wobani njengesihlahla
enkangala.

⁷ Njengoba lithembe izenzo zenu lenotho
yenu lani futhi lizathunjwa,

loKhemoshi uzakuya ekuthunjweni
kanye labaphristi bakhe lezikhulu
zakhe.

⁸ Umchithi uzafika emadolobheni wonke,
njalo akhukho dolobho elizaphepha.
Isigodi sizatshabalaliswa, lamagecke
azaqothulwa ngoba uJehova
usekhulumile.

⁹ Fakani itshwayi kuyo iMowabi
ngoba izachitheka; amadolobho ayo
azakuba ngamanxiwa angelamuntu
ohlala kuwo.

¹⁰ “Yeka isithuko kulowo oyekethisayo
ekwenzeni umsebenzi kaJehova!
Yeka isithuko kulowo ogodla inkemba
yakhe ekuchitheni igazi!

¹¹ “IMowabi ibiphumule kusukela
ebutsheni bayo njengewayini elisele
phezu kwezinsipho zalo,
elingathelwanga kwenye imbiza
lisuswa kwenye –
kayithunjwanga.

Ngakho inambitheka njengakuqala,
iphunga layo kaliguqukanga.

¹² Kodwa izinsuku ziyeza,”
kutsho uJehova, “lapho ngizathuma
abantu abathulula okusembizeni,
njalo bazayithululela phandle;
bazachitha okusezimbizeni zayo
bazimahlaze izimbiza zayo.

¹³ Lapho-ke iMowabi izayangeka
ngoKhemoshi njengokuyangeka
kwendlu ka-Israyeli lapho babethembe
iBhetheli.

¹⁴ “Lingatsho kanjani na ukuthi,
‘Singamabutho, amadoda alesibindi
empini na’?”

¹⁵ IMowabi izachithwa, amadolobho ayo
ahlaselwe; amajaha ayo aqinileyo
azacakazelwa phansi abulawe,”
kutsho uJehova, obizo lakhe

- nguJehova uSomandla.
- ¹⁶“Ukuwa kweMowabi sekuseduze;
umonakalo wayo uzafika
ngokuphangisa.
- ¹⁷Ikhaleleni lonke lina elakhelene layo,
bonke abalwaziyo udumo lwayo,
lithi, ‘Yeka ukwephuka kwenduku
yobukhosi elamandla, yeka
ukwephuka kodondolo oluhle
kakhulu!’
- ¹⁸“Yehlani ebukhosini benu lihlale
emhlabathini owomileyo,
lina elihlala eNdodakazini
yaseDibhoni.
Ngoba lowo ochitha iMowabi
uzakuzalihlasela adilize amadolobho
enu avikelweyo.
- ¹⁹Lina elihlala e-Aroweri,
manini ngasemgwaqweni lilinde.
Buzani indoda ebalekayo lowesifazana
obalekayo; babuzeni lithi,
‘Kwenzakaleni na?’
- ²⁰IMowabi iyangekile, ngoba ichithekile.
Lilani likhale! Bikani ngase-Arinoni
ukuthi iMowabi itshabalalisiwe.
- ²¹Ukwehlulela sekufikile emageckeni
eHoloni, leJahiza laseMefahathi,
- ²²eDibhoni, leNebho laseBhethi
Dibhilathayimi,
- ²³eKhiriyathimi, leBhethi Gamuli
laseBhethi Meyoni,
- ²⁴eKheriyothi kanye laseBhozira
kuwo wonke amadolobho aseMowabi,
aseduze lakhatshana.
- ²⁵Uphondo lweMowabi luqunyiwe,
ingalo yalo yephuliwe,”
kutsho uJehova.
- ²⁶“Idakiseni ngoba idelele uJehova.
IMowabi kayizibhixhe ngamahlanzo
ayo;
kayibe yinto yokuhlekwa.
- ²⁷U-Israyeli wayengasinto yokuhlekisa
kuwe na? Watholakala ephakathi
kwamasela na, ukuba unikine ikhanda
lakho ngokweyisa sikhathi sonke
lapho ukhuluma ngaye?
- ²⁸Tshiyani amadolobho enu lihlale
emadwaleni, lina elihlala eMowabi.
Wobani njengejuba elakhela isidleke
salo emlonyeni wobhalu.
- ²⁹“Sizwile ngokuzigqaja kweMowabi,
ukuziqakisa kwayo lokuzazisa
kwayo,
ukuzigqaja kwayo lokuzikhukhumeza
kwayo, kanye lokuziphakamisa
kwenhliziyo yayo.
- ³⁰Ngiyakwazi ukudelela kwayo, kodwa
kuyize,” kutsho uJehova,
“lokuzincona kwayo akusizi lutho.
- ³¹Ngakho-ke ngiyalila ngeMowabi,
ngikhalela iMowabi yonke,
ngililela abantu baseKhiru Haresethi.
- ³²Ngiyalikhalela, njengeJazeri ilila,
lina zivini zaseSibhima. Izingatsha
zenu zinaba zifike olwandle, zafika
olwandle lwaseJazeri. Umchithi
usehlele phezu kwezithelo zakho
ezivuthiweyo laphezu kwamavini.
- ³³Ukuthokoza lokuthaba akusekho
ezivinini lasemasimini eMowabi.
Ukugeleza kwewayini ezikhamelweni
sengikumisile; kakho ozalikhama
eklabalala ngentokozo. Lanxa
kulokuklabalala akusikho kuklabalala
kwentokozo.
- ³⁴Umsindo wokukhala kwabo
uyaphakama uvelela eHeshibhoni
usiyi e-Eliyalehi laseJahazi, uvela
eZowari usiyafika eHoronayimi
le-Egilathi Shelishiya, ngoba lamanzi
aseNimirimi asecitshile.
- ³⁵EMowabi ngizabaqeda labo abanikela
iminikelo ezindaweni eziphakemeyo
batshisele labonkulunkulu babo
impepha,” kutsho uJehova.
- ³⁶“Ngakho inhliziyo yami ikhalela

iMowabi njengemfegwana;
iyakhala njengemfegwana ikhalela
abantu beKhiru Haresethi.

Inotho ababeyizuzile kayisekho.

