



BIBLE

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **6th Grade | Unit 5**

BIBLE 605

The Captivity and Restoration

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The Captivity and Restoration

Introduction

Recall that God had given the land of Canaan to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as a permanent possession. God told the people of Israel, however, that if they did not obey His commandments, but went after other gods to worship and serve, He would remove them from the land.

Remember also that when God made David king of Israel, He promised David that He would build him a “house” *forever*. The Lord promised David that He would establish the kingdom of Solomon, his son and successor, *forever, if Solomon continued to do His commandments*. Solomon failed to keep the commandments of the Lord, and his kingdom was divided under his son Rehoboam. The ten northern tribes became the Northern Kingdom. Only two tribes, Benjamin and Judah, continued with David’s “house” as the Southern Kingdom.

For two hundred years the kings of the Northern Kingdom led the people of Israel in wicked practices of idolatry. Finally God’s patience came to an end, and His people of the Northern Kingdom were captured by Assyria and taken from their land.

The conclusion of Zedekiah’s reign in Jerusalem brought to an end, after nearly five hundred years, the dynasty of David. God had promised David that if his children walked before Him in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, they would continue on the throne of Israel (then Judah).

After Josiah’s death in Judah, four successive kings—Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah—of the remaining kingdom walked in ways of apostasy and idolatry. Continuing attempts of the Lord by His prophets had failed to call His people to repentance and obedience. The dynasty of David came to an end, and the people of Judah were removed from the land. Like Assyria with the Northern Kingdom, Babylon had become God’s instrument of judgment upon the remaining kingdom. The Captivity would last seventy years, according to the prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 25:11).

In the successful completion of this LIFEPAK®, you will become better acquainted with the lives and ministries of three major prophets of the Old Testament: Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. You will also learn how the ministries of three minor prophets affected the rebuilding of Jerusalem during the Restoration: Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. God was faithful to fulfill the promises given His people by the prophets.

In every period of history, God has required His people to walk before Him in faith. The kind of faith God required results in faithful obedience to His Word. When God’s people walk before Him in faith and faithfully obey His Word, they experience His blessing. When they fail to hear His voice and to keep His Word, they experience His judgment.

Our faith in God’s Word will be strengthened as we see how He was faithful to promise and to fulfill His promises. Study carefully the promises that have already been fulfilled, and rely completely upon those promises that are yet to be fulfilled. God’s Word is true. It is a history of His redemptive plan.

The first promise of a Messiah, or Savior, was given in Genesis 3:15. That promise was given again to Abraham—that through his seed (descendants) would come a blessing to the world—then to Isaac, to Jacob, and to the descendants of Jacob, the nation Israel. Among the sons of Jacob, the line of the Messiah was narrowed to Judah (Genesis 49:10). In the line of Judah was King David and the Messiah Himself, Jesus Christ.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Relate the prophet Jeremiah to his historical period.
2. Identify the “Branch of Righteousness” mentioned in Jeremiah 33:15.
3. List three major subjects discussed in the book of Jeremiah.
4. Describe the content of Lamentations.
5. Relate the prophet Ezekiel to his historical period.
6. Describe Ezekiel’s prophetic ministry to the captive people.
7. Briefly outline the content of the book of Ezekiel.
8. Relate the prophet Daniel to his historical period.
9. Identify the principal people to whom Daniel ministered.
10. Outline briefly the content of the book of Daniel.
11. Identify two Gentile kings used of God in the building of the Temple by the returned people.
12. Name the leaders of three returns from the Captivity to Israel.
13. Name two prophets of the Lord whose ministries contributed to the construction of the Temple in Jerusalem.
14. Tell the Old Testament story of Esther.
15. Discuss Nehemiah’s relationship to the king of Persia and his ministry to the returned people.
16. Identify three prophets of the Restoration.
17. Write the names and classify the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament.
18. Describe the Genesis account of Creation.
19. Review Old Testament history from Creation to Moses; from Joshua to Samuel; and from the beginning kingdom of Israel through the division of the kingdom, the Assyrian Captivity, the Babylonian Captivity, and the Restoration.

