

**Jeremiah's Prophecy to Judah—Promises of Restoration (c. 597 BC)**

## Jeremiah 30

**Introduction**

1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,  
2 "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Write all the words which I have spoken to you in a book.  
3 For behold, days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will restore the fortunes of My people Israel and Judah.' The LORD says, 'I will also bring them back to the land that I gave to their forefathers and they shall possess it.'"

**Promise of Restoration for Israel**

4 Now these are the words which the LORD spoke concerning Israel and concerning Judah:

5 "For thus says the LORD,

'I have heard a sound of terror,  
Of dread, and there is no peace.

6 'Ask now, and see  
If a male can give birth.  
Why do I see every man  
*With* his hands on his loins, as a woman in childbirth?  
And *why* have all faces turned pale?

7 'Alas! for that day is great,  
There is none like it;  
And it is the time of Jacob's distress,  
But he will be saved from it.

8 'It shall come about on that day,' declares the LORD of hosts, 'that I will break his yoke from off their neck and will tear off their bonds; and strangers will no longer make them their slaves.

9 But they shall serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

10 'Fear not, O Jacob My servant,' declares the LORD,  
'And do not be dismayed, O Israel;  
For behold, I will save you from afar  
And your offspring from the land of their captivity.  
And Jacob will return and will be quiet and at ease,  
And no one will make him afraid.

11 'For I am with you,' declares the LORD, 'to save you;  
For I will destroy completely all the nations where I have scattered you,  
Only I will not destroy you completely.  
But I will chasten you justly  
And will by no means leave you unpunished.'

**Promise of Healing for an Incurable Wound**

12 "For thus says the LORD,  
'Your wound is incurable  
And your injury is serious.

13 'There is no one to plead your cause;  
*No* healing for *your* sore,  
*No* recovery for you.

- 14 'All your lovers have forgotten you,  
They do not seek you;  
For I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy,  
With the punishment of a cruel one,  
Because your iniquity is great  
*And* your sins are numerous.
- 15 'Why do you cry out over your injury?  
Your pain is incurable.  
Because your iniquity is great  
*And* your sins are numerous,  
I have done these things to you.
- 16 'Therefore all who devour you will be devoured;  
And all your adversaries, every one of them, will go into captivity;  
And those who plunder you will be for plunder,  
And all who prey upon you I will give for prey.
- 17 'For I will restore you to health  
And I will heal you of your wounds,' declares the LORD,  
'Because they have called you an outcast, saying:  
"It is Zion; no one cares for her."'

#### **Promise of Restoration of the Fortunes of Israel**

- 18 "Thus says the LORD,  
'Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob  
And have compassion on his dwelling places;  
And the city will be rebuilt on its ruin,  
And the palace will stand on its rightful place.
- 19 'From them will proceed thanksgiving  
And the voice of those who celebrate;  
And I will multiply them and they will not be diminished;  
I will also honor them and they will not be insignificant.
- 20 'Their children also will be as formerly,  
And their congregation shall be established before Me;  
And I will punish all their oppressors.
- 21 'Their leader shall be one of them,  
And their ruler shall come forth from their midst;  
And I will bring him near and he shall approach Me;  
For who would dare to risk his life to approach Me?' declares the LORD.
- 22 'You shall be My people,  
And I will be your God.'"

#### **The Fierce Anger of the Lord**

- 23 Behold, the tempest of the LORD!  
Wrath has gone forth,  
A sweeping tempest;  
It will burst on the head of the wicked.
- 24 The fierce anger of the LORD will not turn back  
Until He has performed and until He has accomplished  
The intent of His heart;  
In the latter days you will understand this.

**Jeremiah's Prophecy to Judah—The New Covenant (c. 597 BC)****Jeremiah 31****The Rebuilding of Israel**

- 1 “At that time,” declares the LORD, “I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.”
- 2 Thus says the LORD,  
“The people who survived the sword  
Found grace in the wilderness—  
Israel, when it went to find its rest.”
- 3 The LORD appeared to him from afar, *saying*,  
“I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.
- 4 “Again I will build you and you will be rebuilt,  
O virgin of Israel!  
Again you will take up your tambourines,  
And go forth to the dances of the merrymakers.
- 5 “Again you will plant vineyards  
On the hills of Samaria;  
The planters will plant  
And will enjoy *them*.
- 6 “For there will be a day when watchmen  
On the hills of Ephraim call out,  
‘Arise, and let us go up to Zion,  
To the LORD our God.’”