³⁷ Amakhanda wonke aphuciwe
lezindevu zonke zigeliwe; izandla
zonke zisikiwe lezinkalo zonke
zigqokiswe amasaka.

³⁸ Phezu kwezimpahla zonke zezindlu
zaseMowabi lasemagcekeni kazulu,
akulalutho ngaphandle kokukhala,
ngoba iMowabi ngiyibulele
njengembiza engafunwa muntu,”
kutsho uJehova.

³⁹ “Yeka ukuphahlazwa kwayo! Yeka
ukulila kwabo! Yeka ukufulathela
kweMowabi ilehlazo! IMowabi isibe
yinto yokuhlekwa; into
yokwesatshwa yibo bonke abakhelane
layo.”

⁴⁰ UJehova uthi:

“Khangela! Ukhozi lwehlela phansi
ngesiqubu, lwelulele izimpiko zalo
phezu kweMowabi.

⁴¹ IKheriyothi izathunjwa, lezinqaba
zithunjwe. Ngalolosuku izinhliziyiyo
zamabutho aseMowabi zizakuba
njengenhliziyiyo yowesifazana
ohelelwayo.

⁴² IMowabi izachithwa ingabe isaba

yisizwe ngoba yadelela uJehova.

⁴³ Ukwesaba lomgodi kanye lomjibila,
kulilindele lina bantu baseMowabi,”
kutsho uJehova.

⁴⁴ “Loba ngubani obalekela ukwesaba
uzawela emgodini, loba ngubani
ophuma emgodini uzabanjwa
ngumjibila;
ngoba ngizakwehlisela phezu
kweMowabi umnyaka wokujeziswa
kwayo,”

kutsho uJehova.

⁴⁵ “Emthunzini waseHeshibhoni
ababalekayo bayema kungekho sizo,
ngoba umlilo usuphumile

eHeshibhoni,
ilangabi elivela phakathi
kwakoSihoni;

litshisa amabunzi eMowabi
izinkakhayi zamaqhalaqhala
alomsindo.

⁴⁶ Maye kuwe! wena Mowabi!
Abantu baseKhemoshi babhujisiwe;
amadodana athunjiwe lamadodakazi
akho athunjiwe.

⁴⁷ “Kodwa inhlanhla yeMowabi
ngizayibuyisela ezinsukwini ezizayo,”
kutsho uJehova.

Ukwahlulelwa kweMowabi kuphelela
lapha.

Ilizwi Ngama-Amoni

49 Mayelana lama-Amoni:

Nanku akutshoyo uJehova:

“U-Israyeli kalamadodana na?
Kalazindlalifa na? Pho kungani
uMoleki esethumbe iGadi na?
Kungani abantu bakhe behlala
emadolobheni alo na?

² “Kodwa izinsuku ziyeza,
kutsho uJehova, lapho engizahlaba
khona umkhosi wempi wokumelana
leRabha yama-Amoni:

izakuba yindunduma yonxiwa;
lemizi eseduze layo izathungelwa
ngomlilo. Ngakho Israyeli
uzabaxotsha labo ababemxotshela
phandle,” kutsho uJehova.

³ “Lila weHeshibhoni, ngoba i-Ayi
ichithekile! Khalani lina elihlala
eRabha! Gqokani amasaka lilile;
Gijimelani lapha lalaphaya phakathi
kwemiduli,
ngoba uMoleki uzathunjwa,
ndawonye labaphristi bakhe kanye
lezikhulu zakhe.

- ⁴Lizincomelani ngezigodi zenu,
lizincomelani ngezigodi ezithela
kangaka?
Wena ndodakazi engathembekanga,
uthemba inotho yakho uthi, ‘Ngubani
ozangihlasela na?’
⁵Ngizalilethela ukwesaba
okuvela kubo bonke abaseduze lani,”
kutsho uJehova, uJehova uSomandla.
“Lonke lizaxotshelwa khatshana,
njalo kakho ozaqoqa ababalekayo.
⁶“Kodwa emva kwalokho ngizabuyisela
inhlanhla yama-Amoni,”
kutsho uJehova.

Ilizwi Nge-Edomi

- ⁷Mayelana le-Edomi:
Nanku akutshoyo uJehova uSomandla:
“Kakuselakuhlakanipha eThemani na?
Izeluleko sezaphela na
kwabahlakaniphileyo?
Ukuhlakanipha kwabo sekwabola na?
⁸Phendukani libaleke, licatshe
ezimbalwini ezitshonayo, lina elihlala
eDedani, ngoba ngizaletha umonakalo
phezu kuka-Esawu ngesikhathi
engizamjezisa ngaso.
⁹Uma abavuni bamavini befika kini
kabangeze batshiya amalutshwana na?
Uma amasela efika ebusuku
angeze antshontsha okunengi
njengokufisa kwawo na?
¹⁰Kodwa u-Esawu ngizamhlabula asale
eze; ngizakwembula izindawo zakhe
zokucatsha, ukuze angacatshi.
Abantwabakhe lezihlobo zakhe kanye
labomakhelwane bakhe bazabhubha
laye angabi khona futhi.
¹¹Tshiya izintandane zakho;
ngizavikela impilo yazo labafelokazi
bakho bangathemba kimi.”

¹²UJehova uthi: “Uma labo
abangafanelanga ukunatha inkezo
kumele bayinathe, kungani wena

ungeze wajeziswa na? Kawuyikuphutha
ukujeziswa, kumele uyinathe.¹³Ngifunga
ngami,” kutsho uJehova, “ukuthi
iBhozira izakuba lunxiwa lento
yokwesatshwa, eyokuthukwa
lokuqalekiswa, njalo wonke amadolobho
ayo azakuba ngamanxiwa nini lanini.”

¹⁴Sengizwe ilizwi elivela kuJehova:
Kuthunywe isithunywa ezizweni
ukuba sithi, “Buthanani ukuba
liyihlasele!
Vukani lilwe impi!”

¹⁵“Khathesi ngizakwenza ube mncane
phakathi kwezizwe, udeleleke
ebantwini.

