



RCC Phoenix – 9.26.21 – Fortune Cookie Series (Week 1)

The root of our English word *Theology*:

- Theos – _____
- Logos – _____ / _____

Theology is defined as: the _____ of _____.

Theology is discovered in _____ not built through human understanding.

One thing that helped people in their study of God was the addition of numbered _____ and _____ to the Bible.

The Books of the Bible did not _____ chapters and verses when written.

Theologian and Biblical translator Jerome divided the Bible into shorter passages called pericopes in the 5th century, but they were not widely adopted.

- Numbered chapters for the Bible were introduced by Stephen Langton in 1227 AD.
- Old Testament verse numbers were developed by a Jewish rabbi named Nathan in 1448 AD.
- New Testament verse numbers were developed by Robert Estienne (Stephanus) in 1551 AD.
- The _____ Bible (16th century) was the first English Bible to include both chapter and verse divisions for both Old and New Testaments.

The American Church has viewed _____ as fortune cookie statements.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work.”

Jeremiah 29:11 NLT

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”

Jeremiah 44:11 NLT

“Therefore, this is what the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, the God of Israel, says: I am determined to destroy every one of you!”

One Question to Ask When Reading Scripture: _____ is this written to?

The Bible wasn't written _____ you. It was written _____ you.

Jeremiah 29:1-4 NLT

Jeremiah wrote a letter from Jerusalem to the elders, priests, prophets, and all the people who had been exiled to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar. This was after King Jehoiachin, the queen mother, the court officials, the other officials of Judah, and all the craftsmen and artisans had been deported from Jerusalem. He sent the letter with Elasah son of Shaphan and Gemariah son of Hilkiyah when they went to Babylon as King Zedekiah's ambassadors to Nebuchadnezzar. This is what Jeremiah's letter said: This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives he has exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem:

Jeremiah 29:5-14 NLT

"Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce. Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you may have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away! And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare." This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let your prophets and fortune-tellers who are with you in the land of Babylon trick you. Do not listen to their dreams, because they are telling you lies in my name. I have not sent them," says the Lord. This is what the Lord says: "You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again. For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. I will be found by you," says the Lord. "I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land."

Jeremiah 29:15-19 NLT

You claim that the Lord has raised up prophets for you in Babylon. But this is what the Lord says about the king who sits on David's throne and all those still living here in Jerusalem—your relatives who were not exiled to Babylon. This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: "I will send war, famine, and disease upon them and make them like bad figs, too rotten to eat. Yes, I will pursue them with war, famine, and disease, and I will scatter them around the world. In every nation where I send them, I will make them an object of damnation, horror, contempt, and mockery. For they refuse to listen to me, though I have spoken to them repeatedly through the prophets I sent. And you who are in exile have not listened either," says the Lord.

Jeremiah 29 is God speaking _____ to the Jewish exiles living in Babylon hundreds of years before Christ was born.

Jeremiah 29:11 has _____ to do with us as Gentile Believers in Christ.

It is very important we as believers do not try to "_____ _____" with false teachings about untrue benefits people will receive for following Jesus.

There is no need to embellish Scripture to appeal to a _____ - _____ culture because the benefits of following Christ are already rich, abundant & eternal.

- Peace that passes all understanding.
- Almighty God as our protector and provider.
- Grace and Mercy Following us all the days of our life.
- A life changed by the Author of Love.
- The power of the Holy Spirit to overcome and/or endure through hardships.
- Joy unspeakable.
- A community of like-minded people to enjoy and lean on through life.
- The fruit of Salvation and of the Spirit.
- The promise of eternity with our Creator.

Psalm 119:11 NLT

“I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”