FINAL BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

In this LIFEPAK you will complete your survey study of the Old Testament. You will be required to write the names of the thirty-nine books in the Old Testament and to identify the classification to which they belong. Prophets of the Captivity were Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. Prophets during the Restoration

were Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. The book of Esther gives the history of God's preservation of His people in Exile. The books of Ezra and Nehemiah record the history of the return from Exile and the rebuilding of Jerusalem.

LAW	HISTORY	POETRY	PROPHECY	
			MAJOR	MINOR
Genesis	Joshua	Job	Isaiah	Hosea
Exodus	Judges	Psalms	Jeremiah	Joel
Leviticus	Ruth	Proverbs	Lamentation	Amos
Numbers	1 Samuel	Ecclesiastes	Ezekiel	Obadiah
Deuteronomy	2 Samuel	Song of Solomon	Daniel	Jonah
	1 Kings			Micah
	2 Kings			Nahum
	1 Chronicles			Habakkuk
	2 Chronicles			Zephaniah
	Ezra			Haggai
	Nehemiah			Zechariah
	Esther			Malachi

1. THE CAPTIVITY

Jeremiah's prophetic ministry spanned a period of more than sixty years. He saw the destruction of Jerusalem and the Babylonian Captivity. His ministry continued into the Captivity period.

Two prophets of Judah in **Exile** were Ezekiel and Daniel. A brief study of the histories, ministries, and books of Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel will be included in this section.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Explain Solomon's role in the division of the kingdom.
1. Relate the prophet Jeremiah to his historical period.
2. Identify the "Branch of Righteousness" mentioned in Jeremiah 33:15.
3. List three major subjects discussed in the book of Jeremiah.
4. Describe the content of Lamentations.
5. Relate the prophet Ezekiel to his historical period.
6. Describe Ezekiel's prophetic ministry to the captive people.
7. Briefly outline the content of the book of Ezekiel.
8. Relate the prophet Daniel to his historical period.
9. Identify the principal people to whom Daniel ministered.
10. Outline briefly the content of the book of Daniel.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

apostasy (u pos' tu sē). A complete forsaking of one's religion or faith.

decree (di krē '). Something ordered or settled by authority; an official decision.

Exile (eg' zīl). The Babylonian Captivity of the Jews in the 500's B.C.

Messiah (mu sī' u). The Savior promised by God through the prophets; the Lord Jesus Christ.

remnant (rem' nunt). A small part left.

Restoration (res tu rā' shun). The return of the Jews to Israel around 537 B.C. (to restore is to bring back; to establish again).

revelation (rev u lā' shun). The act of making known or the thing made known. God's making known Himself and His will to mankind.

violate (vī u lā t). To break a law, rule, decree, agreement, or promise.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, Īce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /FH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

JEREMIAH

Jeremiah was permitted by Babylon to remain in the land at the time of the Babylonian Captivity of Judah. The people who were left in Judah forced Jeremiah to accompany them to Egypt, where he died.