¹⁶Ukuthuthumela okungabangwa nguwe,
lokuziqqaja kwenhliziyi yakho
kukukhohlisile, wena ohlala
emikenkeni yamadwala, wena ohlala
ezingqongeni zoqaqa.

Lanxa usakhela isidleke sakho phezulu
njengengqungqulu,
ukhonapho ngizakwehlisela phansi,”
kutsho uJehova.

¹⁷“I-Edomi izakuba yinto yokwesatshwa,
bonke abadlula khona
bazathuthumela
baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba ayo
wonke.

¹⁸Njengokuchitheka kweSodoma
leGomora, kanye lamadolobho awo
ayeseduze,
kutsho uJehova,
“ngakho kakho ozahlala kuyo.

¹⁹“Njengesilwane siphuma
emajukujukwini aseJodani sisiya
emadlelweni amahle, i-Edomi
ngizayixotsha elizweni layo
ngesikhatshana. Ngubani okhethiweyo
engingammisela lokhu na? Ngubani
onjengami ongamelana lami na?
Nguwuphi umalusi ongajamelana
lami na?

- ²⁰Ngakho, zwanini lokho uJehova asecebe ukukwenza nge-Edomi, lokho asefune ukukwenza kulabo abahlala eThemani:
Amazinyane omhlambi azadonselwa le; amadlelo awo izawatshabalalisa ngokupheleleyo ngenxa yabo.
- ²¹Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wokuwa kwabo umhlaba uzagedezela, ukukhala kwabo kuzazwakala eLwandle oluBomvu.
- ²²Khangelani! Ingqungqulu izaqonga iphinde yehlele phansi. Yelulele izimpiko zayo phezu kweBhozira.

Ngalolosuku izinhliziyi zamabutho ase-Edomi zizakuba njengenhliziyi yowesifazana ohelelwayo.

Iilizwi NgeDamaseko

- ²³Mayelana leDamaseko:
“IHamathi le-Ariphadi athithibele, ngoba azwe izindaba ezimbi. Adanile, akhathazeke njengolwandle olungelakuphumula.
- ²⁴IDamaseko isibe buthakathaka, isiphendukile ukuba ibaleke, isiphethwe layikuphaphazela; ibanjwe lusizi lobuhlungu, ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazana ohelelwayo.
- ²⁵Kungani idolobho lodumo lingadelwanga, idolobho engithokoza ngalo na?
- ²⁶Ngeqiniso izinsizwa zayo zizakuwa emgwaqweni; amabutho ayo wonke azathuliswa ngalolosuku.”
Kutsho uJehova uSomandla.
- ²⁷“Imiduli yaseDamaseko ngizayithungela ngomlio; uzaqothula izinqaba zaseBheni-Hadadi.”

Iilizwi NgeKhedari LeHazori

- ²⁸Mayelana leKhedari lemibuso yaseHazori, eyahlaselwa

nguNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni:

UJehova uthi:

- “Vuka uhlasela iKhedari ubhubhise labantu baseMpumalanga.
- ²⁹Amathente abo lemihlambi yabo kuzathunjwa; amakheteni abo azathathwa layo yonke impahla yabo kanye lamakamela abo. Abantu bazaklabalala besithi kubo, ukwesaba enhlangothini zonke!”

- ³⁰“Balekani ngokuphangisa! Hlalani ezimbalwini ezitshonayo, lina elihlala eHazori,” kutsho uJehova “uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni usecebe icebo ngani, usebumbe icebo ngani.
- ³¹“Vukani lihlasela isizwe esizinzileyo, esihlezi ngethemba,” kutsho uJehova, “isizwe esingelawo amasango kumbe imigoqo; abantu baso bahlala bodwa.
- ³²Amakamela aso azakuba yimpango, lemihlambi yabo emikhulu izakuba yimpango. Ngizabahlakazela emoyeni labo abasezindaweni ezikude njalo ngizaletha umonakalo kubo uvelela enhlangothini zonke,” kutsho uJehova.
- ³³“IHazori izakuba yisikhundla samakhanka, indawo echithekileyo nini lanini. Kakho ozahlala khona, akulamuntu ozahlala kuyo.”

Iilizwi Nge-Elami

- ³⁴Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana le-Elami, ekuqaleni kombuso kaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, elathi:

³⁵UJehova uSomandla uthi:

Khangela, idandili le-Elami ngizalephula, insika yamandla abo.

- ³⁶Ngizalethela i-Elami imimoya emine ezavela emagumbini amane amazulu, ngizabahlakazela emimoyeni emine, njalo akuyikuba lesizwe abathunjwe e-Elami abangayikuya kuso.
- ³⁷I-Elami ngizayibhidliza phambi kwezitha zayo, phambi kwalabo abafuna ukubabulala. Ngizakwehlisela umonakalo phezu kwabo kanye lolaka lwami oluvuthayo,”
kutsho uJehova.
- ³⁸Ngizabeka isihlalo sami sobukhosi e- Elami ngichithe inkosi yayo lezikhulu zayo, ”
kutsho uJehova.
- ³⁹“Kodwa inhlanhla ye-Elami ngizayibuyisa ezinsukwini ezizayo,”
kutsho uJehova.

50 Leli yilizwi uJehova alikhuluma ngoJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana leBhabhiloni lelizwe lAmaKhaledi:

- ²“Memezalani libike phakathi kwezizwe, phakamisani uphawu lilubike; lingafihli lutho, kodwa lithi, ‘IBhabhiloni izathunjwa, iBheli izayangiswa. IMariduki ibe lokwesaba. Izifanekiso zayo zizayangiswa, izithombe zayo zibe lokwesaba.;
- ³Isizwe esivela enyakatho sizayihlasela sitshabalalise ilizwe layo. Kakho ozahlala kuyo; abantu lezinyamazana kuzasuka kubaleke.
- ⁴“Ngalezozinsuku, ngalesosikhathi,”
kutsho uJehova, “abantu bako-Israyeli ndawonye labantu bakoJuda bazahamba bekhala bedinga uJehova uNkulunkulu wabo.
- ⁵Bazabuza indlela eya eZiyoni bakhangelise ubuso babo kuyo. Bazakuza bazibophele kuJehova

ngesivumelwano esingapheliyo esingayikukhohlakala.

