

THE THINGS OMITTED FROM JEREMIAH THE PROPHET^a

1 **1** It happened, when the children of Israel were taken captive by the king of the Chaldeans, that God spoke to Jeremiah, saying, "Jeremiah, my chosen one, rise up and get out of this city, you and Baruch, because I am going to destroy it for the multitude of the sins of those who inhabit it. •For your prayers are like a firm pillar in the middle of it, and like an unbreachable wall encircling it. •So now rise up and get out before the host of the Chaldeans surrounds it." •And Jeremiah answered, saying, "I implore you, LORD, allow me, your servant, to speak before you." •And the LORD said to him, "Speak, my chosen one, Jeremiah." •And Jeremiah spoke, saying, "LORD Almighty, are you delivering the chosen city into the hands of the Chaldeans, so that the king may boast with the multitude of his people and say, 'I prevailed over the holy city of God'? •(Surely) not, my LORD; but if it is your will, let it be destroyed by your (own) hands." •And the LORD said to Jeremiah, "Since you are my chosen one, rise up and get out of this city, you and Baruch, because I am going to destroy it for the multitude of the sins of those who inhabit it.^b •For neither the king nor his host can come into it unless I first open its gates. •So rise up and go to Baruch and tell him these words. •And rising up at the sixth hour of the night, get up on the wall of the city, and I will show you that unless I first destroy the city, they cannot come into it." •After saying these things, the LORD departed from Jeremiah.

Jer 1:18
2Bar 2:1f.
LivPro

2Bar 7:1
3Mac 2:17f.

1 **2** And Jeremiah ran and told these things to Baruch, and as they came into the Temple of God,^a Jeremiah tore his garments and put dust on his head and went into the sanctuary of God. •And Baruch, seeing him (with) dust sprinkled on his head and his garments torn, cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Father Jeremiah, what is the matter with you, or what sort of sin have the people committed?"^b (He said this) because whenever the people sinned, Jeremiah sprinkled dust on his head and would pray for the people until the sin was forgiven them. •And (this is why) Baruch asked him, saying, "Father, what is the matter with you?"^c •And Jeremiah said to him, "Avoid the rending of your garments, but rather let us rend our hearts; and let us not draw water for the troughs, but let us weep and fill them with tears. For the LORD will not have mercy on this people." •And Baruch said, "Father Jeremiah, what has happened?" •And Jeremiah said, "God is delivering the city into the hands of the king of the Chaldeans, to take the people captive into Babylon." •And when Baruch heard these things, he tore his garments also and said, "Father Jeremiah, who revealed this to you?" •And Jeremiah said to him, "Wait with me a little, until the sixth hour of the night, that you may know that this word is true." •And so they both remained at the altar weeping, and their garments were torn.

1 **3** But when the hour of the night arrived, as the LORD had said to Jeremiah, they went up together onto the walls of the city, Jeremiah and Baruch. •And behold, there was a sound of trumpets, and angels came out of heaven holding torches in

2Bar 6:1-4

1 a. This is the title given in the Gk. MSS; the Eth. version is entitled "The Rest of the Words of Baruch."

b. Note that this is a doublet of 1:1b.

2 a. MS C and the Eth. version omit "Jeremiah ran . . . God." In light of 2:2-7 the omission is probably correct. The line may have been added

by a redactor interested in enhancing the importance of Baruch.

b. Note Baruch's subservient status in the opening chs., where Jeremiah is always addressed as "Father."

c. The majority of Gk. MSS read, "What is this?" The translation here follows the text of J. R. Harris, *The Rest of the Words of Baruch*.