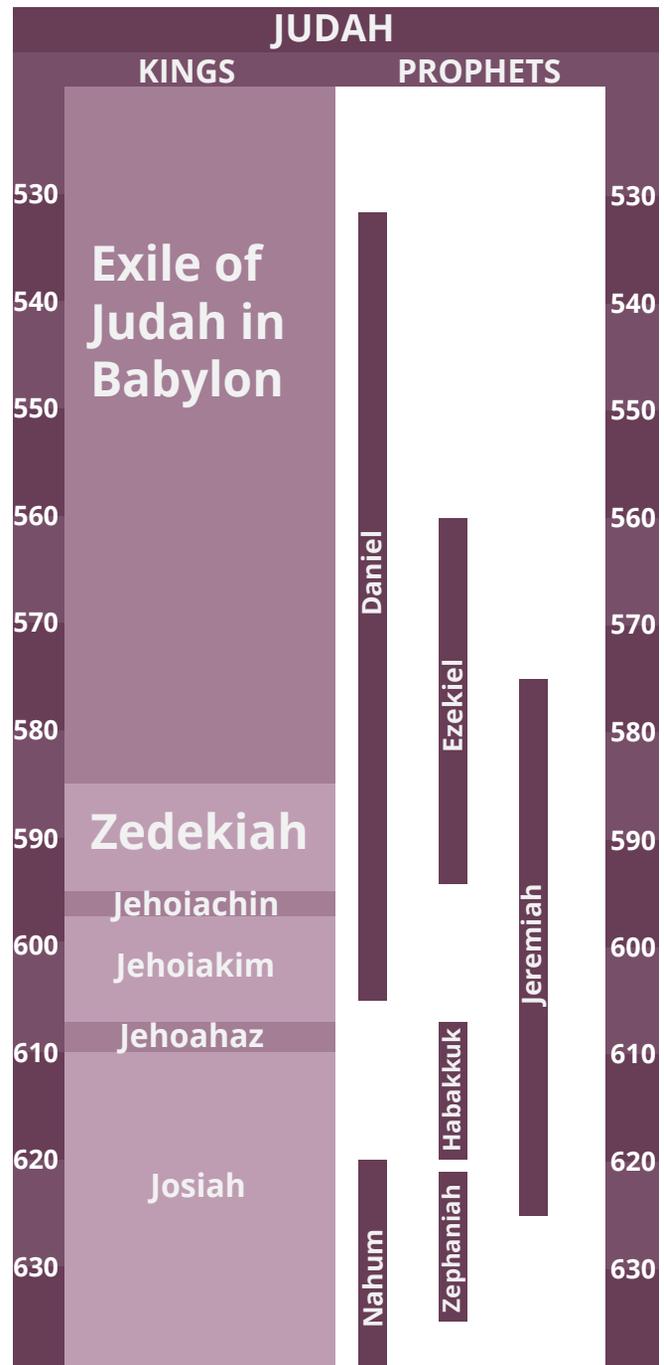
History. The history of Jeremiah’s time was introduced in the previous LIFEPAK and is recorded in 2 Kings 21–25. Before his birth, Jeremiah was chosen and set apart by God to be a prophet in Judah. Son of a priest, Jeremiah began his prophetic ministry during the reign of Josiah, king of Judah.

Manasseh, Josiah’s grandfather, had led Judah in the worst practices of wickedness and idolatry. Manasseh’s wickedness not only exceeded all previous wickedness of Judah and Israel in the land, but also the wickedness of the Canaanites before them. For a short period of time, Amon, son and successor of Manasseh, followed in the footsteps of his wicked father.

Josiah, son of Amon, became king of Judah at the early age of eight. In the eighth year of his reign, he began to seek the Lord. In the twelfth year of his reign, Josiah began to rid Jerusalem and Judah of the high places, idols, and idol altars. His reforms were extended also to the cities of the northern tribes.

Jeremiah began his ministry as a prophet in Judah in the thirteenth year of Josiah’s reign. He was a relative and probably a close advisor of Josiah. During the eighteenth year of Josiah’s reign, a book of the Law was found in the Temple, which was being repaired. Through priests, prophets, and His Word, God prepared Josiah spiritually and used him mightily among His people.

Apparently Josiah’s reforms had cleansed the land, but not the hearts of the people.



When Josiah died, Judah returned again to **apostasy** and idolatry, which continued during the reign of the last four kings in Judah and until the fall of Jerusalem and the Babylonian Captivity.

Ministry. Jeremiah witnessed the cleansing of the land by Josiah, and he probably recognized that the people’s hearts were not cleansed. He saw in Judah a nation wise to do evil, but without knowledge to do good. The rich oppressed the poor. The prophets prophesied falsely. The priests conducted their ministry for hire. All these wicked ways were approved by the people. This theme was repeated in Jeremiah’s messages (8:10 and 11), “...from the prophet even unto the priest everyone dealeth falsely... saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.”

