**Worksheet: The status of Jehoiachin in Babylon**

2 Kings 25:27-30 relates that when Evil-merodach (= Amel Marduk) came to the throne (i.e., in 561), he released Jehoiachin from prison and gave him a position of honor.

כז וַיְהִי בִשְׁלֹשִׁים וָשֶׁבַע שָׁנָה לְגָלוּת יְהוֹיָכִין מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה בִּשְׁנֵים עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ בְּעֶשְׂרִים וְשִׁבְעָה לַחֹדֶשׁ נָשָׂא אֱוִיל מְרֹדַךְ מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל בִּשְׁנַת מָלְכוֹ אֶת-רֹאשׁ יְהוֹיָכִין מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה מִבֵּית כֶּלֶא. כח וַיְדַבֵּר אִתּוֹ טֹבוֹת וַיִּתֵּן אֶת-כִּסְאוֹ מֵעַל כִּסֵּא הַמְּלָכִים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ בְּבָבֶל. כט וְשִׁנָּא אֵת בִּגְדֵי כִלְאוֹ וְאָכַל לֶחֶם תָּמִיד לְפָנָיו כָּל-יְמֵי חַיָּיו. ל וַאֲרֻחָתוֹ אֲרֻחַת תָּמִיד נִתְּנָה-לּוֹ מֵאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ דְּבַר-יוֹם בְּיוֹמוֹ כֹּל יְמֵי חַיָּו.

Look up אויל-מרֹדך (known as Amel-Marduk in English and in Babylonian).

* What year did he come to the throne, and release Yehoiachin from בית הכלא? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* From what year until what year was Yehoiachin imprisoned? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

In some tablets discovered in Babylon in the early 1900s were found “ration lists” – administrative texts that stipulated how much oil was to be given to various people.



One of these texts reads:

10 (*qû* of oil) to Yaukin, the king of Judah;

2 1/2 *qû* (oil) to the offspring of Judah’s king;

4 *qû* to eight men from Judea.

Another reads:

1 1/2 *qû* (oil) for three carpenters from Arvad, 1/2 apiece

11 1/2 *qû* for eight wood workers from Byblos. . .

3 1/2 *qû* for seven Greek craftsman, 1/2 sila apiece

1/2 *qû* to the carpenter, Nabuetir

10 *qû* to Yaukin, the son of Judah’s king

2 1/2 *qû* for the five sons of the Judean king.

* How much oil did the typical person get? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* How much oil did Yehoiachin get? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What does this suggest about Yehoiachin’s status while in “prison”? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What other evidence is there from this text regarding Yehoiachin’s status while in prison? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_