

These people had friends of theirs in the northern kingdom who had gone into exile. They had been carried off into captivity; they could look from any high hill in Judah and see the wreckage of places in the northern kingdom. It was not very far away. And doubtless some of the people being taken into exile had escaped and had come and told of the cruelty of the soldiers taking them. And probably once in a while someone who was in exile from the northern kingdom would escape and would get across the desert and would come to the people in the southern kingdom who would welcome them as a refugee and would be interested to hear about his experience. And then we know that under Hezekiah in the situation described in chapters 36 to 39 that Sennacherib had come and he took hundreds of thousands of people from the southern kingdom into captivity because he destroyed all the big towns of Judah except Jerusalem. ^{and Sennacherib went back} And God delivered Jerusalem, and they were able to spread out again throughout the rest of Judah. But they had had vivid experience of what it meant to have close friends of their taken into exile, and they had talked with people who had been in exile and who had escaped, and therefore they could easily imagine it as a vivid thing; they knew it was coming to them too; it had come to 3/4ths of them already; they knew it was going to come to - to their nation. They didn't realize it was going to be over a hundred years before it would come to them. It had come to all the rest already; ~~Manass~~ Manassah was leading in wickedness; they could almost imagine it was coming right then. ^{next question period.} So Mr. 's question would be answered tomorrow/ So we won't have to call on him again will we? And we can call on Mr. Brooks and see if he can tell us what we mean by th