

**King Zedekiah - The Persistence of a Loving God (II Chronicles 36:11-23)**  
**Sep 1, 2019**

**A. An Overview of Zedekiah's Leadership in Judah (36:11-16)**

1. Did not humble himself before the prophet Jeremiah (12)
2. Rebelled again King Nebuchadnezzar (13a)
3. Refused to turn to the Lord - stiff neck/hardened heart (13b)
4. The Priesthood became unfaithful - polluted the house of the Lord by embracing the "abominations of the nations" - idol worship (14)
5. The people mocked the messengers of God - "there was no remedy" (15-16)

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**B. God's Response to a disobedient nation (36:17-21)**

1. Persistently sent messengers because of his compassion (36:15)
2. Used Nebuchadnezzar to judge the people of Judah - terrible loss of life, destruction of the temple, people are sent into exile (36:17-21a)
3. The Lord established on the land a 70 year Sabbath (36:21b)

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**C. The Proclamation of Cyrus (36:22-23) - A Ray of Hope**

1. The Lord stirred the Spirit of Cyrus (36:22)
2. A decree is given to the people for them to return and rebuild (36:23)