

~GEMARIAH 1 (102)

(Gem-a-ri'ah) [Yehowah Has Perfected or Completed]

- The son of Shaphan the copyist, one of the princes during the reign of Jehoiakim, 628-618 B.C.E. **Gemariah** had his own dining room in the upper courtyard of the temple, and it was here that Baruch read aloud the words of the book dictated to him by the prophet Jeremiah.
- Micaiah the son of **Gemariah** heard the initial reading of the book and then reported the word of Yehowah to the princes who, in turn, sent for Baruch to have the book read to them.
- Upon hearing the words of the book, they advised that Baruch and Jeremiah conceal themselves. Later, when the roll was read to King Jehoiakim, **Gemariah** was one of the princes who pleaded with the king not to burn the roll.
- And Baruch began to read aloud from the book the words of Jeremiah at the house of Yehowah, in the dining room of **Gemariah** the son of Shaphan the copyist, in the upper courtyard, at the entrance of the new gate of the house of Yehowah, in the ears of all the people. (Jeremiah 36:10)
- And Micaiah the son of **Gemariah** the son of Shaphan got to hear all the words of Yehowah from out of the book. (Jeremiah 36:11)
- At that he went down to the house of the king, to the dining room of the secretary, and, look! There is where all the princes were sitting, Elishama the secretary and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah and Elnathan the son of Achbor and **Gemariah** the son of Shaphan and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah and all the other princes. (Jeremiah 36:12)
- And Micaiah proceeded to tell them all the words that he had heard when Baruch read aloud from the book in the ears of the people. (Jeremiah 36:13)
- Then all the princes sent out to Baruch Jehudi the son of Nethaniah the son of Shelemiah the son of Cushi, saying; The roll from which you read aloud in the ears of the people, take it in your hand and come. Accordingly Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand and came in to them. (Jeremiah 36:14)

- Then they said to him; Sit down, please, and read it aloud in our ears. So Baruch read aloud in their ears. (**Jeremiah 36:15**)
- Now it came about that as soon as they heard all the words, they looked at one another in dread, and they proceeded to say to Baruch; We shall without fail tell the king all these words. (**Jeremiah 36:16**)
- And Baruch they asked, saying; Tell us, please, How did you write all these words from his mouth? (**Jeremiah 36:17**)
- Then Baruch said to them; Out of his mouth he kept declaring to me all these words, and I was writing in the book with ink. (**Jeremiah 36:18**)
- Finally the princes said to Baruch; Go, conceal yourself, you and Jeremiah, so that no one at all will know where you men are. (**Jeremiah 36:19**)
- Then they came in to the king, to the courtyard, and the roll they entrusted to the dining room of Elishama the secretary, and they began to tell all the words in the ears of the king. (**Jeremiah 36:20**)
- So the king sent Jehudi out to get the roll. Accordingly he got it out of the dining room of Elishama the secretary. And Jehudi began to read it aloud in the ears of the king and in the ears of all the princes standing by the king. (**Jeremiah 36:21**)
- And the king was sitting in the winter house, in the ninth month, with a brazier burning before him. (**Jeremiah 36:22**)
- Then it came about that as soon as Jehudi had read three or four page-columns, he proceeded to tear it apart with the secretary's knife, pitching it also into the fire that was in the brazier until all the roll ended up in the fire that was in the brazier. (**Jeremiah 36:23**)
- And they felt no dread, neither did the king and all his servants, who were listening to all these words, rip their garments apart. (**Jeremiah 36:24**)
- And even Elnathan and Delaiah and **Gemariah** themselves

pleaded with the king not to burn the roll, but he did not listen to them. (**Jeremiah 36:25**)

- A lump of clay at one time fastened to a document and stamped with a seal was recently found in Jerusalem. The inscription on it read: Belonging to **Gemariah** Hebrew, *Gemar-ya'hu*, son of Shaphan.
- This bulla is said to be from about the **Seventh Century B.C.E**, and its owner is assumed to be the Gemariah mentioned in (**Jeremiah Chapter 36**)