⁶“Abantu bami bebeyizimvu ezilahlekileyo, abelusi babo babebadukisile babenza bazulazula phezu kwezintaba.
Bantula phezu kwezintaba laphezu kwamaqaqa bakhohlwa indawo yabo yokuphumula.

⁷Loba ngubani owabatholayo wabadla; izitha zabo zathi, ‘Kasilacala, ngoba benza okubi kuJehova, idlelo labo eliqotho, uJehova, ithemba laboyise.’

⁸“Balekelani ngaphandle kweBhabhiloni; sukani elizweni lAmaKhaledi, libe njengezimbuzi ezikhokhela umhlambi.

⁹Ngoba iBhabhiloni ngizayivusela umanyano lwezizwe ezinkulu ezivela elizweni lasenyakatho. Bazaviva ezindaweni zabo bamelane layo.

Njalo izathunjwa kuvelelwa enyakatho.

Imitshoko yabo izakuba njengamabutho alolwazi angaphenduki engelalutho.

¹⁰Ngakho iBhabhiloni izaphangwa, bonke abayiphangayo bazasuthiseka,”
kutsho uJehova.

¹¹“Njengoba lithokoza njalo lithabile, lizaphanga ilifa lami ngoba liyaqolotsha njengethokazi etshanini, njalo likhale njengamabhiza amaduna,

¹²unyoko uzayangeka kakhulu, yena owalikalayo uzakuba lenhloni. Uzakuba ngowokucina phakathi kwezizwe – inkangala, ilizwe elomileyo, ugwadule.

¹³Ngenxa yolaka lukaJehova kayiyikuhlalwa muntu kodwa izachithwa ngokupheleleyo. Bonke abadlula eBhabhiloni bazakwesaba baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba ayo

wonke.

- ¹⁴“Vivani izinhlangothi zonke zeBhabhiloni lonke lina eliphethe amadandili. Itshokeni! Lingatshiyi mitshoko ngoba yonile kuJehova.
- ¹⁵Klabalalani kuyo ezinhlangothini zonke! Iyazinikela, imiphotshongo yayo iyawa, imiduli yayo idilikela phansi. Njengoba lokhu kuyikuphindisela kukaJehova, phindiselani kuyo iBhabhiloni; yenzani kuyo njengalokhu eyakwenza kwabanye.
- ¹⁶Msuseni eBhabhiloni umhlanyeli, lomvuni lesikela yakhe ekuvuneni. Ngenxa yenkamba yomcindezeli. Umuntu wonke kabuye ebantwini bakibo; umuntu wonke kabalekele elizweni lakibo.
- ¹⁷“U-Israyeli ungumhlambi ohlakazekileyo oxotshwe yizilwane. Owaqalayo ukumudla yinkosi yase-Asiriya; owacinayo ukuqhoba amathambo akhe nguNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.”
- ¹⁸Ngakho uJehova uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi:
- “Ngizayijezisa inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lelizwe layo njengoba ngajezisa inkosi yase-Asiriya.
- ¹⁹Kodwa u-Israyeli ngizambuyisela edlelweni lakhe, uzakudla eKhameli kanye laseBhashani; inkanuko yakhe izasuthiswa emaqaqeni ako-Efrayimi kanye leGileyadi.
- ²⁰Ngalezozinsuku, ngalesosikhathi,” kutsho uJehova, “ukona kuka-Israyeli

kuzadingwa, kodwa akuyikuba khona; kudingwe lezono zikaJuda kodwa kasikho esizafunyanwa, ngoba insalela engiyitshiyayo ngizayithethelela.

- ²¹Hlaselani ilizwe laseMerathayimi lalabo abahlala ePhekhodi. Xotshanani, libabulale libaqede du,’ kutsho uJehova.
- “Yenzani konke engililaye khona.
- ²²Umsindo wempi uselizweni, umsindo wencithakalo enkulu!
- ²³Yeka ukwephuka lokucezuka kwesando somhlaba wonke! Yeka ukuchitheka kweBhabhiloni phakathi kwezizwe.
- ²⁴Ngakuthiya ngomjibila, wena Bhabhiloni, wabanjwa ungakakwazi lokho; waficwa wathunjwa, ngoba wamelana loJehova.
- ²⁵UJehova usevule indlu yakhe yezikhali wakhupha izikhali zolaka lwakhe, ngoba uNkulunkulu Wobukhosi, uSomandla ulomsebenzi okumele awenze elizweni lAmaKhaledi.
- ²⁶Wozani kuye limelane laye livela kude. Fohlelani eziphaleni zakhe; liyibuthelele njengezinqumbi zamabele. Ichitheni okupheleleyo lingayitshiyeli nsalela.
- ²⁷Bulalani zonke izinkunzi zayo ezisesengamaguqa; ziwiseleni phansi ekuhlatshweni! Maye kubo! Ngoba usuku lwabo selufikile, isikhathi sabo sokujeziswa.
- ²⁸Lalelani ababalekayo labaphephileyo abavela eBhabhiloni bememezela eZiyoni ngokuphindisela uJehova uNkulunkulu asekwenzile, ukuphindisela ngenxa yethempeli lakhe.
- ²⁹“Bizani abemitshoko bahlasele iBhabhiloni, bonke labo abaphatha

- amadandili. Ihanqeni inxa zonke;
kungabi khona ophunyukayo.
Iphindiseleni izenzo zayo;
yenzani kuyo njengekwenzileyo.
Ngoba idelele uJehova,
ONgcwele ka-Israyeli.
- ³⁰Ngakho izinsizwa zayo zizakuwa
emigwaqweni; ngalolosuku wonke
amabutho ayo azabulawa.”
kutsho uJehova.
- ³¹“Khangela, ngimelane lawe, wena
oyisiqholo,” kutsho uJehova, uJehova
uSomandla, ‘ngoba usuku lwakho
selufikile, isikhathi sokujeziswa
kwakho.
- ³²Oyisiqholo uzakhubeka awe,
njalo kakho ozamsiza amvuse.
Ngizabasa umlilo emadolobheni akhe
ozaqothula bonke abakhelene laye.”
- ³³UJehova uSomandla uthi:

