

~JERAHMEEL 3 (46)

(Je-rah'me-el) [May God Show Mercy, God Has Shown Mercy]

- One of the three men sent by King Jehoiakim in his fifth year to seize Jeremiah and Baruch. They returned empty-handed, however, for Yehowah kept his faithful servants concealed.
- Now it came about in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, in the ninth month, that all the people in Jerusalem and all the people that were coming in from the cities of Judah into Jerusalem proclaimed a fast before Yehowah. (Jeremiah 36:9)
- Further, the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of the king and Seraiah the son of Azriel and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel to get Baruch the secretary and Jeremiah the prophet. But Yehowah kept them concealed. (Jeremiah 36:26)
- Since Jehoiakim's successor and presumed firstborn Jehoiachin was only about 12 years old during his father's fifth year of rule, other sons of Jehoiakim were likely still younger, too young to be sent on such a mission as Jerahmeel's.
- Twenty-five years old was Jehoiakim when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiiah from Rumah. (2 Kings 23:36)
- Finally Jehoiakim lay down with his forefathers, and Jehoiachin his son began to reign in place of him. (2 Kings 24:6)
- Eighteen years old was Jehoiachin when he began to reign, and for three months he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. (2 Kings 24:8)
- Therefore, Jerahmeel's being called, the son of the king, might mean, not that he was an offspring of the king, but that he was a member of the royal household or an official of royal descent.

- Of interest is the discovery of a seal impression, said to be from the **Seventh Century B.C.E**, that reads: **Belonging to Jerahmeel the king's son**. [Israel Exploration Journal, Jerusalem, 1978, Vol. 28, p. 53]