- 3 their hands, and they stood on the walls of the city. •And when Jeremiah and Baruch saw them, they wept, saying, "Now we know that the word is true."
- 4 And Jeremiah pleaded with the angels, saying, "I implore you not to destroy the city just yet, until I have a word with the LORD." •And the LORD spoke to the angels, saying, "Don't destroy the city until I speak to my chosen one, Jeremiah."
- 5 6.7 Then Jeremiah spoke, saying, "Please, LORD, let me speak before you." •And the LORD said, "Speak, my chosen one, Jeremiah." •And Jeremiah said, "Behold, LORD, we know now that you are delivering the city into the hands of its enemies, and they will carry the people off into Babylon. •What do you want me to do with the holy vessels of the (Temple) service?" •And the LORD said to him, "Take them and deliver them to the earth, saying, 'Hear, earth, the voice of him who created you, who formed you in the abundance of the waters, who sealed you with seven seals in seven periods (of time), and after these things you will receive your fruitful season.^a •Guard the vessels of the (Temple) service until the coming^b of the beloved one.' " •And Jeremiah spoke, saying, "I implore you, LORD, show me what I should do for Abimelech the Ethiopian, for he did many good deeds for your servant Jeremiah. •For he pulled me out of the muddy cistern, and I do not want him to see the destruction of this city and (its) desolation, but that you may show him mercy and that he might not be grieved." •And the LORD said to Jeremiah, "Send him to the vineyard of Agrippa^c and in the shadow of the mountain I will shelter him until I return the people to the city. •But you, Jeremiah, go with your people into Babylon and stay with them, preaching to them until I return them to the city. •But leave Baruch here until I speak to him."
- 17.18 After the LORD said these things, he went up from Jeremiah into heaven.^d •But Jeremiah and Baruch went into the sanctuary and, gathering up the vessels of the (Temple) service, they delivered them to the earth, just as the LORD had instructed them. •And immediately the earth swallowed them up. •And the two sat down and wept. •And when it was morning, Jeremiah sent Abimelech away, saying, "Take the basket and go out to the farm of Agrippa by the mountain road and get a few figs to give to the sick among the people, for the delight of the LORD (rests) upon you, and (his) glory upon your head." •And saying these things, Jeremiah sent him away, and Abimelech went as he had been instructed.
- 1 4 And when it was morning, behold the host of the Chaldeans surrounded the city. •And the great angel trumpeted, saying, "Come into the city, host of the Chaldeans; for behold, the gate has been opened for you. •Therefore, let the king come in with his multitude and take all the people captive." •But Jeremiah, taking the keys of the Temple, went outside of the city and, facing the sun, he tossed them, saying, "I say to you, sun, take the keys of the Temple of God and keep them until the day in which the LORD will question you about them.^e •Because we were not found worthy of keeping them, for we were false stewards." •While Jeremiah was still weeping for the people, they carried him (off) with the people, dragging (them) into Babylon. •And Baruch put dust on his head and sat and wept this lamentation, saying, "Why was Jerusalem made desolate? For the sins of the beloved people she was delivered into the hands of enemies, for our sins and (those) of the people. •But do not let the outlaws boast and say, 'We were strong enough to take the city of God by our power'; but because of our sins it was delivered to you. •And our God will pity us and return us to our city, but you will not have life. •Blessed are our fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,

3 a. Lit. "your ripeness of fruit."

b. Following the suggestion of G. D. Kilpatrick, "Acts VII.52 *ELEUSIS*," *JTS* 46 (1945) 140f., although this rendering is elsewhere unattested. Literally the word is "coming together," or "union," or perhaps even "marriage." The variant "consummation, completion" (MSS A B P) should be noted. According to R. A. Kraft and A.-E. Purinton (*Paraleipomena Jeremiou*, p. 17), "coming" is

supported by the Arm. version.

c. Harris, *The Rest*, p. 12, identifies this vineyard with an area south of Jerusalem known as Solomon's Gardens. See also Josephus, *Ant* 8.7.3.

d. Note the anthropomorphic representation of God.

4 a. See also b.Ta'an 29a; LevR 19:6; and ARN 7.

for they departed from this world and did not see the destruction of this city.”

- 11 After saying these things, Baruch went outside the city, weeping and saying,
 12 “Grieving over you, Jerusalem, I have left you.” •And he remained sitting in a tomb while the angels came to him and elaborated to him all the things that the LORD would reveal to him through them. Jer 43:6f.

