

**Jeremiah 41**  
**Word Seekers**  
**September 22, 2021**

**The Murder of Gedaliah**

**Introduction**

The events in chapters 40-44 details Jeremiah's ministry after the fall of Jerusalem. All the people were not taken to Babylon in the third exile after the fall of Jerusalem. At end of chapter 40 Gedaliah, the governor of Judah who was appointed by Nebuchadnezzar, was informed of a plot against him. The king of Ammon, Baalis, was sending Ismael to kill him. Ammon and Judah were allies but there was animosity between them. Baalis wanted to replace Gedaliah with an anti-Babylonian leader, which would cause conflict between Judah and Babylon, and keep the focus on Judah instead of them. Gedaliah did not believe the report.

**A. The Assassination. (40:1-3)**

1. Ismael goes to Mizpah and dines with Gedaliah. (41:1)
2. Ismael and his men suddenly attacks and kills Gedaliah during the meal. (41:2)
3. Judean and Babylonian soldiers at Mizpah killed. (41:3)

**B. Men Lured to Mizpah By Ismael and Killed. (41:5-10)**

1. Murder of Gedaliah kept quiet (41:4)
2. Men coming to worshiper at temple killed. (41:5-7)
3. Ismael spares ten of the men. (41:8)
4. Cistern filled with bodies (41:9)
5. Captives taken by Ismael. (41:10)

**C. Johanan Rescues the captives. (41:11-18)**

1. Johanan and officers band together to rescue the captives. (41:11-14)
2. Ismael and 8 men escape to Ammon. (41:15)
3. Johanan and officers lead captives and head for Egypt (41:16-18)