

# Jeremiah 29:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Know that thus saith the LORD of the king that sitteth upon the throne of David, and of all the people that dwelleth in this city, and of your brethren that are not gone forth with you into captivity;

## Analysis

---

**Know that thus saith the LORD of the king that sitteth upon the throne of David**—Jeremiah now addresses those not exiled, still in Jerusalem under Zedekiah. The phrase **throne of David** (תִּיַּת דָּוִד, kisse David) drips with irony: Zedekiah occupied the physical throne, but the Davidic covenant (2 Sam 7:12-16) was being judged, not honored, by this puppet king's reign.

**And of your brethren that are not gone forth with you into captivity**—The exiles might have envied those remaining in Jerusalem, but God's word reverses their assumptions. Those 'fortunate' enough to avoid exile faced worse judgment (v. 17). Geography doesn't determine blessing—obedience to God's word does. The exiles who heeded Jeremiah would find life; Jerusalem's remnant who trusted false prophets would find death.

## Historical Context

---

This addresses a critical pastoral issue: the first exiles (597 BC) likely felt cursed while Jerusalem's remnant felt spared. But God's counterintuitive word declared the exiles were the 'good figs' (ch. 24) preserved for restoration, while Jerusalem's inhabitants were 'bad figs' awaiting destruction in 586 BC.

## Related Passages

---

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

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

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

---

1. When have you envied others' 'easier' circumstances, only to discover God's harder path held greater blessing?
2. How does this challenge the prosperity gospel assumption that external comfort indicates God's favor?
3. What does it mean that Jesus sits on David's throne now (Luke 1:32-33)? How did judgment prepare for restoration?

## Interlinear Text

---

כִּי	כֹה	אָמַר	יְהוָה	אֵל	הֶמָּלְךָ	הַיּוֹשֵׁב
H3588	H3541	Know that thus saith	the LORD	H413	of the king	that dwelleth
		H559	H3068		H4428	H3427
אֵל	כִּסֵּא	דָּוִד	וְאֵל	כָּל	הָעָם	הַיּוֹשֵׁב
H413	upon the throne	of David	H413	H3605	and of all the people	that dwelleth
	H3678	H1732			H5971	H3427
בְּעִיר	הַזֹּאת	אֶחָיְכֶם	אֲשֶׁר	לֹא	יָצְאוּ	
in this city	H2063	and of your brethren	H834	H3808	that are not gone forth	
H5892		H251			H3318	
אִתְּכֶם	בְּגוֹלָה:					
H854	with you into captivity					
	H1473					