- 1 **5** But Abimelech carried the figs in the heat (of the day), and coming upon a
 2 tree, he sat under its shade to rest a little. •And leaning his head on the basket of
 3 figs (and) falling asleep, he slept for sixty-six years, and he did not wake from
 4 his sleep. •And afterward, when he arose from his sleep, he said, “I slept
 4.5 pleasantly a little, but my head is weighed down because I didn’t get enough
 5 sleep.” •Then, uncovering the basket of figs, he found them dripping milk. •And
 6 he said, “I would like to nap a little longer, because my head is weighed down,
 7 but I’m afraid I might fall fast asleep and be late waking up, and my father
 8 Jeremiah might think less (of me). For if he were not in a hurry, he would not
 9 have sent me (so) early this morning. •So I will get up and proceed in the heat,
 10 for isn’t there heat, isn’t there work, every day?” •So, getting up, he took the
 11 basket of figs and put (it) on his shoulders and went into Jerusalem, and he did
 12 not recognize it, neither the house nor his neighborhood; neither did he find his
 13 family, nor any of the neighbors. •And he said, “Blessed (be) the LORD, for a
 14 great stupor has befallen me today. •This is not the city Jerusalem! I got lost^a
 15 because I came by the mountain road after getting up from my sleep; and since
 16 my head was heavy from my not getting enough sleep, I got lost. •Imagine telling
 17 Jeremiah that I got lost!”^b •And he went out of the city, and looking (carefully)
 18 he saw the landmarks of the city and said, “This, then, is the city; I got lost.”
 19 And he returned again to the city and searched and found none of his own (people),
 20 and he said, “Blessed (be) the LORD, for a great stupor has befallen me!” •And
 21 he went outside the city again and stayed (there) grieving, not knowing where he
 22 should go. •And he put the basket down, saying, “I’m sitting right here until the
 23 LORD takes this stupor away from me.” •And as he sat, he saw an elderly man
 24 coming from the field, and Abimelech said to him, “I say to you, old man, what
 25 city is this?” •And he said to him, “It is Jerusalem.” •And Abimelech said to
 26 him, “(Then) where is Jeremiah the priest and Baruch the reader and all the
 27 people of this city, because I didn’t find them.” •And the old man said to him,
 28 “Are you not from this city, that you remember Jeremiah today, and ask about
 29 him after so long a time? •For Jeremiah is in Babylon with the people. For they
 30 were taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar the king and Jeremiah is with them to
 31 preach to them and to teach them the word.” •But as soon as Abimelech heard (this)
 32 from the old gentleman, he said, “If you weren’t an old man, and if it
 33 weren’t improper for a man to insult his elder(s), I would laugh at you and say
 34 you are crazy because you said, ‘The people were taken captive into Babylon.’
 35 If the cataracts of heaven had come down upon them, there still isn’t time to have
 36 gone into Babylon! •For how long can it be since my father Jeremiah sent me to
 37 the farm of Agrippa to get a few figs so we could give (them) to the sick among
 38 the people? •And I went out and got them, and coming upon a certain tree in the
 39 heat (of the day), I sat down to rest a little, and I leaned my head on the basket
 40 and fell asleep. •And when I woke up, I uncovered the basket of figs, thinking I
 41 was late, and found the figs dripping milk, just as (when) I picked them. •And
 42 you say that the people were taken captive into Babylon! •But (just) so you’ll
 43 know, take the figs (and) see!” •And he uncovered the basket of figs for the old
 44 man, and he saw them dripping milk. •And when he saw them, the old gentleman
 45 said, “O my son, you are a righteous man, and God did not want you to see the
 46 desolation of the city, so he brought this stupor upon you. •For behold, it is today

5 a. Lit. “I wandered the road.”

b. Lit. “Marvelous to say this to Jeremiah that

30 sixty-six years since the people were taken captive into Babylon. •And so that
 you may learn, son, that what I am telling you is true, look out into the field and
 31 see that the growth of the crops is not (yet) apparent. •See also the figs, that it is
 32 not (yet) time for them, and understand.” •Then Abimelech cried in a loud voice,
 saying, “I will bless you, O God of heaven and of the earth, the rest of the souls
 33 of the righteous in every place.” •Then he said to the elderly gentleman, “What
 34,35 month is this?” •And he said, “Nisan, the twelfth (day).”^c •And picking up
 (some) of the figs, he gave them to the old gentleman and said to him, “May
 God guide you with (his) light to the city above, Jerusalem!”