**Return of the Scattered People**

- 7 For thus says the LORD,  
“Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
And shout among the chief of the nations;  
Proclaim, give praise and say,  
‘O LORD, save Your people,  
The remnant of Israel.’”
- 8 “Behold, I am bringing them from the north country,  
And I will gather them from the remote parts of the earth,  
Among them the blind and the lame,  
The woman with child and she who is in labor with child, together;  
A great company, they will return here.
- 9 “With weeping they will come,  
And by supplication I will lead them;  
I will make them walk by streams of waters,  
On a straight path in which they will not stumble;  
For I am a father to Israel,  
And Ephraim is My firstborn.”
- 10 Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
And declare in the coastlands afar off,  
And say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him  
And keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.”

- 11 For the LORD has ransomed Jacob  
And redeemed him from the hand of him who was stronger than he.
- 12 “They will come and shout for joy on the height of Zion,  
And they will be radiant over the bounty of the LORD—  
Over the grain and the new wine and the oil,  
And over the young of the flock and the herd;  
And their life will be like a watered garden,  
And they will never languish again.
- 13 “Then the virgin will rejoice in the dance,  
And the young men and the old, together,  
For I will turn their mourning into joy  
And will comfort them and give them joy for their sorrow.
- 14 “I will fill the soul of the priests with abundance,  
And My people will be satisfied with My goodness,” declares the LORD.

### **The End of Rachel’s Weeping for Her Children**

- 15 Thus says the LORD,  
“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
Lamentation *and* bitter weeping.  
Rachel is weeping for her children;  
She refuses to be comforted for her children,  
Because they are no more.” [[Matt 2:17–18](#)]
- 16 Thus says the LORD,  
  
“Restrain your voice from weeping  
And your eyes from tears;  
For your work will be rewarded,” declares the LORD,  
“And they will return from the land of the enemy.
- 17 “There is hope for your future,” declares the LORD,  
“And *your* children will return to their own territory.
- 18 “I have surely heard Ephraim grieving,  
‘You have chastised me, and I was chastised,  
Like an untrained calf;  
Bring me back that I may be restored,  
For You are the LORD my God.
- 19 ‘For after I turned back, I repented;  
And after I was instructed, I smote on *my* thigh;  
I was ashamed and also humiliated  
Because I bore the reproach of my youth.’
- 20 “Is Ephraim My dear son?  
Is he a delightful child?  
Indeed, as often as I have spoken against him,  
I certainly *still* remember him;  
Therefore My heart yearns for him;  
I will surely have mercy on him,” declares the LORD.
- 21 “Set up for yourself roadmarks,  
Place for yourself guideposts;  
Direct your mind to the highway,

The way by which you went.

Return, O virgin of Israel,

Return to these your cities.

- 22 “How long will you go here and there,  
O faithless daughter?  
For the LORD has created a new thing in the earth—  
A woman will encompass a man.”

### **Description of Future Blessing**

23 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, “Once again they will speak this word in the land of Judah and in its cities when I restore their fortunes,

‘The LORD bless you, O abode of righteousness,  
O holy hill!’

24 Judah and all its cities will dwell together in it, the farmer and they who go about with flocks.

25 For I satisfy the weary ones and refresh everyone who languishes.”

26 At this I awoke and looked, and my sleep was pleasant to me.

27 “Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and with the seed of beast.

28 As I have watched over them to pluck up, to break down, to overthrow, to destroy and to bring disaster, so I will watch over them to build and to plant,” declares the LORD.

### **Repudiation of a Popular Saying**

- 29 “In those days they will not say again,  
‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes,  
And the children’s teeth are set on edge.’

30 But everyone will die for his own iniquity; each man who eats the sour grapes, his teeth will be set on edge.

### **Announcement of a New Covenant**

31 “Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,

32 not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD.

33 “But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the LORD, “I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

34 They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the LORD, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.” [[Heb 8:8–12; 10:16–17](#)]

### **God’s Assurance of Israel’s Eternal Duration**

- 35 Thus says the LORD,  
Who gives the sun for light by day  
And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night,  
Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar;

The LORD of hosts is His name:

36 “If this fixed order departs  
From before Me,” declares the LORD,  
“Then the offspring of Israel also will cease  
From being a nation before Me forever.”

37 Thus says the LORD,

“If the heavens above can be measured  
And the foundations of the earth searched out below,  
Then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel  
For all that they have done,” declares the LORD.

#### **God’s Promise that Jerusalem Will be Rebuilt**

38 “Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when the city will be rebuilt for the LORD from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate.

39 The measuring line will go out farther straight ahead to the hill Gareb; then it will turn to Goah.

40 And the whole valley of the dead bodies and of the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy to the LORD; it will not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever.”

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