“Abantu bako-Israyeli bacindezelwe,
kanye labantu bakoJuda futhi.
Bonke abathumbi babo bagagadlele,
besala ukubadedela bahambe.
- ³⁴Kodwa uMhlengi wabo ulamandla;
uJehova uSomandla yilo ibizo lakhe.
Uzavikela izimfanelo zabo ngamandla
ukuze alethe ukuthula elizweni labo,
kodwa ukuxokozela kulabo abahlala
eBhabhiloni.
- ³⁵“Inkemba imelana lamaKhaledi,”
kutsho uJehova, “imelane lalabo
abahlala eBhabhiloni kanye lezikhulu
zayo lezihlakaniphi zayo!
- ³⁶Inkemba izamelana labaphrofethi balo
bamanga! Bazakuba yizithutha.
Inkemba izamelana lamabutho ayo!
Azakuba lokwesaba okukhulu.
- ³⁷Inkemba izamelana lamabhiza ayo
leziinqola zempi labo bonke
abezizweni abakuyo! Bazakuba
ngabafazi. Inkemba izamelana
lenotho yayo!
Izaphangwa.
³⁸Kuzakuba lokoma kwamanzi ayo!
Azacitsha. Ngoba yilizwe lezithombe,
izithombe ezizahlanya ngenxa
yokwesaba.
- ³⁹“Ngakho izidalwa zasenkangala
lezimpisi zizahlala khona, lesikhova
sizahlala khona. Akusayikwakiwa
kuyo lanini kumbe kuhlalwe kuyo
kusukela kusizukulwane
kusiya kusizukulwane.
- ⁴⁰Njengalokhu uNkulunkulu wachitha
iSodoma leGomora ndawonye
lamadolobho ayeseduzane lawo,”
kutsho uJehova; “ngokunjalo kakho
ozahlala khona; akulamuntu ozahlala
phakathi kwayo.
- ⁴¹“Khangelani! Ibuthe liyeza livela
enyakatho; isizwe esikhulu lamakhosi
amanengi bayadungwa kusukela
emikhawulweni yomhlaba.
- ⁴²Bahlome ngamadandili
langemikhonto; balesihluku,
kabalasihawu. Bahuba njengolwandle
oluhlokomayo begade amabhiza abo;
beza njengabantu abalungele impi
ukuba bakuhlasele, wena Ndodakazi
yaseBhabhiloni.
- ⁴³INkosi yaseBhabhiloni isiyizwile
imibiko ngabo,
njalo izandla zayo zilenga
zingelamandla.
Usizi seluyibambile,
ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazana
ohelelwayo.
- ⁴⁴Njengesilwane siphuma emahlathini
aseJodani sisiya emadlelweni amahle,
iBhabhiloni ngizayixotsha elizweni
layo ngesikhatshana. Ngubani
okhethiweyo engizammisela lokhu?”

Ngubani onjengami,
ngubani ongaqhudelana lami?”
Njalo nguwuphi umalusi ongamelana
lami?”

- ⁴⁵Ngakho, zwanini uJehova asekucebe
ngeBhabhiloni, asemise ukukwenza
ngelizwe lAmaKhaledi:
Amazinyane omhlambi azadonselwa le,
Idlelo labo uzalichitha ngokupheleleyo
ngenxa yabo.
⁴⁶Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wokuthunjwa
kweBhabhiloni umhlaba uzagedezela;
ukukhala kwayo kuzazwakala phakathi
kwezizwe.

51 UJehova uthi:

- “Khangelani, ngizavusela iBhabhiloni
labantu beLebhi Khamayi umoya
womchithi.
²Ngizathumela abezizweni eBhabhiloni
ukuba bayihlungule njalo batshabalalise
lelizwe layo; bazamelana layo
enhangothini zonke
ngosuku lwencithakalo yayo.
³Lingavumeli mtshoki ebopha idandili
lakhe loba limyekele egqoka isigqoko
sakhe sensimbi. Lingazitshiyi
izinsizwa zayo, liliqede du ibutho layo.
⁴Bazawela phansi bebulewe eBhabhiloni
belinyazwe okokufa emigwaqweni
yayo.
⁵Ngoba u-Israyeli loJuda kabalahlwanga
nguNkulunkulu wabo, uJehova
uSomandla, lanxa nje ilizwe labo
ligcwele ukona phambi koNgcwele ka-
Israyeli.
⁶“Balekani eBhabhiloni! Sindisani
impilo yenu! Lingabhujiswa ngenxa
yezono zayo.
Yisikhathi sokuphindisela kukaJehova;
uzaphindisela kuyo ngokufaneleyo.
⁷IBhabhiloni yayiyinkezo yegolide
esandleni sikaJehova; yenza umhlaba
wonke wadakwa. Izizwe zanatha iwayini

- layo; ngakho khatesi sezihlanya.
⁸IBhabhiloni izakuwa masinyane idilike.
Ilileleni! Idingeleni umuthi
wokupholisa ubuhlungu bayo;
mhlawumbe ingasila.
⁹“ ‘IBhabhiloni kade singayelapha
kodwa kayelapheki; kasiyitshiyeni
kuthi lowo lalowo aye elizweni lakibo,
ngoba ukwahlulela kufika emikhathini
kuqonga kuze kufike emayezini.’
¹⁰“ ‘UJehova usebonakalisile ukuthi
kasilacala, wozani sibike eZiyoni
osekwenziwe nguJehova uNkulunkulu
wethu.’
¹¹“ ‘Lolani imitshoko; thathani amahawu!
UJehova usevuse amakhosi amaMede
ngoba inhloso yakhe yikuchitha
iBhabhiloni. UJehova uzaphindisela,
aphindisele ngenxa yethempeli lakhe.
¹²Phakamiselani imiduli yaseBhabhiloni
uphawu!
Qinisani ukulinda,
bekani abalindayo, lungiselani
ukucathamela! UJehova uzafeza
inhloso yakhe,
isimiso sakhe ngabantu
baseBhabhiloni.
¹³Lina elihlala ngasemanzini amanengi,
njalo lilenotho enengi, isiphetho senu
sesifikile, isikhathi senu sokuqunywa.
¹⁴UJehova uSomandla usefungile ngayo
wathi:
Impela ngizakugcwalisa ngabantu
abangangomtshitshi wezintethe, njalo
bazaklabalala ngamacilongo ngaphezu
kwakho.
¹⁵“Wenza umhlaba ngamandla akhe;
wamisa umhlaba ngokuhlakanipha
kwakhe njalo wendlala lamazulu
ngokuqedisisa kwakhe.
¹⁶Lapho evungama, amanzi emazulwini
ayahlokoma; wenza amayezi

aphakame evela emikhawulweni
yomhlaba. Uthumela umbane ulezulu,
akhuphe umoya eziphaleni zawo.

