

~ISHMAEL 5 (214)

(Ish'ma-el) [God Hears or Listens]

- Ringleader of those who killed Governor Gedaliah only three months after the downfall of Jerusalem in 607 B.C.E, son of Nethaniah of the royal line.
- At the time the governor's appointment was made by Nebuchadnezzar, **Ishmael**, son of Nethaniah, was in the field as one of the military chiefs.
- Later, he came to Gedaliah and apparently entered a sworn covenant of peace and support with the governor. Secretly, however, Ishmael conspired with Baalis, the king of the Ammonites, to kill Gedaliah.
- Other military commanders, including Johanan, warned Gedaliah of Ishmael's mischief, but the governor, not believing the report, refused to grant Johanan permission to strike Ishmael down.
- As for the people left behind in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had left behind, he now appointed over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan. (2 Kings 25:22)
- When all the chiefs of the military forces, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah, they immediately came to Gedaliah at Mizpah, that is, **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah and Johanan the son of Kareah and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite and Jaazaniah the son of the Maacathite, they and their men. (2 Kings 25:23)
- Then Gedaliah swore to them and their men and said to them; Do not be afraid of being servants to the Chaldeans. Dwell in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will go well with you. (2 Kings 25:24)
- In time all the chiefs of the military forces who were in the field, they and their men, got to hear that the king of Babylon had commissioned Gedaliah the son of Ahikam over the land and that he had commissioned him over the men and women and little children and some of the lowly people of the land, who had not

been taken into exile in Babylon. (**Jeremiah 40:7**)

- So they came to Gedaliah at Mizpah, even **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah and Johanan and Jonathan, the sons of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite and Jezaniah the son of the Maacathite, they and their men. (**Jeremiah 40:8**)
- And Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan proceeded to swear to them and to their men, saying; Do not be afraid of serving the Chaldeans. Continue dwelling in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will go well with you. (**Jeremiah 40:9**)
- And as for me, here I am dwelling in Mizpah, in order to stand before the Chaldeans who will come to us. And as for you yourselves, gather wine and summer fruits and oil and put them in your vessels and dwell in your cities that you have seized. (**Jeremiah 40:10**)
- And all the Jews that were in Moab and among the sons of Ammon and in Edom and those who were in all the other lands, they also heard that the king of Babylon had given a remnant to Judah and that he had commissioned over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan. (**Jeremiah 40:11**)
- And all the Jews began to return from all the places to which they had been dispersed, and they kept coming into the land of Judah to Gedaliah at Mizpah. And they went gathering wine and summer fruits in very great quantity. (**Jeremiah 40:12**)
- As for Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces who were in the field, they came to Gedaliah at Mizpah. (**Jeremiah 40:13**)
- And they proceeded to say to him; Do you not at all know that Baalis, the king of the sons of Ammon, himself has sent **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah to strike you to the soul? But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam did not believe them. (**Jeremiah 40:14**)
- And Johanan the son of Kareah himself said to Gedaliah, in a place of concealment in Mizpah; I want to go, now, and strike down **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah, as no one at all will know. Why should he strike you to the soul, and why must all those of Judah who are being collected together to you be scattered and

the remnant of Judah perish? (**Jeremiah 40:15**)

- But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said to Johanan the son of Kareah; Do not do this thing, for it is a falsehood that you are speaking concerning **Ishmael**. (**Jeremiah 40:16**)
- As a result, when Gedaliah was entertaining **Ishmael** and his band of ten men at a meal, they rose up and killed their host as well as the Jews and Chaldeans who were with him.
- The next day these assassins seized 80 men who had come from Shechem, Shiloh, and Samaria, killing all but 10 of them, and throwing their bodies into the great cistern built by King Asa.
- **Ishmael** and his men then took the remnant of those living in Mizpah captive and headed for Ammonite territory. On the way Johanan and his forces overtook and rescued the captives, but **Ishmael** and eight of his men escaped to their Ammonite sanctuary.
- And it came about in the seventh month that **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama of the royal offspring came, and also ten men with him, and they got to strike down Gedaliah, so that he died, and also the Jews and the Chaldeans that happened to be with him in Mizpah. (**2 Kings 25:25**)
- So it came about in the seventh month that **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama of the royal offspring and of the principal men of the king and ten other men with him came to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam at Mizpah. And there they began to eat bread together in Mizpah. (**Jeremiah 41:1**)
- Then **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah and the ten men that happened to be with him rose up and struck down Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan with the sword. So he put to death the one whom the king of Babylon had commissioned over the land. (**Jeremiah 41:2**)
- And all the Jews who happened to be with him, that is, with Gedaliah, in Mizpah, and the Chaldeans who were found there, that is, the men of war, **Ishmael** struck down. (**Jeremiah 41:3**)
- And it came about on the second day of the putting of Gedaliah to death, when there was no one at all that knew it. (**Jeremiah 41:4**)

- Then there came men from Shechem, from Shiloh and from Samaria, eighty men with their beards shaved off and with their garments ripped apart and with cuts made upon themselves, and there were grain offering and frankincense in their hand to bring to the house of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 41:5**)
- So **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah went out from Mizpah to meet them, weeping while he was walking along. And it came about that as soon as he encountered them he proceeded to say to them; Come to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam. (**Jeremiah 41:6**)
- But it occurred that as soon as they came into the midst of the city, **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah went slaughtering them and throwing them into the midst of the cistern, he and the men that were with him. (**Jeremiah 41:7**)
- But there were ten men that were found among them who immediately said to **Ishmael**; Do not put us to death, for there exist in our possession hidden treasures in the field, wheat and barley and oil and honey. So he refrained, and he did not put them to death in the midst of their brothers. (**Jeremiah 41:8**)
- Now the cistern into which **Ishmael** threw all the carcasses of the men that he had struck down was a great cistern, the one that King Asa had made because of Baasha the king of Israel. It was the one that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah filled with those slain. (**Jeremiah 41:9**)
- Then **Ishmael** took captive all the remnant of the people who were in Mizpah, the daughters of the king and all the people who were remaining over in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard had put in the custody of Gedaliah the son of Ahikam. So **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah took them captive and went off to cross over to the sons of Ammon. (**Jeremiah 41:10**)
- In time Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces who were with him got to hear all the bad that **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah had done. (**Jeremiah 41:11**)
- Consequently they took all the men and went off to fight against **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah and found him by the abundant waters that were in Gibeon. (**Jeremiah 41:12**)

- Then it came about that as soon as all the people that were with **Ishmael** saw Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces who were with him, they began to rejoice. (**Jeremiah 41:13**)
- And all the people whom **Ishmael** had led captive from Mizpah proceeded to turn around and return and go to Johanan the son of Kareah. (**Jeremiah 41:14**)
- And as for **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah, he escaped with eight men from before Johanan, that he might go to the sons of Ammon. (**Jeremiah 41:15**)
- Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces who were with him now took all the remnant of the people whom they brought back from **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah, from Mizpah, after he had struck down Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, able-bodied men, men of war, and the wives and the little children and the court officials, whom he brought back from Gibeon. (**Jeremiah 41:16**)
- So they went and took up dwelling in the lodging place of Chimham that was beside Bethlehem, in order to go on and enter into Egypt. (**Jeremiah 41:17**)
- Because of the Chaldeans, for they had become afraid because of them, since **Ishmael** the son of Nethaniah had struck down Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon had commissioned over the land. (**Jeremiah 41:18**)