Ezra 8:31

Gal 4:26
Heb 12:22
2Bar 4:2-7

1 **6** After these things Abimelech went outside the city and prayed to the LORD.
 2 And behold, an angel of the LORD came and, taking hold of his right hand,
 brought him back to the place where Baruch was sitting, and he found him in a
 3 tomb. •And when they saw each other, both (of them) wept, and they kissed each
 4 other. •And looking up, Baruch saw with his (own) eyes the figs sheltered in
 5.6 Abimelech’s basket. •And raising his eyes to heaven, he prayed, saying, “•You
 are the God who bestows a reward (on) those who love you. Prepare yourself,
 my heart; rejoice and be glad in your tabernacle, saying to your fleshly dwelling,
 ‘Your sorrow has been turned to joy.’ For the Mighty One is coming and will
 7 raise you in your tabernacle, for sin has not taken root^a in you. •Be refreshed
 8 within your tabernacle, in your virgin faith, and believe that you will live.^b •Look
 at this basket of figs; for behold, they are sixty-six years old and they have not
 9 withered nor do they stink, but they are dripping with milk.^c •Thus will it be for
 you, my flesh, if you do the things commanded you by the angel of righteousness.^d
 10 He who preserved the basket of figs, the same one again will preserve you by
 11 his power.” •After saying these things, Baruch said to Abimelech, “Get up and
 let us pray that the LORD might reveal to us how we can send word to Jeremiah
 12 in Babylon about the protection which was yours on the way.” •And Baruch
 prayed, saying, “Our power, LORD God, (thou) chosen light, (is) that which
 13 proceeds from your mouth.^e •We implore and beg of your goodness, O great name
 which no one can know. Hear the voice of your servants and let knowledge come
 14 into our heart. •What should we do, and how should we send this news to Jeremiah
 15 in Babylon?” •And while Baruch was still praying, behold an angel of the LORD
 came and said to Baruch all these words: “Councilor of the light, don’t worry
 about how you should send to Jeremiah. For tomorrow an eagle is coming to you
 16 (at the) hour of light, and you must direct (it) to Jeremiah. •Therefore, write in
 the letter,^f ‘Speak to the children of Israel, “Let him among you who has become
 a foreigner be expelled,” and let them spend fifteen days, and after these things
 17 I will lead you into your city, says the LORD. •Whoever is not separated from
 Babylon, let him not come into the city, and I will punish them with not being
 18 taken back again by the Babylonians, says the LORD.’ ” •And after these things,
 19 the angel departed from Baruch. •And Baruch sent to the marketplace of the
 gentiles and got papyrus and ink, and he wrote the following letter: “Baruch, the
 20 servant of God, writes to Jeremiah in the captivity of Babylon. •Hail and rejoice!
 For God has not left us to pass out of this body grieving over the city which was
 21 desolated and outraged. •For this reason the LORD has taken pity on our tears and
 has remembered the covenant that he established with our fathers Abraham, Isaac,

Ezra 10:11

2Bar 78:1

c. Kraft and Purinton (*Paraleipomena Jeremiou*, p. 27), give “Nisan (which is Abib).” The text is difficult here (see Harris, *The Rest*, p. 54), but Ezra 8:31 supports the translation above.

6 a. From *ginesthai*, lit. “has not become.”

b. Baruch interprets the experience of Abimelech as a proof of the resurrection of the flesh.

c. The fig is an apt symbol for life, since it is full of seeds and “drips milk.” The fig is often

identified in Jewish literature as the forbidden fruit of Eden.

d. See 8:12 and 9:15.

e. Or “Our power, LORD God, (is) the chosen light which proceeds from your mouth.”

f. What follows are instructions for Jeremiah the prophet from Baruch the scribe, in a reversal of their canonical roles and of their respective roles in chs. 1–4, 9.