¹⁷ “Abantu bonke kabalangqondo njalo
kabalalwazi; wonke umkhandi
wegolide uyayangiswa yizithombe
zakhe.

Izifanekiso zakhe ziyinkohliso;
akulamphefumulo kuzo.

¹⁸ Kazisizi lutho, yizinto eziyinhlekisa
ekufikeni kokwahlulelwa kwazo,
zizabhubha.

¹⁹ Lowo oyiNgxenywe kaJakhobe
kanjengalaba, ngoba unguMenzi
wezinto zonke, kubalwa lesizwana
selifa lakhe –
uJehova uSomandla libizo lakhe.

²⁰ “Wena uyinduku yami yempi, isikhali
sami sokulwa ngawe ngitshabalalisa
izizwe, ngawe ngichitha imibuso;

²¹ ngawe ngihlifiza ibhiza lomgadi walo,
ngawe ngihlifiza inqola yempi
lomtshayeli wayo,

²² ngawe ngihlifiza indoda lomfazi,
ngawe ngihlifiza amaxhegu labatsha,
ngawe ngihlifiza izinsizwa lezintombi,

²³ ngawe ngihlifiza abelusi lemihlambi,
ngawe ngihlifiza umlimi lezinkabi,
ngawe ngihlifiza ababusi lezikhulu.

²⁴ “Emehlweni enu ngizaphindisela kuyo
iBhabhiloni lakubo bonke abahlala
kuyo ngenxa yobubi bonke
ababenzileyo eZiyoni,”

kutsho uJehova.

²⁵ “Ngimelana lawe, wena ntaba
echithayo, wena ochitha umhlaba
wonke,”

kutsho uJehova.

“Ngizakwelulela isandla sami kuwe,
ngikugiqe usuka emaweni,

ngikwenze ube yintaba
eyatshiswayo.

²⁶ Akulalitshe elizasuswa kuwe ukuba
libe ngelengosi, loba elinye ilitshe
ukuba ngelesisekelo ngoba lizachithwa
kokuphela,”

kutsho uJehova.

²⁷ “Phakamisani uphawu elizweni!
Khalisani icilongo phakathi kwezizwe!
Lungisani izizwe ukuba zilwe layo;
ibizeleni imibuso le:

i-Ararathi leMini kanye
le-Ashikhenazi.

Ibekeleni umlawuli wokulwa layo;
lithumele amabhiza anjengomtshitshi
wentethe.

²⁸ Lungisani izizwe ukuba zilwe layo –
amakhosi amaMedesi,
ababusi bawo lezikhulu zawo,
kanye lamazwe wonke awabusayo.

²⁹ Ilizwe liyaqhaq hazela libhinqike
ngoba inhloso kaJehova yokumelana
leBhabhiloni imi injalo ukuchitha
ilizwe leBhabhiloni ukuze kungabi
khona ohlala kulo.

³⁰ Amabutho aseBhabhiloni aseyekele
ukulwa;
ahlezi ezinqabeni zawo.

Amandla awo asephelile. Asebe
njengabesifazana. Izindawo zayo
zokuhlala zithungelwe ngomlilo;
imigoqo lamasango kwephukile.

³¹ Esinye isigijimi silandela esinye;
lesithunywa silandela esinye
isithunwa ukuyabika enkosini
yaseBhabhiloni ukuthi idolobho lonke
selithunjiwe,

³² amazibuko emifula athethwe,
amaxhaphozi atshiswe ngomlilo
lamabutho ethukile.”

³³ Nanku okutshiwo nguJehova
uSomandla, uNkulunkulu
ka-Israyeli:

“Indodakazi yaseBhabhiloni
injengesiza

- sokubhulela ngesikhathi
sokunyathelwa kwaso; isikhathi
sokuvunwa kwayo sizafika
masinyane.”
- ³⁴“UNebhukhadinezari inkosi
yaseBhabhiloni usesidlile,
usesenze saphambana amakhanda,
usesenze saba yimbiza engelalutho.
Usesiginyile njengenyoka,
wagcwalisa isisu sakhe
ngezibiliboco zethu, wasesihlanza
futhi.
- ³⁵Udlakela olwenziwe emizimbeni yethu
kalube phezu kweBhabhiloni,”
kutsho abahlala eZiyoni. “Igazi lethu
kalibe phezu kwalabo abahlala
eBhabhiloni,” kutsho iJerusalema.
- ³⁶Ngakho uJehova uthi:
- “Khangelani, imfanelo yenu
ngizayivikela, ngiliphindisele;
ngizacitsha ulwandle lwayo
ngomise lemithombo yayo.
- ³⁷IBhabhiloni izakuba yinqumbi
yonxiwa, isikhundla samakhanka,
into yokwesatshwa lokuklolodelwa,
indawo engahlali muntu.
- ³⁸Abantu bayo bonke bayabhonga
njengezilwane ezincane,
bayahwabha njengemidlwane
yesilwane.
- ³⁹Kodwa lapho besesebukhali,
ngizabenzela idili ngibadakise
ukuze baklabalale ngohleko
babe sebelala kokuphela bangavuki
futhi,” kutsho uJehova.
- ⁴⁰“Ngizabehlisela phansi
njengezimvana ekuhlatshweni,
njengezinqama lanjengezimbuzi.
- ⁴¹“Yeka ukuthunjwa okuzakwenziwa
iSheshaki, ukuzincoma komhlaba
wonke kuthunjiwe! Yeka
ukutshaqisa iBhabhiloni ezakuba
yikho phakathi kwezizwe!
- ⁴²Ulwandle luzaphakama ngaphezu
kweBhabhiloni; amagagasi alo
ahlokomayo ayisibekele.
- ⁴³Amadolobho ayo azachitheka,
ilizwe elomileyo leliyinkangala,
ilizwe okungekho ohlala khona,
okungekho muntu odabula phakathi
kwalo.
- ⁴⁴Ngizamjezisa uBheli eBhabhiloni
ngimenze akuhlanze lokho
akuginyileyo.
Izizwe kazisayikujulukela kuye.
Njalo umduli weBhabhiloni uzakuwa.
- ⁴⁵“Bantu bami, phumani eBhabhiloni!
Balekelani ukufa! Balekelani ulaka
olwesabekayo lukaJehova.
- ⁴⁶Lingaphelelwa lithemba kumbe lesabe
lapho kuzwakala amahungahunga
elizweni; elinye ihungahunga lifika
lonyaka, elinye kozayo,
amahungahunga odlakela elizweni
awombusi evukela umbusi.
- ⁴⁷Ngoba isikhathi sizafika impela
lapho ngizajezisa izithombe
zaseBhabhiloni; ilizwe layo lonke
lizayangeka lababuleweyo bayo bonke
bazawela phakathi kwayo.
- ⁴⁸Lapho-ke izulu lomhlaba lakho konke
okukukho kuzamemezela intokozo
ngeBhabhiloni, ngoba abachithi
bazayihlasela bevelela enyakatho,”
kutsho uJehova.
- ⁴⁹“IBhabhiloni kumele idilike
ngenxa yabako-Israyeli ababulawayo
njengoba ababulawayo emhlabeni
wonke bafa ngenxa yeBhabhiloni.
- ⁵⁰Lina eliphephileyo enkembeni,
sukani njalo lingalibali!
Khumbulani uJehova elizweni elikude
licabange langeJerusalema.