For twenty-three years Jeremiah faithfully proclaimed the word of the Lord. He warned the people of Judah that they would be given over to Babylon and that resistance to this nation, God’s instrument of judgment, would only lead to more severe judgment.

In prison during the fourth year of Jehoiakim and the twenty-third year of Jeremiah’s ministry, Jeremiah wrote a scroll and sent it by his servant to be read at the Temple. When the king heard about the scroll, he sent for it to be read in his presence. Sitting before the fire in his winter house, Jehoiakim listened only briefly to the reading of Jeremiah’s scroll. He cut it in pieces and threw it into the fire because it predicted the Babylonian Captivity. In a second scroll, Jeremiah added a prediction of Jehoiakim’s death. His end came just as Jeremiah had predicted.

Jeremiah suffered severely at the hands of King Zedekiah and his princes because he prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem and promised life only to those who would surrender to the Babylonians. During the period of terrible suffering inflicted by Zedekiah and the nobles of Judah, Jeremiah prophesied the salvation of Judah and Jerusalem by the “Branch of Righteousness.” The “Branch of Righteousness”



| Jehoiakim threw Jeremiah’s scroll into the fire

would grow out of David and would establish judgment and righteousness in the land (Jeremiah 33:15). This prophecy will be fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ, heir to the throne of David (Luke 1:30–33).

Jeremiah ministered to the captives in Babylon by letter, to the **remnant** remaining with him in Judah after the Captivity, and to the remnant in Egypt where they fled in disobedience to God’s clear word by Jeremiah.

Books. In the book by his name, Jeremiah predicted the Babylonian Captivity and its length of 70 years. He recorded the history of Jerusalem being destroyed and of the people of Judah taken captive to Babylon. He also wrote about his ministry to the remnant in Judah and later in Egypt.

The book of Lamentations was written by Jeremiah after the fall of Judah. The content of this book reveals Jeremiah’s great sorrow at the fall of Judah and the destruction of Jerusalem.



Answer the following questions.

1.6 Why did Jehoiakim cut to pieces and burn the scroll written by Jeremiah? _____

1.7 What was added by Jeremiah to his second scroll? _____

1.8 Why did Jeremiah suffer severely at the hands of Zedekiah and his princes? _____

1.9 Who is the “Branch of Righteousness” mentioned in Jeremiah 33:15? _____

1.10 How did Jeremiah minister to the captives in Babylon? _____

1.11 What were three major subjects about which Jeremiah wrote in the book by his name?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

1.12 What does the content of Lamentations reveal? _____

EZEKIEL

Taken captive to Babylon with Jehoiachin, Ezekiel became a prophet to his people in **Exile**.

History. Ezekiel was born in Judah, probably during the reign of Josiah. Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel was the son of a priest. He was most likely influenced both by the reforms of Josiah and by the ministry of Jeremiah. Ezekiel was among the more noble and wealthy who were taken captive with Jehoiachin.

Some captives were imprisoned, some were enslaved, and others were permitted to live in settlements. Ezekiel was among those allowed to live in settlements. His home was in Tel-abib by the river (or canal) Chebar. In their settlements, the captive Jews apparently were permitted to have some local government and to hear the word of their God by His prophet.