22 and Jacob. •And he sent his angel to me and told me these words which I have
 23 sent to you. •Now, these are the words that the LORD God of Israel, who led us
 from the land of Egypt, out of the great furnace, spoke: 'Because you didn't keep
 my commandments, but your heart was lifted up and you stiffened your neck
 before me, in wrath and anger I delivered you to the furnace in Babylon.
 24 However, if you will listen to my voice,' says the LORD, 'from the mouth of
 Jeremiah my servant, whoever listens I will bring him back from Babylon, and
 whoever does not listen will become a stranger to Jerusalem and to Babylon.
 25 And you will prove them with the water of the Jordan; whoever does not listen
 will become known; this is the sign of the great seal.' '8

1 **7** And Baruch stood up and went out of the tomb and found the eagle sitting 2Bar 77:17-26
 2 outside the tomb. •And conversing in a human voice, the eagle said to him, "Hail,
 3 Baruch, the steward of the faith!"^a •And Baruch said to him, "You who speak
 are chosen from all the birds of heaven, for this is clear from the gleam in your
 4 eyes; so show me, what are you doing here?" •And the eagle said to him, "I was
 5 sent here so that you may send every word you desire through me." •And Baruch
 6 said to him, "Can you take this message up to Jeremiah in Babylon?" •And the
 7 eagle said to him, "Certainly; this is why I was sent." •And picking up the letter
 and fifteen figs from the basket of Abimelech, Baruch tied them to the neck of
 the eagle and said to him, "I say to you, king of birds, depart in peace and health
 8 and carry the message for me. •Don't be like the raven that Noah sent out and
 that never again returned to him in the ark, but be like the dove that on the third
 9 (attempt) brought word to the righteous one. •So also, you take this precious word
 up to Jeremiah and to those prisoners with him that it might be well with you.
 10 Take this papyrus to the people and to the chosen one of God. •If all the birds of
 heaven should surround you and desire to fight with you, resist (them); the LORD
 11 will give you power. •And don't veer off to the right or to the left, but like an
 arrow shot straight, go forth in the power of God, and may the glory of the LORD
 12 be with you on the entire journey which you will travel." •Then the eagle took
 flight, having the letter around his neck, and departed for Babylon. And when he
 arrived (there), he rested in a certain tree outside the city in a deserted place.
 13 And he was silent until Jeremiah came by, for he and certain other people were
 14 coming out to bury a dead man outside the city. •For Jeremiah had made a request
 of King Nebuchadnezzar, saying, "Give me a place where I may bury the dead
 15 of my people." And the king had given (it) to him. •And as they were going out
 16 with the dead man and weeping, they passed by the eagle. •And the eagle cried
 in a loud voice, saying, "I say to you, Jeremiah, chosen one of God, go! Gather
 the people and come here that they may hear a letter which I have brought you
 17 from Baruch and Abimelech." •And when Jeremiah heard, he glorified God, and
 he went out and gathered the people with (their) wives and children, and he came
 18 to where the eagle was. •And the eagle descended upon the one who had died,
 19,20 and he came back to life. •This happened that they might believe. •And all the
 people marveled at what had happened, saying, "Is this the God who appeared
 to our fathers in the wilderness through Moses (who) has now also appeared to
 21 us through this eagle?" •And the eagle said, "I say to you, Jeremiah, come untie
 this letter and read it to the people." So, untying the letter, he read it to the
 22 people. •And when the people heard (it), they wept and put dust on their heads,
 and they said to Jeremiah, "Save us, and tell us what we should do, that we may
 23 enter our city (once) again." •And Jeremiah answered and said to them, "Everything
 that you have heard from the letter observe, and the LORD will lead us into our
 24 city." •And Jeremiah also wrote a letter to Baruch, saying thus, "My beloved
 son, do not be negligent in your prayers pleading with God in our behalf, that he

Gen 8:7-12

g. This is probably a reference to Christian baptism. Note that the language of this ch. (6:7, 12f., 25) is reminiscent of Gnosticism.

7 a. This use of "the faith" to mean correct doctrine is similar to the use of the term in the Pastoral Epistles. See e.g. 1Tim 3:9; 4:1.

