

# Jeremiah 28:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Hananiah spake in the presence of all the people, saying,  
Thus saith the LORD; Even so will I break the yoke of  
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations  
within the space of two full years. And the prophet Jeremiah  
went his way.

## Analysis

**And Hananiah spake in the presence of all the people, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years** (כה) אמר יהוה כהה אשר את-על נבכדנאצר מלך-בבל בעוד שנותים ימים מעל צאר כל-הגוים YHWH kakah eshbor et-ol n'vukhadnetsar melekh-bavel b'od sh'natayim yamim me'al tsavvar kol-haggoym)—Hananiah invokes divine authority (כהה kak'ah, 'just like this') for his optimistic timeline. The comparison (ככה kak'ah, 'just like this') links broken wooden yoke to promised broken Babylonian empire. **Within the space of two full years** (בעוד שנותים ימים) sets specific deadline. **And the prophet Jeremiah went his way** (וְלֹךְ יְרֵמִיָּהוּ הַבְּבִיא לְדָרְכוֹ) vayyelekh yirm'yahu hannavi l'darko)—Jeremiah departs without immediate response.

Jeremiah's departure shows wisdom: not every false claim requires instant rebuttal. Sometimes truth needs time to formulate proper response. Jeremiah waits for divine instruction rather than reacting emotionally. Hananiah's specific timeline would eventually expose him—either events vindicate him (they won't) or time proves him false. Faithful ministry sometimes requires patience, letting lies hang themselves with their own specifics.

## Historical Context

---

Hananiah's two-year prediction (593-591 BC) would be tested by events. Babylon didn't fall; instead, it grew stronger, ultimately destroying Jerusalem in 586 BC. Hananiah died within the year (28:17), never seeing his prophecy's failure. His specific timeline, meant to inspire confidence, became his undoing. False prophets often make falsifiable predictions; truth requires patience to let time expose lies.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

---

1. When should you immediately refute false teaching versus waiting for time to expose it?
2. How do specific predictions make theological claims testable?
3. What does Jeremiah's departure teach about not needing last word in every argument?

## Interlinear Text

---

אָמַר	אָמַר	חַנְנִיה	לְעֵינֵי	כָּל	כָּל	מִן	כָּל	אָמַר
Thus saith	And Hananiah	in the presence	H5869	H3605	of all the people	H5971	Thus saith	
H559	H2608						H559	
אָמַר	רְכָבָאָצָר	יְהֹוָה	כִּכְתָּה	כִּכְתָּה	אָשַׁבְתָּה	אָשַׁבְתָּה	עַל	עַל
Thus saith	the LORD	H3068	H3602	Even so will I break	H7665	H853	the yoke	
H559							H5923	
נֶבֶכְדָּנָאָצָר	מֶלֶךְ	בְּבָבִילוֹן	בְּבָבִילוֹן	בְּעָד	שְׁנָתִים	שְׁנָתִים		
of Nebuchadnezzar	king	of Babylon	H894	H5750	years	H8141		
H5019	H4428							
יְמִים	כָּל	צַו אֶרְךָ	מֵעַל	כָּל	מִן	כָּל	יְלָךְ	
within the space of two full	H5921	from the neck	H6677	H3605	of all nations	H1471	H1980	
H3117								
יְרֵמִיָּה	בְּבָבָאָצָר	וְיְרֵמִיָּה	לִזְרָפָה					
Jeremiah	And the prophet	H5030	H1870					
H3414								

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Proverbs 14:7** (Parallel theme): Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge.

**Jeremiah 14:14** (Prophecy): Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.