When the Chaldeans were preparing to besiege Jerusalem, the Lord spake unto Jeremiah, saying: « Jeremiah, my chosen, go thy way out of the city, thou and Baruch the reader; for I am going to let the sons of Israel to be carried away captives, on account of the multitude of their sins. Now make haste and go out before the Chaldeans come. »

Jeremiah said: « Why, O Lord, dost thou deliver up this thy chosen city, into the hands of the Chaldeans, and the king and his troops shall pride themselves, saying: ‘We have overcome the holy city of God?’ Do not this, O Lord; but if Thou art highly provoked against us, let it be overthrown by Thy hands. »

The Lord said: « Neither the king nor