25 might speed our journey until we leave the jurisdiction of this lawless king. •For
 you were found righteous before God, and he didn't allow you to come here, so
 you wouldn't see the oppression which has befallen the people at the hands of the
 26 Babylonians. •For (it is) just as (when) a father has an only son and he is handed
 over for punishment; those who see his father and (are) consoling him cover his
 face so he won't see how his son is being punished and be racked by grief (even)
 27 more. •For God similarly had mercy on you and didn't allow you to come into
 28 Babylon so you wouldn't see the oppression of the people. •For since we came
 29 here, grief has not left us (even) today (after) sixty-six years! •For I would often
 go out and find (some) of the people hung up by King Nebuchadnezzar weeping
 30 and saying, 'Have mercy on us, God Zar!'^b •Hearing these things, I would grieve
 and would weep a double lamentation, not only because they were hung up, but
 31 because they were calling upon a foreign god, saying, 'Have mercy on us.' •And
 I would remember the feast days that we used to celebrate in Jerusalem before
 we were taken captive, and remembering, I would groan and return to my house
 32 distressed and weeping. •So pray now in the place where you are, you and
 33 Abimelech, for this people, so that we may depart from here. •For I say to you
 that the whole time we have been here, they have oppressed us, saying, 'Sing^c us
 34 a song from the songs of Zion, the song of your God.' •And we say to them,
 35 'How can we sing to you, being in a foreign land?' " •And after these things,
 Jeremiah tied the letter to the neck of the eagle, saying, "Go in peace, and may
 36 the LORD watch over us both!" •And the eagle took flight and came to Jerusalem
 and gave the letter to Baruch, and after he had untied (it), he read (it) and kissed
 it, and he wept when he heard about the griefs and the oppressions of the people.
 37 But Jeremiah took the figs and distributed (them) to the sick among the people,
 and he continued teaching them to keep away from the pollutions of the gentiles
 of Babylon.

Jer 45:2-5

Ps 137:3f.

Ezra 10:18f.

Ezra 9:12
Neh 13:27

2Kgs 17:24-41

1.2 **8** But the day came in which the LORD led the people out of Babylon. •And the
 LORD said to Jeremiah, "Get up, you and the people, and come to the Jordan;
 and you will say to the people, 'Let him who desires the LORD leave the works
 3 of Babylon behind.' •And (of) the men who took wives from them, and the
 women who took husbands from them, let those who hear you cross over, and
 take them up to Jerusalem; but (as for) those who do not hear you, you must not
 4 lead them there." •And Jeremiah spoke these words to the people, and they got
 5 up and came to the Jordan to cross over. •And when he told them the words
 which the LORD had spoken to him, half of those who had (inter)married with
 them did not want to hear Jeremiah, but said to him, "We will not leave our
 6 wives behind forever, but we will bring them with us back to our city." •So they
 7 crossed over the Jordan and came to Jerusalem. •And Jeremiah stood (firm) with
 Baruch and Abimelech, saying, "No man who cohabits with Babylonians will
 8 enter this city!" •And they said among themselves, "Let's get up and return to
 9 Babylon, to our place." And they departed. •But when they came to Babylon,
 the Babylonians came out to meet them, saying, "You will not come into our
 city, because you hated us and went out from us in secret; for this you will not
 10 come in with us. •For we made one another swear an oath in the name of our
 god to receive neither you nor your children, since you went out from us in
 11 secret." •And when they learned this, they turned back and came to a desert place
 some distance from Jerusalem, and they built themselves a city and named it
 12 Samaria.^a •And Jeremiah sent to them, saying, "Repent, for an angel of
 righteousness is coming, and he will lead you to your exalted place."^b

b. This is probably a transliteration of the Heb. zar ("foreign"). See G. D. Kilpatrick, *JTS* 46 (1945) 141.

c. The Gk. is *eipate*, "say."

8 a. This conflicts with the account of Samaritan origins found at 2Kgs 17:24-41.

b. The Christian redactor has changed the original Jewish polemic against the Samaritans into a promise of exaltation by adding this vs.