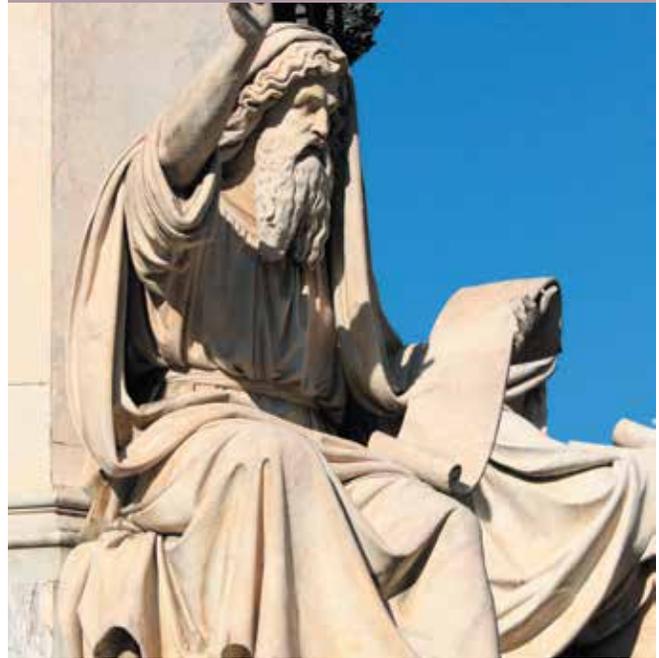
With the destruction of Jerusalem in 586 B.C.—the city and the Temple—and the fall of the kingdom, Jeremiah, the last prophet of Judah, began to fade into the background. Ezekiel emerged as the prophet of the Exile.

Ministry. Ezekiel was called to his prophetic ministry in the fifth year of his captivity. He ministered the word of the Lord to the captive people.

Ezekiel pointed out the idolatry of the people. For idolatry they had been removed from the land and their Holy City had suffered violence and destruction. Ezekiel's effort was to bring the nation in exile back to God and His covenant with Isaac, with Jacob, and with the nation Israel. God had established the royal line of His kingdom with David. He had given David an unconditional promise of an everlasting kingdom. His dynasty would continue only conditionally, however.

With the Assyrian Captivity, and now the fall of Judah, the nation of Israel had ceased to exist. Had God broken His covenant? God's message

Read Ezekiel 34



| Ezekiel Prophecies of Jesus

to His captive people by His prophet was assurance that He had not forgotten them. The scattered people would be gathered again. God would make a new covenant with them. They would be cleansed. The seventy years of Captivity would be fulfilled. Then a remnant would be restored to the land. The Temple would be rebuilt by a new, believing generation. God would finally restore the throne of David to his descendant, the **Messiah**, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Book. The book of Ezekiel has been described as a kind of personal prophetic diary, a picture of Ezekiel's prophetic life, his prophetic autobiography. In chapters 1 – 24, the major message is the judgment of God in the destruction of Jerusalem. Chapters 25–32 contain Ezekiel's prophecies concerning the Gentile nations — that God will judge those nations and their gods. In the remaining chapters 33–48, Ezekiel continued with his prophetic mission to the captive people: The Shepherd would gather His flock, and the line of David would be restored in the coming kingdom.



Write the correct letter and answer on each line.

- 1.13** Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel was the son of a _____ .
 a. prophet b. priest c. king
- 1.14** Ezekiel was probably influenced by _____ .
 a. the reforms of Josiah
 b. the ministry of Jeremiah
 c. both a and b
- 1.15** Ezekiel was among those captives who were _____ .
 a. imprisoned
 b. enslaved
 c. permitted to live in settlements
 d. both b and c

Answer true or false.

- 1.16** _____ Ezekiel was called to his prophetic ministry in the fifth year of his captivity.
- 1.17** _____ Ezekiel worked to bring peace between the captives and the Babylonians.
- 1.18** _____ Judah had been removed from their land because of idolatry.
- 1.19** _____ God had given David an unconditional promise of an everlasting kingdom.
- 1.20** _____ David's dynasty would continue without end—forever.
- 1.21** _____ The book of Ezekiel has been described as a kind of prophetic autobiography.
- 1.22** _____ Ezekiel promised that the scattered people would be gathered again.
- 1.23** _____ The first twenty-four chapters of Ezekiel contain a message about the judgment of God in the destruction of Jerusalem.
- 1.24** _____ Chapters 25–32 include a promise that the Shepherd would gather His flock—God would gather His people again.
- 1.25** _____ Chapters 33–48 contain Ezekiel's prophecies concerning the Gentile nations.