- ⁵¹ “Siyangekile, ngoba sithukiwe lehlazo lembese ubuso bethu, ngoba abezizweni bangenile ezindaweni ezingcwele zendlu kaJehova.”
- ⁵² “Kodwa izinsuku ziyeza,” kutsho uJehova, “lapho engizajezisa khona izithombe zayo, njalo elizweni layo lonke abalimeleyo bazabubula.
- ⁵³ Lanxa iBhabhiloni ingafinyelela emkhathini iqinise izinqaba zayo eziphakemeyo, ngizathumela abachithi bayihlasele,”
kutsho uJehova.
- ⁵⁴ “Umsindo wokukhala uvela eBhabhiloni, umsindo wencithakalo enkulu ovela elizweni lamaKhaledi.
- ⁵⁵ UJehova uzayichitha iBhabhiloni; uzathulisa umsindo wayo wenhlokomo.
Amagagasi ezitha azahlokoma njengamanzi amanengi; ukuvungama kwamazwi azo kuzazwakala.
- ⁵⁶ Umchithi uzakuzahlasela iBhabhiloni; amabutho ayo azathunjwa, lamadandili awo azakwephuka.
Ngoba uJehova unguNkulunkulu wempindiselo; uzaphindisela ngokugcweleyo.
- ⁵⁷ Ngizadakisa izikhulu zayo lezihlakaniphi zayo, kanye lababusi bayo, lezinduna kanye lamabutho; bazalala kokuphela bangavuki futhi,”
kutsho uJehova, obizo lakhe nguJehova uSomandla.
- ⁵⁸ UJehova uSomandla uthi:
“Umduli oqatha weBhabhiloni uzabhidlizwa lamasango ayo aphakemeyo athungelwe ngmlilo; abantu bazidinisela ize, umsebenzi wezizwe ungamafutha amalangabi

nje kuphela.”

⁵⁹ Leli yilizwi uJeremiya umphrofethi alinika induna yamabutho uSerayiya indodana kaNeriya, indodana kaMahaseyiya, esesiya eBhabhiloni loZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda ngomnyaka wesine wokubusa kwakhe. ⁶⁰ UJeremiya wayelobe emqulwini ngomonakalo wonke owawuzakwehlela iBhabhiloni – konke okwakubhalwe ngeBhabhiloni ⁶¹ Wathi kuSereyiya, “Lapho usufikile eBhabhiloni ubowafunda wonke amazwi la ngelizwi eliphakemeyo. ⁶² Ube ususithi, ‘Awu Jehova, wathi indawo le uzayichitha ukuze kungabi lamuntu kumbe inyamazana ezahlala kuyo; izaphundleka kuze kube nininini.’ ⁶³ Lapho usuqedile ukubala umqulu lo, ubophele ilitshe kuwo uwuphosele kuYufrathi, ⁶⁴ ubususithi, ‘Izatshona kanje iBhabhiloni ingabe isavumbuluka ngenxa yomonakalo engizayehlisela wona. Labantu bayo bazakuwa.’ ”

Amazwi kaJeremiya aphelela lapha.

Ukuwa kweJerusalem

52 UZedekhiya waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanye, njalo wabusa iminyaka elitshumi lanye eJerusalem. Ibizo likanina lalinguHamuthali indodakazi kaJeremiya waseLibhina. ² Wenza okubi emehlweni kaJehova, njengalokhu okwakwenziwe nguJehoyakhimi. ³ Konke lokhu kwenzakala eJerusalem lakoJuda ngenxa yolaka lukaJehova, njalo ekucineni wabaxotsha phambi kwakhe.

Ngalesosikhathi uZedekhiya wahlamukela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.

⁴Ngakho ngenyanga yesificamunye

yokubusa kukaZedekhiya, ngosuku lwetshumi lwenyanga yetshumi, uNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, waqubuka lebuthe lakhe lonke ukuyahlasela iJerusalema. Bahlala ngaphandle kwedolobho, bakha izinqaba zokulivimbezela kuzo zonke izinhlangothi zalo. ⁵Idolobho lavinjezelwa kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya inkosi. ⁶Ngosuku lwesificamunye lwenyanga yesine indlala yayisinzima edolobheni, abantu bengaselakudla. ⁷Umdluli wedolobho wafohlwa, ibutho lonke labaleka. Basuka edolobheni ebusuku bephuma ngesango eliphakathi kwemiduli emibili, phansi kwesivande senkosi, lanxa nje AmaKhaledi ayeligombolozele idolobho. Babaleka beqonde e-Arabha, ⁸kodwa ibutho lAmaKhaledi laxotshana lenkosi uZedekhiya layamfika emagcekeni aseJerikho. Wonke amabutho akhe ehlukana laye njalo ahlakazeka, ⁹yena wathunjwa.