1 **9** And those who were with Jeremiah continued for nine days rejoicing and Ezra 8:35
 2 offering up sacrifices for the people. •But on the tenth (day) Jeremiah alone offered
 3 up a sacrifice. •And he prayed a prayer, saying, "Holy, holy, holy, incense of Isa 6:3
 4 the living trees, true light that enlightens me until I am taken up to you; •for your Jn 1:9
 5 mercy I plead, for the sweet voice of the two seraphim I plead, for another fragrant
 6 odor of incense. •And may Michael, the archangel of righteousness who opens
 7 the gates for the righteous, be (the object of) my attention until he leads the
 8 righteous in. •I implore you, Almighty LORD of all creation, unbegotten and
 9 incomprehensible, in whom all judgment was hidden^a before these things existed."
 10 And as Jeremiah said these things, while standing at the altar with Baruch and
 11 Abimelech, he became as one of those who have given up their soul. •And Baruch
 12 and Abimelech remained weeping and crying in a loud voice, "Woe to us, because
 13 our father Jeremiah has left us; the priest of God has departed." •And all the
 14 people heard their weeping, and they all ran to them and saw Jeremiah lying on
 15 the ground as though dead. •And they tore their garments and put dust on their
 16 heads and wept bitterly.^b •And after these things, they prepared themselves to
 17 bury him. •And behold, there came a voice saying, "Do not bury one still living, Rom 15:6
 18 for his soul is coming into his body again." •And because they heard the voice,
 19 they did not bury him but remained in a circle around his tabernacle for three
 20 days, saying, "At what hour is he going to rise?" •And after three days, his soul
 21 came into his body and he lifted up his voice in the midst of (them) all and said,
 22 "Glorify God with one voice! All (of you) glorify God, and the Son of God who
 23 awakens us, Jesus Christ the light of all the aeons, the inextinguishable lamp, the
 24 life of faith! •And after these times there will be another four hundred and seventy-
 25 seven years, and (then) he is coming to the earth. •And the tree of life which is
 26 planted in the middle of Paradise will cause all the uncultivated trees^c to bear
 27 fruit, and they will grow and sprout. •And the trees that had (already) sprouted
 28 and boasted and said, 'We raised our top to the air,'^d he will cause them to wither Eph 2:2
 29 together with the loftiness of their branches. And the firmly rooted tree will cause IQH 8
 30 them to be judged! •And what is scarlet will become as white as wool; the snow
 31 will be made black; the sweet waters will become salty, and the salty sweet in Ezek 47:8-11
 32 the great light of the joy of God. •And he will bless the islands that they may 4Ezra 5:9
 33 bear fruit at the word of the mouth of his anointed one.^e •For he will come! And
 34 he will go out and choose for himself twelve apostles, that they may preach among
 35 the nations, he whom I have seen adorned by his father and coming into the world Jn 1:9
 36 on the Mount of Olives; and he will fill the hungry souls."^f •And as Jeremiah was Acts 1:11f.
 37 saying these things about the Son of God, that he is coming into the world, the Mt 5:6; 14:19f.
 38 people became angry and said, "These (once) again are the words spoken by
 39 Isaiah the son of Amos, saying, 'I saw God and the son of God.' •Come, therefore, Ascens 3:9
 40 and let us not kill him by that (same) death, but let's stone him with stones." Ascens 4:13
 41 Now, Baruch and Abimelech were extremely grieved because they wanted to hear Ascens 5:11
 42 in full the mysteries that he had seen. •But Jeremiah said to them, "Be quiet and
 43 do not weep, for they will not kill me until I have described to you everything
 44 that I saw." •And he said to them, "Bring a stone here to me." •And he set it
 45 (up) and said, "Light of the aeons, make this stone look just like me until I have
 46 described everything I saw to Baruch and Abimelech." •Then the stone, by the
 47 command of God, took on the likeness of Jeremiah. •And they were stoning the
 48 stone, thinking that it was Jeremiah. •But Jeremiah delivered all the mysteries
 49 that he had seen to Baruch and Abimelech, and then he simply stood in the midst
 50 of the people, desiring to bring his stewardship to an end. •Then the stone cried

9 a. The MSS add "in him," a redundancy that may indicate a Semitic original.

b. Lit. "wept a bitter weeping," possibly another Semitism carried over to the Gk. text.

c. I.e. gentiles.

d. Lit. "We gave our end to the air," a very

cryptic line. Kraft and Purinton render it: "We have supplied our power (?) to the air." The Gk. *aēr*, "air," may here be used in a demonological sense; cf. Eph 2:2.

e. Or "of his Christ" (used as a proper noun).

out, saying, "O stupid children of Israel, why do you stone me, thinking that I
31 am Jeremiah? Behold, Jeremiah stands in your midst!" • And when they saw him,
they immediately ran at him with many stones, and his stewardship was fulfilled. LivPro
32 And Baruch and Abimelech came and buried him, and they took the stone and
put (it) on his tomb after inscribing (it) thus: "This is the stone (that was) the ally
of Jeremiah."