SELF TEST 1

Match the following items (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 1.01 | _____ in the eighth year of Josiah's life | a. the content of Lamentations |
| 1.02 | _____ in the eighth year of Josiah's reign | b. include a promise that the Shepherd will gather His flock |
| 1.03 | _____ in the thirteenth year of Josiah's reign | c. the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ |
| 1.04 | _____ "Branch of Righteousness" | d. the book of Ezekiel |
| 1.05 | _____ predicted Babylonian Captivity and its length | e. history |
| 1.06 | _____ a prophetic autobiography | f. he began to reign |
| 1.07 | _____ reveals Jeremiah's great sorrow at the fall of Judah and the destruction of Jerusalem | g. prophecy |
| 1.08 | _____ in the fifth year of Ezekiel's captivity | h. the book of Jeremiah |
| 1.09 | _____ Ezekiel 33-48 | i. he was called to his prophetic ministry |
| 1.010 | _____ Daniel 7-12 | j. Jeremiah began his prophetic ministry |
| | | k. he began to seek the Lord |

Complete the following items (each answer, 4 points).

- 1.011 Josiah began to rid Jerusalem and Judah of idolatry in the _____ year of his reign.
- 1.012 A book of the Law was found in the Temple, which was being repaired, during the _____ year of Josiah's reign.
- 1.013 Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel are classified as _____ prophets.
- 1.014 Daniel used the Hebrew term for week to refer to a period of seven _____.
- 1.015 Jeremiah ministered to the captives in Babylon by letter and to the _____ remaining with him in Judah.
- 1.016 Ezekiel was probably influenced by the reforms of a. _____ and the ministry of b. _____.
- 1.017 Ezekiel's ministry was to bring the nation in exile back to the _____ of their covenant.

- 1.018** Daniel requested the Babylonian officials to assign him and his companions a special _____ because they wanted to observe faithfully the Law of Moses.
- 1.019** Faithful to his God, Daniel continued his practice of kneeling in his room three times a day and praying to his God, in spite of the _____ of Darius.

Write the correct letter and answer on each line (each answer, 3 points).

- 1.020** Daniel was made ruler over the whole province of Babylon by King _____.
 a. Belshazzar b. Darius c. Nebuchadnezzar
- 1.021** Daniel was made third ruler in the kingdom of _____.
 a. Belshazzar b. Darius c. Nebuchadnezzar
- 1.022** Daniel was appointed one of three princes over all 120 governors in the kingdom of _____.
 a. Belshazzar b. Darius c. Nebuchadnezzar
- 1.023** Daniel was a prophet of God to _____.
 a. Gentile kings
 b. God's captive people
 c. both a and b
- 1.024** A scroll written by Jeremiah was cut to pieces and burned by King _____.
 a. Jehoiakim b. Jehoiachin c. Zedekiah
- 1.025** Jeremiah suffered sorely at the hands of Zedekiah because he had _____.
 a. prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem
 b. promised life only to those who would surrender to the Babylonians
 c. both a and b
- 1.026** Jeremiah was a relative and probably a close advisor of King _____.
 a. Jehoiakim b. Josiah c. Zedekiah
- 1.027** Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel was the son of a _____.
 a. prophet b. priest c. king
- 1.028** Ezekiel was among those captives who were _____.
 a. imprisoned
 b. enslaved
 c. permitted to live in settlements
 d. both b and c
- 1.029** Ezekiel was called to his prophetic ministry in the _____ year of the Captivity.
 a. fifth b. seventh c. third

Answer the following questions (each question, 5 points).