Wasiwa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila elizweni laseHamathi, lapho eyamgwebela khona. ¹⁰Khona eRibhila inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yabulala amadodana kaZedekhiya emehlweni akhe; yabulala lezikhulu zakoJuda zonke. ¹¹Emva kwalokho uZedekhiya yamkhupha amehlo, yambopha ngamakhetane ethusi, yamusa eBhabhiloni, lapho eyamfika khona entolongweni kwaze kwafika usuku lokufa kwakhe.

¹²Ngosuku lwetshumi lwenyanga yesihlanu, ngomnyaka wetshumi lasificamunye kaNebhukhadinezari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, owayesebenzela inkosi yase Bhabhiloni, wafika eJerusalema. ¹³Wathungela ithempeli likaJehova ngomlilo, lesigodlo senkosi lezindlu zonke zaseJerusalema.

Zonke izindlu eziqakathekileyo wazitshisa. ¹⁴Lonke ibutho laseBhabhiloni elalingaphansi komlawuli wabalindi besikhosini layidiliza yonke imiduli eyayigombolozele iJerusalema. ¹⁵UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi wathatha abanye babayanga bokucina wabasa ekuthunjweni lalabo ababesele edolobheni, lenengi lezingcwethi kanye lalabo ababehlamukele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni. ¹⁶Kodwa uNebhuzaradani watshiya inengi labantu ababengabayanga bokucina elizweni ukuba basebenze ezivinini lasemasimini. ¹⁷AmaKhaledi abhidliza izinsika zethusi, izidindi ezisusekayo kanye loLwandle lwethusi okwakusethempelini likaJehova bahamba lethusi lonke eBhabhiloni. ¹⁸Bathatha lezimbiza, lamafotsholo, lezindlawu lemiganu yezichelo, lezinditshi lazo zonke izitsha zethusi ezazisetshenziswa enkonzweni yasethempelini. ¹⁹Umlawuli wathatha izinditshi, izitsha zokutshisela impepha, imiganu yezichelo, izimbiza, izinti zezibane, izinditshi lemiganu okusetshenziswa kumnikelo yokunathwayo konke okwakwenziwe ngegolide elihle langesiliva. ²⁰Ithusi elalivele ezinsikeni ezimbili, eloLwandle lelezinkunzi zethusi ezilitshumi lambili ezazingaphansi kwalo kanye lelezidindi ezisusekayo inkosi uSolomoni ayekwenzele ithempeli likaJehova, lalingeke lilinganiswe. ²¹Insika ngayinye ukudepha kwayo kwakuzingalo ezilitshumi lesificamibili, ubuqatha buzingalo ezilitshumi lambili, uhlonzi luyiminwe emine njalo ilomwolo. ²²Isiduku sethushi phezu kwenye insika sasizingalo ezinhlanu ukudepha kwaso njalo siceciswe ngobufikifiki lamaphomegranathe ethusi indawo

yonke. Enye insika,
lamaphomegranathe ayo, layo yayinjalo.

²³ Emaceleni kwakulamaphomegranathe
angamatshumi aficamunye lesithupha;
esewonke amaphomegranathe
ayengaphezu kobufikifiki
obabuzungezile, ayelikhulu.

²⁴ Umlawuli wabalindi, wathumba
uSerayiya induna yabaphristi, loZefaniya
umsekeli wakhe kanye labalindi
bomnyango abathathu. ²⁵ Kulabo
ababelokhu besedolobheni wathatha
isikhulu esasiphethe amadoda empi,
labeluleki basesikhosini
abayisikhombisa. Wathatha
lomakhelwane owayeyinduna
eyayilawula ukubuthwa kwabantu
elizweni kanye labanye abantu bakhe
abangamatshumi ayisithupha ababeficwe
edolobheni. ²⁶ UNebhuzaradani umlawuli
wathatha bonke wabasa enkosini
yaseBhabhloni eRibhila. ²⁷ Khona
eRibhila, elizweni laseHamathi, inkosi
yababulala. UJuda wahamba kanjalo
ekuthunjweni, khatshana lelizwe lakhe.

²⁸ Nanka amanani abantu
uNebhukhadinezari abasa ekuthunjweni:
ngomnyaka wesikhombisa, amaJuda
ayizi – 3 023;

²⁹ ngomnyaka kaNebhukhadinezari
wetshumi lesificamibili, abantu
beJerusalema abangana – 832;

³⁰ ngomnyaka wakhe wamatshumi
amabili lantathu,
amaJuda angama-745 asiwa
ekuthunjweni nguNebhuzaradani
umlawuli wabalindi ekubusweni
kwezizwe ezinengi. Bebonke
kwakungabantu abayizi - 4 600.

Ukukhululwa kukaJehoyakhimi

³¹ Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu
lesikhombisa uJehoyakhini inkosi

yakoJuda esekuthunjweni, ngomnyaka
u-Evili-Merodaki aba yinkosi
yaseBhabhloni ngawo, wakhulula
uJehoyakhini inkosi yakoJuda,
wamkhupha entolongweni ngosuku
lwamatshumi amabili lanhlanu
lwenyanga yetshumi lambili.

³² Wakhuluma laye ngomusa, wamnika
isihlalo sokuhlonitshwa esasingaphezu
kwezamanye amakhosi ayelaye
eBhabhloni. ³³ Ngakho uJehoyakhini
wakhupha izigqoko zakhe
zasentolongweni, wadla lenkosi zikhathi
zonke okwempilo yakhe yonke. ³⁴ Nsuku
zonke inkosi yaseBhabhloni yanika
uJehoyakhini isabelo esimiseweyo
malanga wonke empilweni yakhe, kwaze
kwafika ilanga lokufa kwakhe.