

BROWN

BROWN

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ The following fundamental thoughts were in the author's mind, and appear throughout the chapters. 1. The people of Israel have gone into exile and their temple has been destroyed (50:6, 7, 17, 28, 33; 51:11, 34, 51); 2. Babylon was the instrument of Jehovah for the chastisement of Israel and the nations (50:7, 51:7, 20-23); 3. Jehovah remains the deliverer of his people (50:34; 51:5, 15-19); 4. Jehovah will execute his wrath upon the Babylonians and their gods, even to their destruction. . . . The Medes and their allies are to break the Babylonian yoke. . . .; 6. The promise of release from Babylon and the command to leave the city; 7. The spiritual renewal of Israel and Judah (50:4, 5; 51:10, 50, 51).

Most recent writers agree that this prophecy is not from Jeremiah himself. Against his authorship in the pre-exilic period are the facts: 1. That the people of Judah are ~~the~~ represented in exile. 2. That Jeremiah, in 25:11, ch. 27-29, announced a long captivity, which would be consistent w/ 50:4, 20; 51:46, 47, 52, but not with 50:8, 33; 51:6, 9, 10, 45. Against the subsequent composition by him or in his time may be considered the facts: 1. That Jer. , far from feeling bitter against the Babylonians for their overthrow of Judah and destruction of the temple, regarded these as accomplished by the agent of Jehovah, whose work was not yet done. For the earlier period this statement will be self-evident. For the later period Jer.'s life, see 42:18; 43:10-13; 44:30.

In this discourse the prophet is emphatic in his condemnation of the Chaldeans and in promising vengeance for his people.

2. That the author of this section makes large use of other scriptures, a characteristic of late authorship, thus, e.g., 50:30-32 is dependent upon at least 49:26; 21:13, 14; 50:27; Amos 1:12; again, 50:39, 40 is condensed from Is. 13:19-22, while 50:39, 40 is condensed from Isa. 13:19-22, while 50:40-46 reproduces with necessary changes, 49:18; 6:22-24; 49:19-21, and 51:15-19 is quoted from 10:12-16.

3. That there is no logical development of the writer's theme in this portion of Scripture.

DATE;

Schmidt: as late as the reign of Mithridates I., founder of the Parthian empire, 174=136 B.C. Doubtless such passages as 50:44-46; 51:44b-40a - the latter not found in LXX - were introduced even later than this date, but the intense feeling against Babylon manifested in the passage, and the vividness of its presentation of the Israelitish people on the even of their return from exile, seem to show that we have here to do neither with a late work of the imagination nor mere compilation of pre-existing Scripture material. Duhm places the chapter among the latest products of the post-exilic period.