

- 1: At the beginning of Yehoyakim's reign, Hashem said this:
- 2: Stand in the Beit Hamikdash, speak to all of those who are worshipping in the בית המקדש.
- 3: Maybe they will listen, and repent, and I will cancel the punishment.
- 4: Say to them: "If you do not obey me, going in my ways,
- 5: Listening to my servants, the Neviim, who you have not listened to yet,
- 6: I will make this house like Shiloh. This city will be like a curse the nations use."
- 7: The people heard these words,
- 8: And when he finished speaking, they shouted: "Die!"
- 9: "How dare you prophesise in the name of Hashem about all these bad things!"
- Malbim: They thought him a false נביא, so they have the obligation to kill him. They also want to kill him because he's bringing morale down.
- 10: Then the officials of Yehuda came, they came from the palace up to the Beit Hamikdash, at a courthouse by one of the newly renovated gates to the בית המקדש.
- 11: The כהנים and לויים said to the judges and the nation "this man is deserving of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard."
- Why are they speaking to the nation? They were with the nation just a second ago. Now the nation is a neutral party.
- 12: Jeremiah said "It was Hashem who sent me to prophesise against this city."
- 13: "Improve your ways, listen to Hashem, so that He may revoke the punishment."
- 14: "Do what seems right to you, with me."
- 15: "But if you kill me, you are killing an innocent person, because I am of Hashem."
- 16: The officials said "He does not deserve death, for he speaks in the name of Hashem."
- 17: And the elders said:
- 18: "Micah, who prophesied in the days of Chizkiyahu, spoke against Jerusalem also.
- 19: Did Chizkiyahu put him to death? No! He repented! We were about to do wrong!"

20: There was another נביא of Hashem named Uriah. He also prophesied against Jerusalem.

21: Yehoyakim heard about him, and wanted to kill him. So he fled to Egypt.

22: But they went to Egypt also,

23: And they found him, and killed him.

24: But Achikam protected Yirmiyahu, so that he was not killed.

Achikam was also sent to חולדה. Chuldah also said these things against Jerusalem. So when the judges were debating between holding like Micah or holding like Uriah, he convinced them not to kill him because he heard this same message from חולדה.