1.030 What were three major subjects about which Jeremiah wrote?

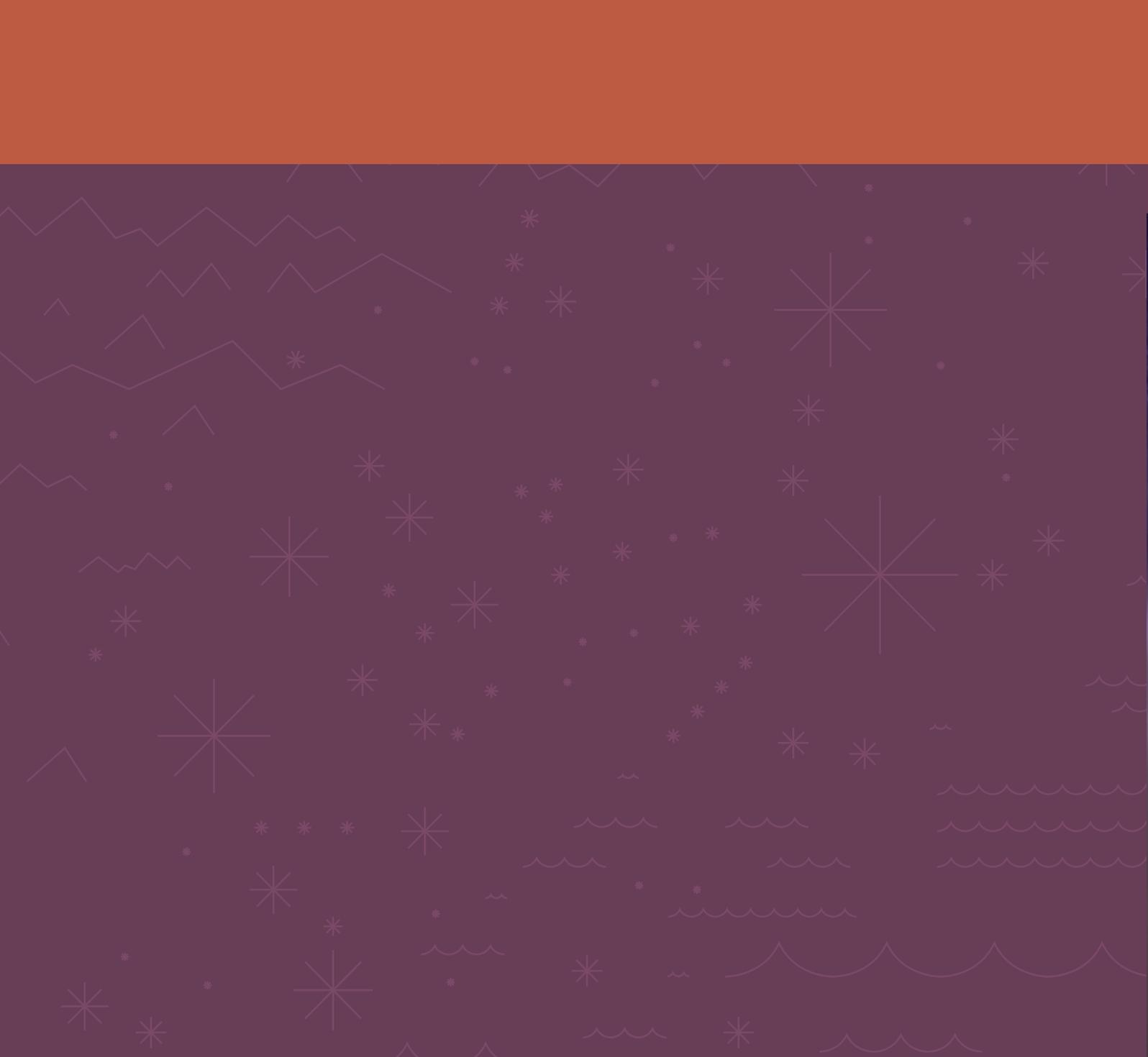
a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

1.031 Who is the “Branch of Righteousness” mentioned in Jeremiah 33:15?

	SCORE _____	TEACHER _____	initials _____	date _____
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