



Israel is exiled by Assyria and Judah is exiled by Babylon. The population is shredded to pieces, the capital city and its temple are destroyed. God's kingdom lies in ruin.

## Video Summary

The northern tribes, Israel, are invaded and taken into captivity by Assyria in 722BC. They disappear from history. The southern tribes, Judah, are invaded and taken into captivity by Babylon in 587BC. The population is shredded to pieces. Jerusalem, the capital city, and the Temple in it are destroyed.

This is a major problem for God's plan. Any hint of fulfilment of his promises seems far from reality. God's people are no longer a great nation — they have been torn in two by civil war and shredded to pieces by foreign armies. They are no longer in God's place — they are imprisoned away from their homeland. They are clearly not blessed and are unable to be a blessing. They cannot spread God's kingdom to the world when God's kingdom lies in rubble and dust.

## Discussion Questions

- 1** Imagine being forcibly removed from your home and country. What would be the hardest things about that experience?
- 2** In what ways does the exile parallel the fall? What does it show us about people? What does it show us about sin?
- 3** Have you ever felt like your faith, or God's work in a particular area, was in ruins? What makes hope hard in devastating circumstances?

## **Bible Passages for Further Study**

2 Kings 17:1-23 — Israel exiled to Assyria



2 Kings 25:1-21 — Judah exiled to Babylon